



Healesville PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Edition 25

13th August, 2015

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Student Leadership

Congratulations to our School Captains, Josh and Olivia, along with our House Captains, who do an excellent job in leading our school assembly each Monday morning. Along with the other student leaders who assist each week, they are organised, confident and poised. Our student leaders approach their tasks in a very mature way, and make us all proud as they positively display great leadership skills.

Every Day Counts

Just a reminder that whilst we (teachers and parents) understand that kids get sick and the best place for them is tucked up nice and warm in bed, it is vital that students are at school as much as possible. Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

We also appreciate notification, either by a phone call, letter or via the Tiqbiz app, with the reason for a student absence as soon as possible for our school records.

Parent Opinion Survey

A big thank you to those families who took the time to respond to our random Parent Survey. We had a great response and I am looking forward to receiving your feedback in the coming months. A reminder that if you received a survey, it's not too late to return yours, confidentially, to the office tomorrow.

I really value talking to parents informally when I am on yard duty or walking around the school at different times of the day, so please make yourself known.

Canteen

The canteen has been running for three weeks and students are enjoying the variety of foods on offer. Some students are spending valuable recess and lunchtime lining up to purchase food over the counter. Whilst this will remain an option, can families try to place a lunch order at the start of the day, so students are not waiting and the correct amounts of food can be prepared.

Student Safety – Pickup Zone

Student Safety is important to all of us, with this in mind I have recently witnessed some people compromise this safety. As we are all aware the pickup zone is congested at 3.30pm and waiting for the line of cars to move forward can cause frustration. Students are required to wait at the area allocated at the left of the stairs until their parent drives past the zebra crossing. If you are not past the crossing, students are not allowed to get in the car. It is also important to remember to drive to the end of the zone, allowing quick movement.

(continued page 3.....)

SCHOOL EVENTS

AUGUST

Thursday 13th

Song Writing Workshop

Book Fair

Friday 14th

Concert with Levi McGrath (12.30 start)

Parents welcome

Jingle Jangle Recital – Years 1/2A & 2R

2.00pm – 3.30pm

Monday 17th – Friday 28th

Swimming Years 2-4

Wednesday 19th

Bike Education

Thursday 20th

Bridges to Prep 2.45pm – 3.15pm

Monday 24th

School Band performing at Assembly

Wednesday 26th

Bike Education

Parents & Friends Get Together 1.30 pm

Friday 28th

Year 3 camp instalment due

Monday 31st – Friday 4th Sept

Year 5 Camp

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday 2nd

Bike Education

Thursday 3rd

Kew Traffic School – Year 3

Bridges to Prep 2.45pm – 3.15pm

STUDENT AWARDS

PC: Tilly MacK **PP:** Madalen W, Tahli N

1K: Ryan S **1D:** Jayson F

1/2A: Haylee G **2R:** Kane S-N

3A: Ally C, Grace H, Skye P-L

3/4L: Sienna C

5/6G: Holly W

6S: Celina O **6W:** James F

Performing Arts: Ethan D – 1/2A

P.E.: Alex P 3/4L, William B - PP

ENROL NOW FOR PREP 2016

Parents & Friends Club

An open letter to all HPS parents,

This week I informed School Council that I will be stepping down from the position of Parents & Friends Club president. I really enjoy this role but now that I am working full-time it's very hard to find time for the group.

This co-ordinator job has been very rewarding and I have loved being so involved in school events and activities, but now it is time for someone new to put some fresh energy and enthusiasm into it.

If you (alone or with a team) have an interest in taking on this amazing opportunity, please contact myself or Cameron Heath as soon as possible so we can arrange a meeting and some transition time.

Thanks, Maida Mitchell

School Prayer Meeting

Would you like to pray for our school?

Join us at 3:00pm this coming Monday 17th August, in room 9 or 10.

Any questions or prayer requests to add, please contact Cherida on 59626620.



EARN AND LEARN

Dear Parents,

This year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our school – and all we need you to do is collect stickers if you shop for your groceries at Woolworths. From 15th July - 8th September, you will get one Earn & Learn Sticker for every \$10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the stickers onto a sticker sheet and when it's complete, drop it in the Collection Box here at the school. At the end of the promotion, we'll be able to get some great new equipment. If you'd like to know more visit woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn



Literacy and numeracy at home- TOP IDEA

This week, keep a calculator handy (lots of mobile phones have a calculator). Use it with your child whenever there's maths to be done – at the supermarket, working out the difference between low and high temperatures, etc. Be creative and improve your child's calculator and problem solving skills.



This week we tried to tire the children out by running activities in the gym on most days but we are all looking forward when we can again run on the oval. We also have a number of new games available, thanks to donations and the children are thoroughly enjoying them: creating marble run, charade cards, bingo and memory cards. (Any donations greatly appreciated). Next week will start using our play dough and hope to make some unusual sculptures.

As part of our quality review we would love to get some feedback (good/bad or suggestions) from the parents as to the service we are providing for your children. We have a feedback form available at the service which you can pick up or you can send feedback via email to healesville@oshccampaustralia.com.au. We are having fun. Have a great week.

