A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This week we have been participating in our School Review with Jill Jackson and Warren St Clair from Ed Solutions. The review has given us an opportunity to reflect as a school on the areas we have done well over the past four years and to look at the areas we need to improve on. Thank you to all the staff at HPS for the open and frank conversations. We are all looking forward to improving the educational, emotional and social outcomes for all students across all year levels.

EVERY DAY COUNTS

I have recently been noticing that many students are turning up to school late and the rate of student absences is getting higher. During the discussion with our school reviewer the amount of days students are absent from school is a concern. It is important for students and families to understand the importance in attending school each day and being punctual in arriving each morning.

A recent article “No safe level of missing school, study finds” in The Age about school attendance in the lead up to the annual Australian Council for Educational Research’s conference highlighted:

- missing just one day of school has negative consequences for a student’s academic achievement, the first major study linking poor attendance to lower NAPLAN results has found; and
- school attendance patterns established as early as year 1 can predict how often a student will show up to class right throughout high school, according to the research.

“We were able to show that actually every day counts and days that you’re missing in year 3 and year 5, we can detect that all the way through to year 9,” the report’s co-author Professor Stephen Zubrick from the University of Western Australia said. “A 10 day period of unauthorised absence in a year is sufficient to drop a child about a band in the NAPLAN testing.”

The most startling finding, he said, was that students arrive in year 1 “with their school attendance careers already in their pockets”. “For most children, year 1 sets the pattern for what school attendance will look like in the future,” Dr Zubrick said. “You’re learning more than reading and writing. You’re learning to show up.”

To read the full article, go to: http://www.smh.com.au/national/education/no-safe-level-of-missing-school-study-finds-20140802-zzoj00.html#ixzz39ObP25FU

Classroom Visit – Prep A

With the Preps now well and truly settled in to Term 3, it was great to pay them a visit and see just how far they have come. Late last week I was able to watch a room full of prep students working independently on their writing. It is amazing to see the changes that have occurred in 6 months! As I made my way around the room, every child was able to explain to me what they were doing and why they were doing it. They clearly understood that they were writing for an audience other than themselves and that is a wonderful ability for such young students.

Congratulations to all the prep students, I am excited about your progress so far in your learning journey. The Prep teachers have worked extremely hard to plan and deliver a curriculum that benefits every student. Well done!

Crazy Hair Day

Yesterday I walked around at recess and saw some amazing hair, I spoke to one particular year 5 student who explained that her aunty had been teasing her hair since Sam, now that’s impressive. Congratulations to all the students who had crazy hair. The money raised is going towards Construction. Many photos of students crazy hair can be seen on the TV in the foyer of the school.

Parent Opinion Survey

A reminder to all families who received a Parent Opinion Survey that it needs to be returned to the school office as soon as possible.

Cameron Heath, Principal

SCHOOL EVENTS

AUGUST

Friday 15th
Grades 3 & 4 Footy Clinic
Interschool sport at Home v Badger creek

Tuesday 19th
Grades 5 & 6 – Cricket Clinic

Wednesday 20th
Eastern Health Dietician – Parents and Friends
Question & Answer Session 2:30pm

Friday 22nd
Grades 3 & 4 - Footy Clinic

Monday 25th
Grades Preps & 3’s to view Gr 6 Production in school hall.

Tuesday 26th
Grade 6 Play Practice – Memorial Hall

Grade 5 – Cricket Clinic

Wednesday 27th
Grade 3 - Kew Traffic Excursion

Grade 6 - Production at Memorial Hall
(Grades 1 2 4 5 to view at Memo Hall)

Thursday 28th
Bridges to Prep 2015 – Computers & Library 2.45-3.15pm

Grade 3 Poetry Recital in Hall – 2.30pm

Friday 29th
Grades 3 & 4 – Footy Clinic

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 2nd
Grades 5 & 6 – Cricket Clinic

Prep Excursion – Healesville Sanctuary

Thursday 4th & Friday 5th
Fathers’ Day Stall

You are invited to be part of our Parent Focus Group for our School Review.

Your input and discussion on how the school is going is valued and encouraged.

Meet with our School Reviewers Friday August 15th (TOMORROW)
9:00 am – 9:45 am

ENROL NOW FOR PREP 2015
## Literacy and numeracy at home - TOP IDEAS

Create a map of your house and talk about the measurement of rooms in informal measurement units (eg. how many steps) or formal measurement units (eg. metres).

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### Parents & Friends Club

**“Munch & Crunch an Awesome Lunch”**: The dietician from Eastern Health is coming to visit us next Wednesday (August 20th) at 2pm to answer questions about nutrition in your child’s lunchbox. This is a great opportunity to ask a professional all your questions about lunchbox food. This is a **FREE** session but please register your interest by contacting the school office (this is for catering purposes only). All welcome and feel free to bring friends/grandparents/prospective parents, etc.

**Father’s Day is September 7th**: We would like to hold a father’s day raffle but we can’t without your support! Please consider buying a little something that we could include in the raffle prizes - gift cards, chocolates, coffee, Bunnings vouchers, etc. If you know of a local business that would like to donate a voucher to promote themselves please get in touch. Donations can be left at the school office over the next 2 weeks. If you would like to help at the Father’s Day stall on Sept 4th and/or 5th please leave me a message at the office.

**Thanks for your support, Maidi Mitchell**

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### UNIFORM SALE

10% discount on ALL items

**Be Quick!**

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### STUDENT AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep M: Hayden G, Alex L</th>
<th>PP: Finlay Mc</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep C: Hamish Mc</td>
<td>1/2A: Isabelle W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1O: Kaitlyn H</td>
<td>2B: Lara W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2R: Alex B</td>
<td>3G: Darcey V, Bella H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B: Joel D, Nikita M, Joey W</td>
<td>4L: Whole Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4L: Whole Class</td>
<td>5K: Jade S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4K: Heidi G, Aaron Mc, Sienna M</td>
<td>5G: Nicholas I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5G: Nicholas I</td>
<td>5/6S: Jacob S</td>
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<tr>
<td>6N: Madison C</td>
<td>6W: Gabby B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quick Smart:</td>
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### BUS TRAVELLERS

Healesville High School will no longer be running a Wet Day Timetable. Therefore the bus will leave at 3.12pm EVERY school day.

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### “A Super Wedding”

**Grade 6 Production - 27th August 2014**

Tickets on sale now!
Do you have a child who loves swimming?

The Healesville Swimming Club provides swimmers of all ages with the opportunity to develop their swimming skills, learn about and participate in competitive events, and improve their health and physical fitness. It also fosters good sportsmanship and camaraderie within a friendly community environment. Squad training sessions are held on weekday evenings at the Jack Hort Memorial Indoor Pool in Healesville. Club members also compete at local and interclub meets, and attend social events and awards nights.

If your child can competently swim all strokes (freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly) and is keen to further develop their competitive swimming skills and general fitness, then please consider joining the Healesville Swimming Club.

To find out more please email the Club Secretary or Club President. You are also welcome to come along and watch a squad training session in action.

Club President: Stuart Marshall
stuartmarshall8@bigpond.net
Club Secretary: Carolynne Hart
carolynnehart@gmail.com
Coopy Bly in concert

JYM – St John’s Youth
Friday 12 September 6.30pm – 8.30pm

Coopy Bly is a Ugandan Gospel / Afro pop artist. He was Ugandan male artist of the year 2012/2013. He will be sharing his songs, what they’re about and his story with us.

Listen to some of his songs here: http://www.reverbnation.com/coopybly

For more details call: Tim - 59626620