



NEWSLETTER

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A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

While writing this newsletter I'm sitting at my desk with a jacket on as well as the heater: winter has arrived! The recent wet weather has made our oval very soggy and muddy in patches. Unfortunately at times during winter we will have to close the oval to ensure the students are not getting muddy and wet. We have many great play areas around the school where students can enjoy recess and lunchtime socialising and playing with friends while remaining dry and mud free.

Working Bee

Wow, the power of many hands. Thank you to all the families that helped at our working bee last weekend. It was amazing to see families working together to improve the environment for all Healesville Primary students.

- The Prep-2 play areas should now have no water at the bottom of the slides and the softfall is all in place.
- The top basketball court areas have been cleaned and mulch placed around the gardens.
- The Ruins have had a makeover with new sand and mulch making it look great.
- The Year 5&6 play grounds have a thick layer of softfall and the adjoining rotunda area has been cleaned up and dead trees removed.
- The Veggie patch has been mulched and cleaned up.
- The vacant area adjoining P6J has a layer of mulch.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the families who attended and gave up precious time on Saturday- Halliday, Evans, Cameron, Stevenson-Newell, Goodwin, Witton, Marshall, Lu, Hunt, Barrett, Agnew, Erickson, Kinsmore, Church, McCarthy, Mitchell, Bassett, McMaster, Deuers, Pearse, Thwaites, Street, Thompson, Smith and Savage. Hopefully everyone signed in and I have not forgotten anyone.

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

Our Bunnings BBQ is this weekend at the Croydon Bunnings. We still need people to help throughout the day. If you can help please contact the school office.

Hercules

Monday morning all students watched the Alpha production of Hercules. It was great to see all students enjoying the singing, dancing and acting.

Rookie Band

Congratulations to our Rookie band members who played in the 'Work in Progress' concert on Tuesday night at the High School. It is fantastic as I walk around the school to hear the amazing sounds our band members are making from the wide variety of instruments.

IBAC Investigations

Congratulations to the investigations team from the Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission (IBAC), for their thorough investigation into corruption in the top echelons of the Department of Education. This investigation has been heavily reported by sections of the press and tv media with new schools, principals and bureaucrats being named as witnesses on a daily basis.

As a Principal, I am shocked by the nature of these developments and that those in positions of power would use funding that was clearly allocated for student use, to benefit their own needs. Government school Principals I speak to on a daily basis, who maintain the highest levels of integrity and honour, trust that those responsible will be held fully accountable and criminal proceedings engaged where appropriate.

I commend our finance sub-committee - Deb Cameron, Michelle McIlvena, Nicole Street and our office staff for upholding HPS to the highest of standards.

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SCHOOL EVENTS

JUNE

Saturday 6th

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

Monday 8th

Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

Tuesday 9th

Yarra Division Cross Country

Monday 15th

School Council Meeting

Friday 19th

School Disco

Canberra Camp Instalment Due

Friday 26th

Last Day of Term 2

JULY

Monday 13th

First day of Term 3

LONG WEEKEND

Monday is the Queen's Birthday public holiday.

CSEF

If you have a health care card, you are eligible for the Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund. For more information please see the next page. Please come to the office with your health care card by the 26th June, 2015.

BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Helpers are still required for this Saturday 6th June at Bunnings in Croydon.

If you're able to help, especially between 12-2pm or 2-4pm please call the office before tomorrow afternoon.

CANTEEN

JUNE 2015

Mon & Tues	CANTEEN CLOSED	
Wed 10 th	Skye Hamilton	
Thurs 11 th	Rebecca Church	Samantha Stribbling
Friday 12 th	Rachelle Potter	Lisa Clements

Parents & Friends Club



We will be hosting a Mid-Year disco to be held in the school hall on Friday June 19th. Keep the date free so you can join in the fun. Parent helpers are always needed to be able to make a disco happen so please consider staying and taking on a small job. More details included in a separate note that will come home next week.

Thanks for your support,
Maidi Mitchell and Kylie Short

Literacy and numeracy at home TOP IDEAS

Use a wall measuring chart to measure the height of people in your family, and talk about the different heights.



Now that winter is here we are decorating our room with snow flakes and rain drops and we will also be celebrating World Environment Day on Friday 5th June.

We are also undertaking Camp Australia's Better Buddies program associated with the Alannah and Madeline Foundation which is a national charity that focusses on keeping children safe from violence and bullying. This week is sharing and caring and we have a number of "Buddie Leaders" looking after our "Buddie Bear" and an official "Buddie Leader Photographer". Kids are really enjoying the responsibilities.

