

PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

Edition 4 – Term 2 2024



Important Dates

June

- 10th – Kings Birthday
- 21st – School Disco
- 25th – Year 4-6 Girls AFL Gala Day
- 25th – Parent Teacher Interviews
- 26th – Curriculum Day
- 26th – Parent Teacher Interviews
- 27th – Leadership Morning
- 28th – End of Term 2

July

- 15th – Term 3 starts
- 27th – P & F Major Fundraiser
- 30th – Year 3-6 House Athletics

August

- 1st – School Production (date change)
- 19th – 21st – Year 4 Camp
- 21st – 2025 Prep Open Transition
- 30th – Fathers Day Morning Tea & Stall

September

- 3rd – Year 3-6 District Athletics
- 4th – 2025 Prep Open Transition
- 9th – 19th – Prep to Year 2 Swimming
- 20th – Footy Colours Day
- 20th – End of Term 3 (2.30pm)

October

- 7th – Start of Term 4
- 11th – Year 3-6 Division Athletics
- 30th – Prep 2025 Transition

November

- 5th – Melbourne Cup Day
- 8th – Year 4-6 District Lacrosse
- 8th – Year 3 Sleepover
- 18th – Prep 2025 Parent Information Night
- 20th – Prep 2025 Final Transition
- 29th – Curriculum Day

December

- 2nd – 3rd – Year 6 Life Saving
- 4th – Year 4 Life Saving
- 9th – Year 3 Life Saving
- 9th & 11th – Year 6 Graduation Rehearsal
- 11th – Year 6 Graduation
- 12th – Carols on the Green
- 12th – Year 5 Life Saving
- 19th – Year 6 Big Day Out
- 20th – End of Term 4 (1.30 pm)

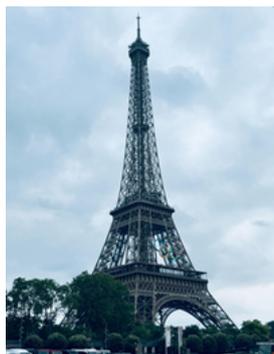


We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we are gathered here today and we pay our respects to the Elders past, present and emerging for they hold the memories, the culture and dreams of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

From the Acting Principal Mel Bach

After seeing the sights in Paris and having the experience of eating at a 5-star Michelin restaurant, Gen and her family are now in Lake Como, Italy. So, it's 'Ciao' from Mrs Casonato. On the weekend they celebrated her son Oliver's birthday at a restaurant on its shores. I asked her if she'd run into her old mate George Clooney, but strangely the answer was 'No'.

Of course, as you would expect from our dedicated boss, Mrs Casonato has been keeping regular tabs on what is happening at school. She even rang me on Friday night from Italy!



Speaking of Friday night, the Glow Disco took up residency in the Parktone stadium for a couple of hours. There were cool outfits, and lots of dancing children having an absolute ball. It was great to see Mrs Buckleigh, Mrs Batty and Miss Sharman hitting the dance floor. Behind any great event is an incredible team. This parent-initiated event was beautifully led by Anita Addorisio and she had fabulous people supporting her prior to, during and after the night, I cannot thank them enough for their efforts in ensuring that our children could have this event

Vision

There is a prosperous path for every child. Each journey is theirs to lead. There is a place in which every child can shine.

Mission

Identify the talent, develop the confidence and create the leader.

PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

From the Acting Principal cont'd

Term 2 Updates

It has been a productive term with so much achieved. I couldn't even begin to list them all so here are a few highlights. They include:

- Welcome Event and the 'Parkade'
- Curriculum Day with Misty Adoniou
- Year 5 Camp Coonawarra
- Excursions to the Lume, Immigration Museum, the Shrine of Remembrance, MCG and the local community
- Interschool Sport
- Years 3 - 6 Maths Challenge with Mr Sargeant
- Cross Country
- Our first Step into Prep session and Kindergarten visits
- Mother's Day Morning and Stall
- Glow Disco
- Literacy consultant, Mardi Gorman's visits - fine tuning Parktone's Phonics program.
- Aerobics team participate in the State Championships

A Principal from another school approached one of our Year 4 teaching staff at the Lume praising the excellent behaviour of our children. To hear this made us all feel exceptionally proud. It's not the first time we've been told that our students are respectful and polite people, and I know it won't be the last.