Thanks

Bob, Stacey and Abbey from Camp Australia

Visual Arts News about.....

The Journey of the Lantern Birds



Dear Healesville Primary School Student Artists, The Lantern Birds that you made have returned to Healesville after they have been on a very long journey. They flew to Federation Square in the City of Melbourne and were in a very big performance. They looked wonderful and over 100 people in the audience saw them!

The birds then flew to Eltham and said hello to some Kinda Kids. Next they flew to Warburton and were very lucky to be in an Art exhibition in an Art gallery where lots of people admired them. Wow! What an adventure. Now they have flown home to Healesville through the rain so they might need some feather and beak repairs! Thank you young artists for making these birds so that many people can enjoy them.

From Ash and Jem

Healesville Primary School is turning 150!

Healesville Primary School will celebrate its 150 year anniversary in 2016. This is a significant milestone that needs to be recognised and celebrated! School Council is calling for members of the community (eg. current and/or past parent, staff and students) who would be interested in forming a "HPS 150th Committee". The purpose of the committee would be to decide upon how our school should celebrate its 150th birthday, and then work together with the school community, School Council and others to bring those ideas to fruition in 2016. This is an exciting opportunity to be a part of something very special and create a memorable legacy for the years to come. Please speak with Bek Clarke to register your interest in joining the committee.

Rebekah Clarke

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL **(....continuation page 1)**

Student Engagement Policy and School Wide Positive Behaviour Approach

As part of our ongoing learning journey, the staff and I are currently participating in a series of professional learning around positive behaviour and understanding and dealing with inappropriate behaviours around the school. This aligns directly with our Students Engagement policy which can be accessed on our school website. Part of the agreed school expectations is providing a safe learning environment and playground environment. As a community we aim to provide students with the skills and strategies to be a participating, positive, member of our community and society. We have also been successful in securing funding to begin to implement the School Wide Positive Behaviour Support Approach, which will promote and maintain the safe and orderly environment for all students, staff and community members. We will focus on strengthening positive relationships within our school community and promote a positive focus on academic and behavioural outcomes across the school. Expected behaviours are acknowledged and rewarded at both an individual and class level.

Year 6 Uniform 2016

As mentioned in newsletters earlier this year the Year 6 uniform will be changing slightly in 2016. The Healesville Primary School Council has made a decision that all Year 6 students will wear the same bottle green as all students. The difference between Year 6 and all other students will be their Year 6 jacket. Remember that no black is to be worn from the start of 2016.

Social Media 2.0 Session

Today, the year 5/6 students will be participating in a session on issues surrounding social media. The Social Media 2.0 seminar is an engaging, practical and interactive seminar that is tailored to the specific issues of young people in the realm of social networking. It will be run by Nathan 'Dubsey' Want, who will use video and interactive scenarios to communicate how, what is written in the virtual world, affects the real world and shows how 'social media' can become 'destructive media'.

The session will encourage students to speak up about personal challenges and give practical steps to empower students to be part of the solution.

School Chaplain

It is with great pleasure that I announce Healesville Primary School's new School Chaplain, Penny Mentiplay. Penny comes to HPS with a wealth of knowledge and experience in a wide variety of areas. We welcome Penny to our fabulous community.

Cameron Heath, Principal

40 HOUR FAMINE UPDATE

On behalf of Healesville Primary School, I would like to say a big "thank-you" to everyone who made a donation towards this year's 40 Hour Famine appeal. As a school (through our special Devonshire Tea for teachers and staff, the pick-up/drop-off collection with money buckets, and the free dress day last Friday) we were able to raise \$601.70. What a great effort!

We have been fortunate enough to have participated in some other exciting events in the past two weeks. Last week, we had Christine Pearce come and conduct an art workshop for selected students in years 5 & 6. Two students were selected and received two free tickets each to attend the 40 Hour Famine Concert in Healesville on this Saturday night at the Memorial Hall. Congratulations to Hamish Pearce-Ryan and Chelsea Johnstone who produced wonderful pieces of art around the theme of social justice. Both Hamish and Chelsea will be presented with an Art Justice Award by Tim Costello (CEO World Vision Australia) on Saturday night and will receive some other prizes too. Well done guys!

This Thursday, selected students from years 5 & 6 will be involved in a song writing workshop with Carter & Carter, golden guitar award winning musicians who support the work of World Vision. Carter & Carter will help the students to write a piece of music that speaks about what things are important to them and how they can make a difference in the world around them.

Finally, this Friday we welcome Levi McGrath, a local singer/songwriter from Healesville, to come and play a concert in our school hall. Like Carter & Carter, Levi is also a World Vision artist and Levi spends his time touring around Australia sharing about his experiences and the work of World Vision in those places. Levi is a gifted storyteller and has an amazing ability to captivate his audience through his music. The concert will be starting at 12:30pm and is free for anyone to attend, so if you are free and like music, come along and see a world-class musician in action!