We wish to remind parents that if you have booked your child into After school care and for some reasons you pick them up direct from school, then please either text/phone us on 0405 440 885 and let us know. This is because we need to follow-up any child that has not yet come to our service within 10 minutes of the end of school. This means we walk to their classroom, refer to the school office and generally look around the school then we phone the parent. After that we need to inform our Regional Manager then the police for a missing child.

Thanks, Bob, Stacey, Nicola and Abbey from Camp Australia



Financial Assistance Information for Parents

Camps, Sports & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund will ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students.

How to Apply

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Closing Date

You should lodge a CSEF application form at the school by 26 June 2015.

For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef



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

HOME READING AND ORAL LANGUAGE

From the time your child arrives in Prep they are encouraged to “read” and write. What this reading and writing looks like for each child will be different according to their level of development. All children are on a continuum of learning and as such arrive at school with different skills and knowledge. Some children may be able to identify letters and sounds, some may be able to read a few words and others may not. Through daily, modelled literacy lessons the children begin to recognize patterns and early reading is often a lot of memorizing. As with any skill the best way to improve at it, is to practice frequently – the same is for reading.

Home Reading needs to be seen as a fun engaging time, particularly for new readers. Try to establish reading as part of your nightly routine, a time that is relaxing and a time when you can sit together and enjoy the experience. I often explain to parents that most children will learn to read quite competently by the age of 10, but how many of them will see the experience of reading as a pleasurable leisure activity? The time you spend developing this enjoyment and engagement will certainly pay off in the years to come.

As children interact with a text, they develop a repertoire of strategies that allow them to get information from different sources in order to “read” what’s on the page. Marie Clay, a distinguished researcher known for her work in global educational literacy, groups the sources of information into three categories: *meaning*, *structure*, and *visual* cues. Information from these sources is the foundation for early reading development.

If your child is losing a connection with the meaning and they begin to be too focussed on looking at the print without thinking about the story, to refocus their efforts, you can use some prompts to get them back in tune with what the book is actually about:

- “Talk to me about what you can see in this picture?”
- “Does it make sense? Read it again”
- “Think about the story, what was happening?”
- “Talk to me about the story”

Sometimes children can become too focused on the meaning of the book and insert or substitute words that make sense but do not look right. To help children to look at the print more closely we can say and not look at the print:

- “Does it look right? Try that again”
- “Where is the hard part?”
- “Is there anything there that you know?”
- “What can you see that can help you?”

Reading is a problem-solving message-getting activity. To prompt your child ask:

- “Does it sound right? Try that again”
- “What would you say if that happened to you?”
- “How would you say it?”
- “Does it sound like the character is talking?”

As a parent I prioritise home reading in our family routine, and have reflected on my questioning not only of my boys when listening to nightly reading, but also when asking about their day at school. As many parents no doubt hear, I too receive a simple “good”, “yes” or “okay” when discussing school at the dinner table. These responses obviously don’t shed any light on the highlights or struggles of a day at school, but do give some insight into the type of questions asked. A key strategy for teachers that assists with differentiated learning in the classroom is deeper questioning. Using this same technique at home, I have been able to gradually elicit more information from my boys: “What did you find interesting today?” - Talk to me/tell me about ... - Tell me/ help me understand more about - What else ... and ... after...” Of course, some days I still get a simple nod of the head, a shrug of the shoulders, or no response – the challenges of parenthood!

Cameron Heath, Principal

Performing Arts Grade 1 and 2

The Grade 1s and 2s have been doing a fabulous job in Performing Arts. They have been doing some line dancing and learning to move with the beat. We have also been looking at Drama with the children working on creating, discussing and making their own mini plays. They looked at four different areas of Who ? Where ? What ? and When ? to brainstorm ideas for a play in groups. I was so impressed by the way in which they worked together listening to each others ideas and talking in front of their peers and class.

Here are some of 2Rs fabulous ideas. Well done to the group leaders Kane,Scarlett, Jye and Mia K.

Under the sunset there was a magic owl and a little girl that loved to go into the woods. They had a disco in the jungle.

There was a dancing skeleton that travelled into the past to the Egyptian times. They had a dance off with 50 mummies and the pyramid fell and they all got squashed.

There were a lot of kids that lived in a big blue shoe a long time ago.A magic owl lived in a big old tree.