The Positive School Wide Behaviour program is playing a big part in ensuring our students have the skills and confidence to be successful and respectful people wherever they are.

Student Support Groups

Our cycle of Student Support Group meetings has been completed. These provide parents and teachers the opportunity to discuss the progress and needs of children. I know that a lot of thought and hard work goes into preparing and running these meetings. Thank you to Miss Ralph and to all involved!

Staffing Update

This term we farewelled one of our Education Support staff members, Bev Watson, who has been a fabulous support to many students and especially in the library. We wish her well in retirement.

We also say goodbye to Na Gu, who has been on extended leave. She has also retired. Na has been an excellent Japanese teacher and we thank her for her efforts during her time at Parktone.

In Term 3 we welcome back Rachael Turner who will take on a tutoring role for two days a week. She will be a wonderful support to students.

Reports and Parent Teacher Conferences

You will have received your child's Semester One report and attended a Parent/Teacher conference. Reports and conferences are an important part of communicating their progress and achievements.

Thank you to Mr Feary and Miss O'Callaghan for getting reports ready for parents, and to the teachers who put them together.

6B Assemblies

6B students and Mr Le are to be thanked for the excellent Assemblies this term. It has been great to see our students showing their leadership skills.

Working in your Element - Semester 2

Speaking of developing leadership skills, next semester sees our Year 6 students running Element sessions with students across the school. Teachers take a back seat and move into a support role. We look forward to seeing them in action.

Celebrations at Parktone!

Leadership Day

Passion projects came in thick and fast in preparation for Leadership Day. A Bermuda Triangle model, and a life size model of a pinball machine, no doubt inspired by the STEAM lessons last term, were an example of two I saw. It was wonderful to see the library filled with people's passions. I hope you found time to share in the happenings of the day.

Pyjama Day

The Beacon team has organised a Pyjama Day for the last day of school. This will be good practice for my holiday activities, mornings spent in my pyjamas being a little lazy! Gold coin donations will go towards raising money for the Pyjama Foundation to support children and young people in foster care. It'll be a fun way to end the term!



PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

From the Acting Principal cont'd

Playground Funding

Cath Gryszan, Kaye Ralph and Genevieve have been working behind the scenes to apply for much needed funding to improve our playground. Videos and a powerpoint have been prepared as part of our submission. We missed out in our previous effort, but we are nothing if not persistent and are back having another go. The \$500 000 project includes improving our basketball and junior playground surfaces so that they are more inclusive spaces. Thank you to Gen, Kaye and Cath! Fingers crossed we will have success this time round.



2024 Maths Challenge

This term Mr Sargeant led weekly Maths Challenge sessions with students in Years 3 to 6. This is a problem-solving program fosters students' understanding of the power of mathematics and aims to enhance joy in mathematical problem solving. Students are encouraged to work collaboratively in small groups. This is one of our enrichment activities and we thank Brett for providing this opportunity for our talented Mathematicians.

Attitudes to School Survey

Towards the end of term, I had the pleasure of working with Year 4 to 6 students in administering the Attitudes to School Survey. Working with smaller groups gave students the opportunity to ask questions about some of the survey statements or to clarify their understanding of things within the survey. It was a massive undertaking, and I've been fortunate to have worked with nearly every student, apart from those on family holidays. The survey is long and I thank the children for taking part in this in such a thoughtful manner. As a school we take this information very seriously.

Foundation 2025

If you have a child starting Prep in 2025 now is the time to enrol. Next term, crazy as it seems, we start to think about planning for the upcoming year. Please drop enrolment forms into the office as soon as you can. Please also note the 2025 Foundation Transition Program below.

Wednesday
21st August
9.30am -
10.30am

Open Transition Session- for all enrolled students and those considering enrolment in 2025. Children will spend the hour exploring the Prep classroom and participating in guided activities. A morning tea for parents/caregivers will be provided in the staffroom.

Wednesday
4th
September
9.30am -
10.30am

Open Transition Session- for all enrolled students and those considering enrolment in 2025. Children will spend the hour exploring the Prep classroom and participating in guided activities.

Wednesday
30th October
9.30am -
11.30am

Transition Session for Enrolled Students- Literacy & Numeracy Based Activities. Teachers and children will build relationships in preparation for the new year. These sessions are reserved for confirmed enrolments only. Parents will say goodbye to their children at 9:30am and collect them at the conclusion of the session.

Monday 18th
November
6pm -
7.30pm

2025 Foundation- Final Parent Information Night & Tour. This session we will provide further information about specific areas of interest including but not limited to: Uniform, What to Pack, A typical 'Day in Foundation', Helping students prepare for school.

Wednesday
20th
November
9.30am -
12.30pm

Transition Session for Enrolled Students-Half Day Program. Today the children will experience the routine of a school day with their 2025 class and teacher. Please pack a snack, drink bottle and hat.

PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

From the Assistant Principal - Curriculum

Mel Bach

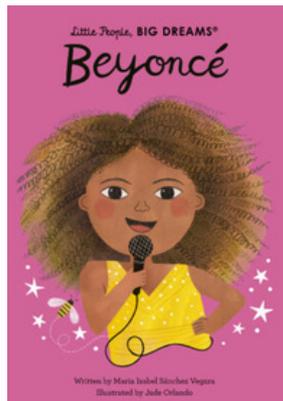
Teaching and Learning

You may notice that after school on a Wednesday staff hotfoot it to the library. This privileged hour of time is for learning and sharing.

Last week, teams shared their reflections on the term that has been. It was truly wonderful to hear about the work that our staff are doing with children in both specialist and year level classrooms.

An important part of tracking progress as a school is to regularly reflect on the impact of our teaching. At the end of each term or unit of work teachers look at how successful their teaching has been. We also start thinking about what we need to focus on next. Performing Arts teacher, Anni Wheatley, taught us a song that celebrates Indigenous culture and we are now motivated to showcase this as a school at Assembly. We talked about the upcoming production at Moorabbin Town Hall early next term where children get to show off their talent in Performing Arts. Our art teacher, Helen Kupfer, showed us some of the pieces that students have been working on and the process for getting them there. The Art Show in Term 4 will be a great opportunity to share this with our community. We got so into our celebrations and reflection that we ran out of time to finish sharing so staff will continue with this at a PD session early next term.

The next page shows an example that illustrates the journey that Year 3 teachers have been on in implementing the learning from our April Curriculum Day with Misty Adoniou and the Scaffolding Literacy approach. Year 3 classroom teachers put the approach into practice using quality literature, in this case, the Little People, Big Dreams books. Mentor texts play a vital role in our literacy program. These books quickly captivated the students with many knowing some of the people featured; Taylor Swift, Leo Messi. This provided the catalyst for researching and writing biographies of their own.



Phonics Update

Recently the state government have released information about the teaching of phonics. In short, this means that all Victorian state schools will use a structured, systematic phonics approach in Prep to 2, to teach reading from 2025. Phonics explicitly teaches the relationship between sounds and letters to read words. The expectation is that teachers will spend a minimum of 25 minutes a day on the "explicit teaching" of phonics and phonemic awareness.

At Parktone Primary, each Prep, Year One and Two classroom has what we call a 'phonics' wedge that is an important part of our literacy sessions. We utilise a scope and sequence which addresses what to teach and when to teach it in Prep, Year One and Two. This year we have continued to refine our teaching skills and our daily phonics routines.

Mardi Gorman, our literacy consultant, has been a regular visitor to our junior classrooms modelling and observing teacher practice specific to the teaching of phonics. Learning Walks have been regularly held by leadership, staff from other schools and teachers to monitor and evaluate our progress.

Phonics is a vital part of our reading instruction, combined with the use of rich mentor texts and fostering a love of reading. We will continue to ensure that our students develop sound skills as readers which includes a focus on accuracy, fluency, word knowledge and comprehension.

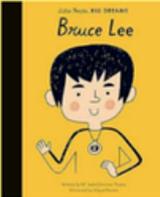
Our preliminary NAPLAN results for Year 3 look very promising as our work from the past few years begins to take effect.



PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

From the Assistant Principal cont'd

IMPLEMENTING MISTY'S WRITING APPROACH:



Bruce Lee

I came across this book about a month ago... It immediately caught my interest because I've heard the name 'Bruce Lee' thrown around a lot! But to be honest, I didn't know a whole lot about him...

In Rosario, Argentina, lived a little boy with a football attached to his feet. His name was Leo, and ever since he could walk, he loved playing in the streets with his brothers and cousins. But he was eager to prove himself on the pitch.