Stay tuned in the coming weeks to see the results of the different workshops in the school... there might be a few surprises in store so watch this space!

Finishing up at Healesville PS

I also just wanted to let you know that my last formal work day at Healesville PS will be Tuesday the 18th of August. I will be around the school a couple of extra days to assist our new Chaplain to settle in here at Healesville, but wanted to let you know that very soon, I will no longer be at Healesville PS.

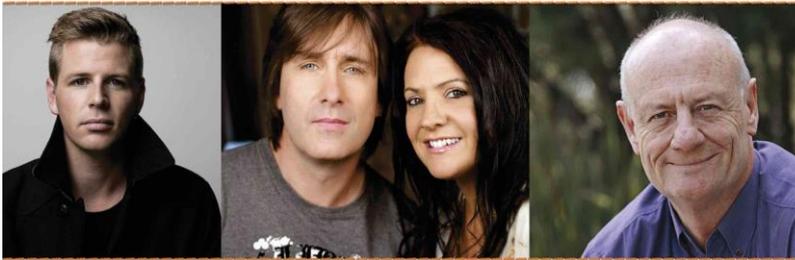
I would love to chat or catch up with anyone who wants to say goodbye so feel free to drop by and touch base with me. I will be writing a final newsletter insert in next week's newsletter, so I'll save some nice words for then!

Joel Hawting
Chaplain

40 Hour Famine CONCERT

Featuring World Vision Australia Artists and Guests

Carter & Carter
Levi McGrath
Tim Costello



Saturday 15th August, 7:30pm

The Memo, Healesville

General Admission \$30 / VIP \$60

Book now: 1300 368 333

ach.yarraranges.vic.gov.au

Hosted
By:



Supporting
Partners:



Camps, Sports, Excursions Fund (CSEF)

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) will run over four years and provide payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions.

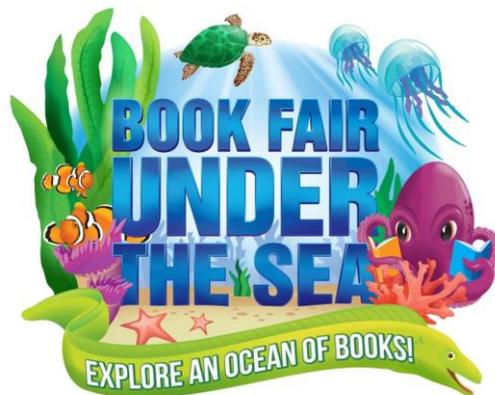
Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. \$125.00 per year will be paid for eligible primary school students. Payments will go directly to the school and be tied to the student.

You need to fill out a form at the office and bring your concession card prior to the 18th September, 2015.

This payment will remain on our system until the money is used, whether the money is used that year or carried over into the following year. **All parents should apply no matter which year level your child is in.**

If you have any further queries, please come and see the office staff who can be able to assist you further.

Thank You.



The Book Fair is here!

Students will be given a chance during school hours to visit the book fair (which is set up in the library) but sales will only be after school each day from 3:30pm-4:15pm until Tuesday. Payments can be made by cash, cheque or credit card.

Remember that a percentage of all book fair proceeds goes towards earning rewards for our school.

Have a go at the colouring-in competition or have a guess at the number-of-shells-in-the-tub contest.

Come and enjoy our book fair!

HEALESVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
PRODUCTION OF

Disney's
Alice in Wonderland
JR.



Music and Lyrics by Sammy Fain and Bob Hilliard, Oliver Wallace and
Cy Coban, Allie Wrubel and Ray Gilbert, Mack David, Al Hoffman and Jerry Livingston
Music Adapted and Arranged and Additional
Music and Lyrics by Bryan Louiselle
Book Adapted and Additional Lyrics by David Simpatico
Based on the 1951 Disney film "Alice in Wonderland" and the novels "The Adventures of
Alice in Wonderland" and "Through the Looking Glass" by Lewis Carroll
By arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd, exclusive agent for Music Theatre
International, NY

DON'T BE LATE FOR A VERY IMPORTANT DATE

Thursday 27th August (Preschool matinee) - 11:15am
Thursday 27th August - 7:30pm
Friday 28th August - 7:30pm
Saturday 29th August - 2pm & 7:30pm

www.healesvillehs.vic.edu.au

FAMILY FUN DAY

Saturday 12th Sept 9am-3pm

Healesville RSL

MARKET STALLS ~ PETTING ZOO ~ BBQ

GIANT SLIDE ~ CARNIVAL SIDE SHOWS

HOT RODS ~ RAFFLES ~ DUCK RACE

SLUSHIES ~ WOODFIRE PIZZA



275-279 MAROONDAH HWY HEALESVILLE PH:5962 5017

In primary school, some students miss on average 3 weeks of school per year. That's half a year of school by the end of year 6.



EVERY DAY COUNTS

Primary school attendance

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

Why it's important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It's vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

It's vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided.

"Day off" – Think twice before letting your child have a "day off" as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx