A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

4 weeks down and I am really enjoying working at Healesville Primary School and full of excitement moving forward. The students are producing fantastic work and are given many learning opportunities by our amazing teachers. At present we are working towards a school of good manners as well as developing our School Self Evaluation in preparation for our School Review.

Whole School Behaviour

In life we all have different rules that really resonate with us, one such rule for me is what Wilson McCaskill (Play is the way founder) says is The Golden Rule - Treat others as you would like them to treat you. The teachers and I are on the journey to developing a school of good manners. Teachers will be talking to students about what is and is not acceptable in school and indeed society.

The teachers and I encourage you to talk to your children about the Golden Rule. Ask them how they treat and speak to others. I find with Alex and Ben (my two sons) the best place to have discussion is at the dinner table or sitting on the couch looking at each other with no TV or digital device to distract them.

In the next few weeks a Whole School Behaviour Management Plan will be sent home to all families. Our aim is to communicate clearly with families the procedure we will be following at school.

NAPLAN Week

This week our students in Year 3 and 5 have completed the NAPLAN testing program. This national testing program is designed to measure schools and improve the outcomes of all students by flagging areas for improvement that are an area of concern both at a local and system level.

The areas of Writing, Spelling, Language Conventions, Reading and Mathematics are assessed under standardised conditions in all government schools across the country at the same time.

The results will be reported to parents on an individual basis later in the year, but the data we get at a school level is what is most valuable as it informs our future planning and decision making.

Weekly focus

Each week the teachers and I have a focus to concentrate on to develop an orderly environment across the whole school. This week we are focusing on Lining up and creating a school of good manners

Cyber safety and Bullying

Cyber safety and Bullying is something that we all should be aware of. Facebook, Kick and like programs can cause stress on maturing young minds. I urge all parents to talk to their children about safety on the internet and Facebook. Kick have a minimum age on them for a reason. Some suggestions I can give are to delete the app that is of concern, limit the time your child spends on devices and to sit and talk to them about appropriate use of devices and apps.

Write 4 Fun 2014

I received a letter from the Write 4 Fun 2014 Schools competition last week announcing that Healesville PS had over 10 students successfully progress past the initial judging in their competition. This year, the competition was held throughout primary and secondary schools within Australia and received over 11,500 entries. Healesville PS has been recognised for outstanding writing. Congratulations to all involved.

Cameron Heath, Principal

SCHOOL EVENTS

15th May, 2014

MAY

Friday 16th
School Cross Country 2:30

Thursday 22nd
“Cinderella” Incursion

Wednesday 28th
Parents and Friends Club Meeting 2pm

Thursday 29th
District Cross Country – Healesville Showgrounds – selected students

Prep 2015 Open Afternoon - Art

JUNE

Monday 2nd – 13th
Middle School Swimming Grades 2 – 3

Thursday 5th
Prep 2015 Open Afternoon – Music / PE

Friday 6th
Curriculum Day – Pupil Free Day

Monday 9th
Queen’s Birthday Public Holiday

STUDENT AWARDS

Prep M: Ivy
Prep P: Ryan S
Prep C: Haylee S
10: Tyler B
1/2A: Mia K
2R: Annie M
2S: Darcy W
3G: Emily S
3B: Riley H
4L: Caitlyn AH
4K: Chloe L
5G: Indi S
5/6S: Arabella V
6N: Eliza H
6W: Rosie F

SCHOOL TOURS

This term has gotten off to a flyer with school tours already undertaken by prospective parents. Most of the tours have been a result of positive word of mouth, so thanks to all those in the community who have supported the school through their kind words.

It is through a strong, positive community that we will build the school and that all starts with our wonderful families putting in a good word for us! Should you know of anyone who is yet to decide on a school for next year, please continue to support us by recommending that they make an appointment for a school tour. Cameron Heath, Principal
**Parents & Friends Club**

Congratulations to our Mother’s Day raffle winners:

1st prize: Rebekah C, 2nd prize: Jeni S
3rd prize: Claire M, 4th prize: Nicole P,
5th prize: Joey W, 6th prize: Amelia L

Thanks to all the wonderful stall helpers and to all the students who bought gifts. It’s great to see all the kids smiling faces after making their special purchase for their Mum. And the fundraising account gets a few dollars too!

Coming up next month is the school mid-year disco on Friday June 20th. More details will be sent home closer to the date. We need plenty of helpers on the night so please consider volunteering.

Our next get-together is Wednesday May 28th from 2pm in the Bristol. It is not a “meeting”, it’s a “sharing of ideas and thoughts” and “fundraising planning”. Come along for a cuppa and a chat.

Please like us on facebook “Healesville Primary Parents and Friends Club” to keep up to date with all sorts of school news.

*Thanks, Maidi Mitchell*

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**Badger Creek Women’s Choir**

**Tuesday Evenings 7:30 pm**

Badger Creek Primary School

Music Room

New Members Welcome!
All welcome, All Ages
All experience levels

Call Jenny Legg - 5962 4019
fun….relaxed….friendly

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**Literacy and numeracy at home - TOP IDEAS**

Find examples of patterns around your house, or on your clothing. It might be tiles, furniture, wrapping paper, crockery…

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**Parents’ Guide to Internet Use**

*Like the real world the cyber world will never be perfect but parents have to reduce the issues significantly*

Please Remember...

- The cyber world is a great and safe world; it’s how people use it that creates issues.
- My child needs my life skills and adult instincts to help them make sound choices and identify problems.
- No program my child will want to use is essential to their development, trust all programs as an extra, a privilege.
- No online version make in good faith regarding my children and their safety is a bad one, trust my instincts.
- Technology will forever change but our household rules and my protective practices will never change.
- Online dangers and responsibilities are real.
- Always weigh up the positives and potential risks when deciding what programs my kids can use.
- Encourage the use of technology in a public environment; issues are more likely to happen in private.
- Everyday in the house knows I am the one who has the final say regarding technology.

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**Medical Management Plans**

Thanks to the Families that have already returned their Medical Action Plans. The reason these are so important is that in order for the best possible response in the unlikely event of exposure or trigger to anaphylaxis or allergy; the information and medication we store here must be current and within expiry dates. A plan must be completed and signed by a GP every 12 months here and at the school’s sick bay, in order to comply with the Department of Early Education and Early Childhood Development.

Thanks for coming to play with us.

*Cheers from the team at Camp Australia*

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**Congratulations and Welcome Bob!**

Over the past weeks we had been waiting and hoping with fingers crossed for a fantastic Camp Australia team member to be selected as the succession plan for our service. It is with great pleasure that I announce Bob Waddell as our successful team member. Bob is already a firm favourite with kids and families, having him exclusively at Healesville will be wonderful, Bob will work the hours I work Monday to Friday during before and after school care.

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