Our thoughts are with the Awad family and in particular, Amr. Amr has undergone an intensive operation and he will remain in hospital for several weeks into the new year. School resumes for students in Years 1-6 on Thursday 28 January. Children will assemble under the covered assembly area in this year’s class group. Kindergarten students will officially begin formal lessons from Tuesday 2 February. Prior to this individual Kindergarten students will meet with a teacher to undertake the “Best Start” assessment.

Due to uncertain enrolment numbers, classes for 2016 will not be formed until the end of Week 2. There is little point in settling students into classes only to find we have an influx of new enrolments and need to restructure the school.

It was announced at the Presentation Day assembly that we will be farewelling some of our teachers next week. Miss Atkins will be taking up a position in Engadine that is closer to her home, Mrs Sherlock has accepted a transfer to a school in the Bankstown network and Mrs Ellington will be returning to her substantive position at Lansvale Public School. We thank these teachers for their dedication and effort in supporting the staff and students over the years and wish them well for the future. I would also like to express my gratitude to all the temporary teachers who have been employed this year to cover staff vacancies. It is hoped that we will see the return of these teachers in some capacity in 2016. However, there are many who are applying for permanent positions as they become available in other schools.

Next year will see the return of Mrs Sadler, Ms Romanski, Mrs Newcombe and Mr Kirkman. We also have a teacher who has been newly appointed to Liverpool West. Her name is Miss Janecki. Some permanent part time teachers who have been on maternity leave are increasing their days as they transition back to fulltime employment.

On Thursday 21 January 2016 the office will be open to sell uniforms and take new enrolments. If you need uniforms for your children and would like to beat the rush you are most welcome to come and purchase uniforms on this date.
**PARENT CAFÉ**

This photo was taken on Thursday 26 November (Week 8) at Parent Café. Mrs Raju spent considerable amount of time explaining to our parents the importance of starting reading early and how their support and encouragement assists their children in developing an understanding of reading conventions.

**BOOKS IN HOMES ASSEMBLY**

Yesterday our school celebrated our love of books and reading with our Book Giving assembly. We are privileged to be a part of the Books in Homes initiative where our children are given nine books per year to keep at home for reading and sharing, and reading again. We are sponsored by the Western Sydney University who generously support our school. Paul De Gelder was our role model who gave up his time to speak at our assembly. What an amazing man! Paul spoke about the many adventures he has had in his life, including being the survivor of a shark attack, who now has his ‘robot hand and robot leg’. He shared how reading helped him through many tough times and continues to inspire his dreams of more adventures. Paul was definitely our inspiration!

**VISION TESTING**

Earlier in the year, LWPS was contacted by the OneSight Vision Team to offer free eyesight screening for all students at our school. Each team was made up of a group of volunteers including qualified optometrists and people whose companies donate their employees’ time.

On each day of screening, a number of enthusiastic Stage 3 students braved the heat to collect classes and escort students back to their classes after the screening. Members of the OneSight Vision Team were impressed by the behaviour of our students and the majority of students were very interested in the different eye examinations that they participated in.

Over 2 days, the OneSight Vision Team screened the vision of 322 students. At the time of the screenings, 201 students had satisfactory vision. The OneSight Vision Team recommended that a further 121 students seek a full eye examination. Each of these families, received a 2015 Vision Voucher which entitles each child to a free pair of prescription glasses at OPSM should they be required. Interestingly, in relative terms more vouchers were issued to students in the younger grades than the older grades.

The OneSight Vision Team has offered to return next year to test those students who were not able to participate in assessments this year. The School wishes to thank the OneSight Vision Team for coming to our school to offer this very valuable free service.

**LOST AND FOUND UNIFORMS**

We will be selling all unclaimed jumpers and zip-up jackets.

**Where:** Outside the computer lab

**When:** Monday 14 December 2015

**Time:** 8:30am – 9:10am

3:10pm – 3:45pm

**Cost:** $5.00 or less

Mrs Trish Hagan
Relieving Principal and Staff

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**WE ARE NOW TAKING KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS FOR 2016**

If you have a child who has already turned 5 years old in 2015 or will turn 5 before the 31 July 2016 and you live in the local area, you are invited to come and enrol your child for Kindergarten 2016.

Please come to the school office to pick up an enrolment form. Don’t forget to bring your child’s:

- birth certificate
- immunisation records
- proof of address

We are looking forward to welcoming you and your child to Liverpool West Public School.