The Egyptian mummy and the little girl stumble across a roller coaster as they walked through the city that they found in the middle of the jungle. They hop on the roller coaster and they go round and round in circles. The Paradise bird sees them screaming so goes to get the magic owl who saves them.

In a big, big massive shoe the dancing skeleton appears. The animals run away and a mountain takes them to heaven.

There was once a disco in the jungle and the lions were having a dance. In a cave there came a skeleton and it had a necklace on. They went over to the sea and found a never ending rollercoaster.

A little girl and three Timaras and a magic owl got stuck in the mountains. Everyone forgot the magic owl was magic.

In a big,big shoe there lived skeletons and mummies and there was a waterfall and they swam in it.

Tanya Dale



SATURDAY, JUNE 20TH, 2015

6:30P.M. - 9:00P.M.

LIBERTY FAMILY CHURCH

1 LILYDALE ROAD

HEALESVILLE

FREE CHOC-TOPS, POPCORN & DRINKS!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (03) 5962 2206 OR VISIT LIBERTYFAMILYCHURCH.NET.AU/EVENTS

Making Sense of the Senses: Understanding Sensory Integration



Does your child have trouble sitting still? Put non edible objects in their mouth? Fidget? Make noise for noise sake? Take excessive risks in play? Have melt downs over small things like noises and clothes tags? Have fussy eating patterns? Have trouble with sleep? Struggle with social skills? Have difficulties with coordination? Have auditory processing difficulties? If you have answered yes to any of these questions it is likely your child has sensory processing challenges.

Sensory processing skills form the foundation upon which your child does all of their developing and learning. Yet, this topic remains largely unknown and misunderstood. Paediatric Occupational Therapist, Hannah Gamble will explain how the sensory system works and what the developmental and behavioural implications are when your child is not processing sensory input well. In addition, you will hear how to maximize your children's ability to learn at preschool and school as well as pick up some tricks on how to settle your children when they are wild! Don't miss out on this unique opportunity better understand your children, their behaviours and unique styles of learning.

This workshop is aimed at Early Childhood Educators, Primary School staff and Parents

Presenter: Hannah Gamble, Paediatric Occupational Therapist
Thrive Occupational Therapy for Kids

Date: Monday 22nd June 2015

Time: 7pm with doors open from 6:40pm

Price: \$25 for Parents inc GST
\$30 for Educators and other Professionals inc GST
All Educators and other Professionals receive a Certificate of Participation

Location: Maroondah Federation Estate
Greenwood Avenue, Ringwood

To book your ticket:

<http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/making-sense-of-the-senses-understanding-sensory-integration-tickets-16908519838>



hdgambles@gmail.com 0430131444



Spectrum Journeys Inc



Landcare – Connecting to Country

Linking Community, Environment & Indigenous culture

Thursday 2nd July, 9.30am – 3pm

A free event for 5-12 year old children
(Accompanied by an adult) at Badger Creek

Yarra Ranges Landcare Network, proudly supported by the Yarra Ranges Council, Melbourne Water and Mt Toolebewong & District Landcare Group, is offering a free holiday environmental activity for 5-12 year olds during NAIDOC Week 2015,

What's it all about?

Landcare is all about volunteers coming together to help the environment. Our Connecting to Country event provides an opportunity for children to get involved in some fun environmental activities and to learn about local Indigenous culture, during the National Aboriginals and Islanders Day Observance Committee Week (NAIDOC week). A Wurundjeri Elder will share stories and knowledge, the Green team Narap & Landcare volunteers will help plant and Bush Food will be provided.

Who can come?

We invite 5-12 yr. old children with a parent or carer to come along.
No dogs please & this is a smoke free event

Places are limited to 50 participants with adults invited to take part whilst supervising their children. You must register for this event. **Regos close: 23rd June.**

What to bring - warm clothes, raincoat, gloves, sturdy boots/gumboots & fold-up chair

To Register & queries: Contact Anne Fitzpatrick Landcare facilitator on 0488 766 113 or email: yvlandcare@gmail.com

Details:

Date: Thursday 2nd July 2015

Time: 9.30am – 3 pm
Lunch provided

Address: Badger Creek Rd,
Badger Creek

Mel ref: 278 G9

Cost: FREE. You must register

Activities:

- ❖ A Welcome to Country & smoking ceremony
- ❖ Planting to restore Coranderrk Creek Wildlife corridor
- ❖ Waterwatch activities
- ❖ Story telling &
- ❖ Sharing some bush food

This event is supported by:

