

Dear Principal,

Re: 6-10 September 2021 Celebration of PSA Schools Recognition Week

Like you, the Public Service Association values the contribution School Support Staff make to the school community; never more so than this year as they have worked tirelessly throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each year the Association organises PSA Schools Recognition Week to acknowledge the contribution of these staff – whether they work in the office, the library, in the school grounds or in the classroom. Whatever the role, they are instrumental to supporting the wellbeing of students, teachers and the entire school community.

We know you are aware of the valuable work School Support Staff perform every day of the school year. This year, the commitment and perseverance of our members to support their school communities throughout one of the most trying times in history has been nothing short of remarkable.

They have gone above and beyond to support everyone in their school communities from the teaching staff, to the students and families, as well as each other. They have worked tirelessly to make sure no-one is left behind. In schools across the state these staff are the heart of that community, connecting with and supporting all.

They moved swiftly to work from home during various lockdowns and restrictions. They have rolled out technology to students and staff that needed it, supported virtual classes or virtually provided psychological and wellbeing support. They then maintained the systems that keep students, staff and parents safe. With you, they have returned to their workplaces as essential workers while many others remained at home.

Recognition Week is an opportunity for you, and the school community, to show your appreciation of these dedicated staff members for their professionalism and hard work.

We have developed a list of suggested activities you may wish to undertake to show that appreciation. We have also written a letter to the P&C inviting them to also celebrate the school support staff. It would be appreciated if you could pass this letter on to them.

We will send your school, by post, a PSA Schools Recognition Week package that includes some material to be shared with them. This package will arrive in time for the start of the week on 6 September.

Thank you in advance for your support and participation in this special week.

Yours sincerely

Stewart Little

General Secretary

Public Service Association of NSW

