



Dear Principal

**Re: 5 - 9 September 2022 Celebration of PSA Schools Recognition Week**

Like you, the Public Service Association values the contribution of school support staff to the school community. Over the past year school support staff have worked tirelessly throughout the return to campuses after the COVID-19 lockdown in 2021 and the Omicron wave in January.

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, in a classroom setting, supporting the wellbeing of students or in other roles.

We know you are aware of the valuable work school support staff do every day of the year. They have supported 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. For many schools these staff are the heart of that community, connecting with and supporting all.

School support staff have moved swiftly to roll out rapid antigen tests to students, maintained important COVID-19 records, worked on flood recovery programs for pupils and staff, as well as ensuring the essential functions of schools are maintained and vulnerable students supported in the classroom throughout these turbulent times.

That is why this year's theme for PSA Schools Recognition Week is *Essential to Schools, Essential to the Community*.

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

We have developed a list of suggested activities you may wish to undertake which we have included. 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, by post, a PSA Schools Recognition Week package to the school including posters, pens, lanyards and other materials.

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

Yours sincerely,

Stewart Little  
**General Secretary**

August 2022