Who/what
Where/when/why/how
Verb (doing/being/saying/thinking)
Adjective

Leo/Messi - opening structure

In _____ lived a _____ who _____.
His/her name was _____. He/she _____.

In Queensland, Australia, lived a little girl who was as fast as a cheetah. Her name was Cathy. She was always running around outside chasing her dreams.

By what for the story	What was their dream/goal?	What problems did they face?	What did they do to achieve their dream/goal?	What have they learnt?
What information did the author use? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Born in San Francisco Family moved back to Hong Kong when he was a boy Became a child actor He was very interested in martial arts He was sent back to America 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To teach others how martial art skills in Hong Kong 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> He got a nick in a TV news but managed to make it to the big screen on Hollywood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> He returned to Hong Kong Offend the main role in a martial arts movie Made martial arts popular Became the first Asian-American movie star 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being first in himself never giving up
What will you write about?				




IMPACT ON STUDENT LEARNING:

- Students were bringing in their own books from home to share with the class and read them during independent reading time.
- Easy to follow structure which allowed all students to be successful and appropriately scaffolded.
- Students were able to compare the different books and identify similarities/differences and then apply this to their own biographies.
- Students were enthusiastic throughout the whole unit.

By what for the story	What was their dream/goal?	What problems did they face?	What did they do to achieve their dream/goal?	What have they learnt?
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What will you write about?				



STUDENT WORK SAMPLES:

Steve Irwin!
"Cricket!" I just caught another crocodile! In Femoree Gully, Victoria there lived a little boy who ~~love~~ loved animals so much he wouldn't hurt a fly. His name was Steve. Even if he saw a spider he would leave it be. ✓

This story ^{beginns} began in London England 1948 on the 16th of september. Then 5 years later her father James Shields got her a book of a 1000 poems. Which started her life Right there.

Biography TAYLOR Swift
In Montgomery, Pennsylvania, USA, on a Christmas tree farm. Lived a girl that had a voice like a mermaid's melody. Her name was Taylor Alison Swift. And she had a brother, Austin. Also she had a little dog. When Taylor was only six, she started taking singing lessons. Her teachers were amazed. She was 11 when she started performing at talent shows.

Frida Kahlo created 143 paintings out of which 55 are self-portraits. But the Frida we know today is more than just a painting machine. She took the world to see galleries to bad things and make room for the new things. She is specific. ✓

Liz Watson
At a house in Carlton, Australia surrounded by plants, lived a girl named Elizabeth. she loved baking and reading but most of all she loved Netball.

PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

From the Assistant Principal - Wellbeing

Kaye Ralph

Zones of regulation

At Parktone Primary School, students are using The Zones of Regulation. These zones categorise emotions and states of alertness into four coloured zones. Each one helps children recognise how they are feeling (not just emotionally, but physically) and provides strategies to manage their emotions and behaviours.

How It Helps

- **Self-Awareness:** Children learn to identify their feelings and understand how different situations impact their emotions.
- **Self-Regulation:** Children are equipped with strategies to manage their emotions and behaviors effectively.
- **Communication:** The zones provide a common language for children and adults to discuss emotions and coping strategies.

Tips for Home

- **Modelling:** Show your child how you use strategies to manage your own emotions.
- **Practice:** Regularly practice the strategies when your child is calm so they are easier to use in stressful situations.
- **Consistent Language:** Use the zones language at home to reinforce what they are learning at school.
- **Positive Reinforcement:** Praise your child when they use strategies effectively.

The Zones of Regulation is a powerful tool that can help children better understand and manage their emotions. By using this framework, parents can support their child's emotional development and contribute to a more harmonious home environment.

For more information, please visit: <https://zonesofregulation.com/how-it-works/>

The ZONES of Regulation®

BLUE ZONE	GREEN ZONE	YELLOW ZONE	RED ZONE
Sad Sick Tired Bored Moving Slowly	Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Ready to Learn	Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control	Mad/Angry Mean Terrified Yelling/Hitting Out of Control

Student Support Group Meetings

Thank you to the parents and teaching staff who attended Student Support Group Meetings over the last three weeks. It has been a pleasure to meet with you all. At a Student Support Group (SSG) meeting, we discuss a student's education and identify ways that we can support them to achieve their best. This Term we have been reviewing achievement or progress towards goals set at the beginning of semester one and discuss draft goals for semester 2 2024.

SSG's bring together those with the knowledge and responsibility for a student's learning, so that they can all work together to develop educational goals and associated strategies to achieve them. This involves understanding and considering a student's interests and strengths and establishing priorities for learning goals and how these will be monitored.

The conversation at the SSG meeting is documented and an Individual Educational Plan is developed for the student. The plan provides everyone, including the student, families, specialists eg Occupational Therapists and school staff with a structured and clear course of actions for learning progression.

Over the many years we have been running SSGs, we have found that parents and their children have overwhelmingly found the SSG process highly supportive and beneficial.

We look forward to meeting you again in Term 3 week 7 to continue the SSG process in support of your child's education.

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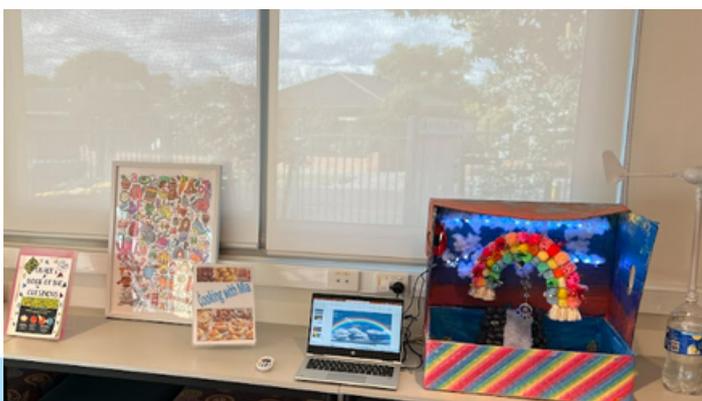
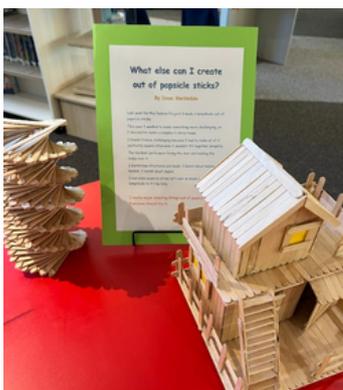
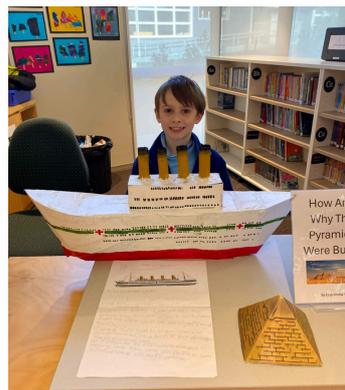
Leadership Day & Passion Project Expo

Habit 8 - Find Your Voice

This morning we celebrated a remarkable Leadership Morning at our school, showcasing our student leaders and their incredible dedication. It was truly inspiring to witness how these young leaders embody Habit 8 - Find Your Voice. Through their initiatives and actions, they have demonstrated a commitment to making a positive difference in our school community and beyond.

We also hosted another successful Passion Project Expo. The creativity and excitement in the library created a wonderful buzz and demonstrated just how passionate our students are!

At Parktone, we are incredibly proud of all our student's achievements and look forward to witnessing their continued growth as leaders next semester.



PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

Curriculum Update - Specialists

Performing Arts – School Production

Students in Years 3–6 have been diligently rehearsing for this year's school production "Kids at Sea" which on Thursday 1st August at the Kingston City Hall.

Sail the seven seas with young Harold Sindbad, meeting pirates, Mer-people, sultans, Roc Birds and ending up on the Fabulous Treasure Island, where dreams come true and everyone gets what they want on Neptune's Wonderful Wheel of Fortune.

The performance will include singing and dancing with songs including: 'Seven Seas', 'Sultanas In Pink Pyjamas', 'Silly Sailors Song', 'Zoltan the Sultan of Soul', 'My True-Blue Lagoon', 'The Wonderful Wheel of Fortune' and 'Rock the Rock'.

Tickets will be available through the Kingston Arts Box Office early in Term 3. A notification will be sent to families once they are available to purchase.



P.E – Girls AFL Football Gala Day

The superstar Grade 5/6s from our Parktone Girls AFL team spent a full day competing as one of six teams in the Mordialloc District Girls AFL Finals. Led by our team captains, Lily and Milly, they had a really fun day, improving with each game they played.

Ms Price and Mr Scott are looking forward using the team's experience to lead sessions teaching our younger female students how to play footy later in the year.

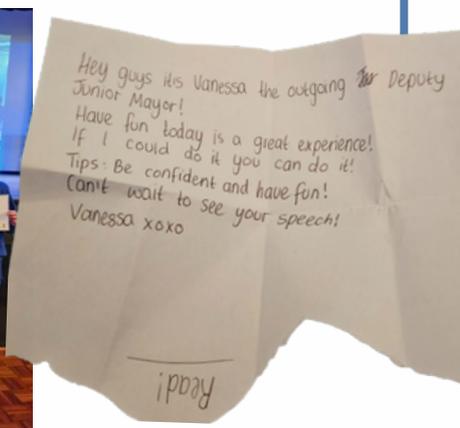


PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

2024 Kingston Junior Mayor Elections

This term was very exciting for Parktone's Junior Mayor Team, who presented at the Kingston Town Hall on the 23rd May. Kingston's Junior Mayor election has run for the past sixty years in collaboration with Chelsea Rotary Club, at an annual event where grade six representatives from primary schools across Kingston present speeches on a key theme. This year, students presented a two-minute speech and supporting performance on the topic: If you could add to the vision of a child-friendly creative Kingston, what would your ideas be?

There were some incredible speeches and performances on the day (including Parktone's!), and we are thrilled to announce that Dylan Herbison has been elected by his peers to serve as a Councillor on Kingston's Junior Council for the next twelve months. We thank Evelyn Mulvihill, Anvita Sreekanth and Emilia Angelis, who tirelessly supported head speaker Dylan to make up Parktone's wonderful Junior Mayor Team this year and who did an absolutely outstanding job. Well done Junior Mayor Team! Perhaps a future PM may be in the making among you...



English Language Fieldwork

Year 11 English Language students from Parkdale Secondary College visited Parktone this week as their fieldwork observation of child language development. They were able to observe Foundation teachers in phonics instruction and then work one on one with the preps to read, infer, and explore new phonemes through drawing and conversation. It was a wonderful opportunity to see child language development first-hand, having learned the theories and stage of this process throughout Unit 1. The year 11s and the preps all had a wonderful time together and thoroughly the visit.





Student Victories

Aerobics Champions

The Aerobics teams continue to shine.

On Saturday the team participated in the State Championships at Braybrook. Congratulations on all their hard work and to the parents tirelessly behind the scenes coaching and supporting them. You are all incredible!

Results in from the weekend:

- Year 6: 1st Place- State Champions
- Year 5: 1st Place - State Champions
- Year 4: 2nd Place – a fabulous achievement!
- Year 3: 1st Place - State Champions

42 VERY happy girls are off to the Gold Coast for Nationals.

Go Parktone!

Life Saving Superstars

Congratulations go to Layla and Noah Dolic who competed at Lifesaving State Championships in Geelong on Sunday. Layla came away with two gold medals, and Noah was awarded with a silver and four bronze medals.

Wow! We certainly have some talented students in our school.



PARKTONE NEWSLETTER

Parents & Friends Committee

Parktone's Glow Disco

On Friday, the Parktone stadium was transformed into a vibrant and colourful Glow Disco. There were cool outfits, and lots of dancing children having an absolute ball. It was great to see Mrs Buckleigh, Mrs Batty and Miss Sharman hitting the dance floor.

Behind any great event is an incredible team. This parent-initiated event was beautifully led by Anita Addoriso and she had fabulous people supporting her prior to, during and after the night, I cannot thank them enough for their efforts in ensuring that our children could have this event.



Silent Night, Trivia Night

The bells are jingling so grab some friends and your ugly Christmas sweater and join us for an evening of sugar and spice and all things nice at the Parktone 'Quizmas in July' Trivia Night.

This is no ordinary pen and paper Trivia Night - interactive wireless buzzers create a fun and fast game with multiple scoreboards throughout the evening, including sound effects and mini games. Strictly teams of 8.

- Saturday 27th July 2024 @ 7pm
- Parktone Primary stadium
- Tickets \$30 pp
- BYO alcohol and food
- Dress: Christmas Cheer or Christmas Grinch you choose - the uglier the sweater the better!

An evening full of cheer with silent auctions, games and prizes and lots of fun.

All proceeds will go towards upgrading the Y3 to Y6 playground.

