A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Growth Coaching Professional – Coaching Accreditation Program

Monday and Tuesday this week I participated in the last Phase of my Coaching Accreditation at the Bastow Institute of Educational Leadership. The aim of the growth coaching International – coaching accreditation program is to work with educational leaders looking to get better outcomes from themselves, from their staff and ultimately from their students. This course has given me the tools and skills to work with staff on their leadership and capacity as a leader by identifying and clarifying challenges, setting clear direction and achieve sustainable improvements. As educators we recognise the quality of leadership across the school is one of the most important drivers of improved teaching practice and student learning outcomes. Hopefully by implementing strategies I have learnt over this course Healesville Primary School will continue to develop leadership in, not only, staff but in students as well. If you would like any more information about this course please come and have a chat.

Continuous Improvement Network (CIN) Project

In 2014 we have been part of a project to look at our Writing program across the school as part of funding from the Department attached to a Continuous Improvement Network. We have worked with Tony Ross as our facilitator and Di Wilkinson our Literacy coach to refine the way we teach writing increasing the outcomes for all students by looking at the way we work with our students and how we think about how students learn best. The initial results of the project have seen marked improvement in terms of the engagement in writing and also the quality and purpose of writing that our students produce. The groundwork has been set to map out a clear path in to the future beyond the life of the project. Thank you to Bek Clarke, Jo Lakeland and Kathryn Melody who have led this learning and the development of the project to make it specific and purposeful to our school and in line with the clearly identified way we think about education.

Book Pack for 2015

In 2015 we are introducing Book Packs for each student. These packs can be paid for and picked up before the school year begins in 2015 on 27 and 28 January. Communication was sent home last week with full details of the procedure in relation to these packs. If you have misplaced or didn’t get this note please contact the school office.

Canteen

Vikki in the canteen has been working hard to introduce and make available healthy food for all of our students. At present we operate the canteen three days a week, however we are making a loss each week and at present three days is not sustainable. To continue to offer three days a week Vikki needs more students to use the canteen facility. Unless we get more students using the canteen facility on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday we will be forced to cut the days of operation from three to two. Cameron Heath, Principal

SCHOOL EVENTS

NOVEMBER

Thursday 27th
Healesville Sanctuary 1O & 1/2A
Friday 28th
Blue Light Disco in School Hall 5:30pm
Okka Pie orders due back
St Johns order forms due back

DECEMBER

Monday 1st
Tricia O’Reilly Award presented at assembly
Wednesday 3rd
Parent Helpers Morning Tea
Thursday 4th
Preps Orientation Day 9:30-10:30am
Uniform Shop 9am – 11am
Monday 8th
School Council Meeting
Tuesday 9th
Healesville High School Orientation Day
Wednesday 10th – Friday 12th
Phillip Island Grade 4 Camp
Thursday 11th
Grade 5 Sovereign Hill
Junior School Sports 9 - 11am
Thursday 18th
Grade 6 Graduation – RSL & Memo Hall

OKKA PIE

Order forms are due back with payments by Friday 28th November. A great way to stock up the freezer for the upcoming festive season. Spare order forms can be found at the office or in the canteen.

STUDENT AWARDS

PM: Paisley S, Alex L  PC: Asha M
PP: Emma V  1O: Frankie C
1/2A: Caitlyn B  2B: Maddie C
2R: Georgia LP  5G: Xin S
P.E: Luke M 6N, Arabella V 5/6S

ENROL NOW FOR PREP 2015
CANTEEN

NOVEMBER 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon &amp; Tues</th>
<th>CANTEEN CLOSED</th>
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<tr>
<th>Wed 26th</th>
<th>Dannielle Mullens</th>
<th>Lorraine Simcoe</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 27th</td>
<td>Joanne Brayne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 28th</td>
<td>Rachelle Potter</td>
<td>Lisa Clements</td>
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Parents & Friends Club
To coincide with the free St John’s first aid training that the students will be doing over the next 2 weeks, we are running a fundraiser selling first aid kits. There was an order form attached to last week’s newsletter (or you can get one from the office). Please put your child’s name & class on the form & return, with payment, by November 28th.

We have signed up to the Baker’s Delight Healesville “Dough Raiser” program. All you have to do is mention Healesville Primary School when you shop at Baker’s Delight Healesville and 5% of your total purchase is donated back to the school. A good idea is to write Healesville Primary on your loyalty card if you have one, to remind yourself.

Notices about our Blue Light Disco went home last week with all the details. We need lots of parent helpers to make the night run smoothly and its heaps of fun. Fill in your details on your child’s note and keep Friday November 28th free!

Our next get-together is Wednesday November 26th from 2pm.

Thanks for your support, Maidi Mitchell

Literacy and numeracy at home - TOP IDEAS
Start writing out Christmas cards to send to family and friends. You could even make your Christmas cards by drawing pictures or cutting out old wrapping paper to stick on the front.

Well what a week, we have successfully moved from Room 15/16 back to the Bristol Room but it may take us the rest of this week to organise all the art stuff, games and books etc in correct spots. So sign-in and sign-out is now at the Bristol Room. Our theme last week was circus skills where we had access to some perceptual motor equipment in the gym, great to see them trying to balance a plate on a stick, or doing movements with the coloured ribbons etc as well as a gym mat where they all loved to just jump and roll. This week we will be looking at colours and space.

Due to the move we are on the lookout for a flat screen TV as the one we have is big and bulky and takes up a lot of room. If someone has one that they would love to donate the children would love it.

At the sign-in desk we have a feedback form which we would love feedback from you as to any suggestions or comments (good or bad).

Thanks, Bob, Michelle, Regan, Angelina, Nicola & Melissa from Camp Australia.

YEAR 4 CAMP TO PHILLIP ISLAND
Dear Parents/Guardians,
As you are probably aware our camp is nearly here. In three weeks we leave for the wonderful Phillip Island, (Wednesday December 10th – Friday December 12th). It promises to be a fabulous camp and we hope for glorious summer weather.

- All payments should now be finalized and paid to the office.
- All students should have returned their medical forms, complete with their asthma management plan for those who have puffers and spacers.
- The students have also been given a clothing list to help with packing their bags.
- Please ensure if there are any food allergies or medical alerts that this information is included on the medical forms.

Bek Clarke, Kerry Thomas and Joanne Lakeland

NO HOMEWORK CLUB
24th November
The last homework club will be 1st December
School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children’s services listed on the DEECD Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four day’s notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter [and SMS message/phone tree]. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- As a bus co-ordinating school all bus routes will be cancelled.
- Depending on which Bureau of Meteorology district is impacted bus route cancellations may affect our school.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the CFA advise that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan, [reprioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our facility’s grounds and gutters]

What can parents do?

- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, [by checking our website [insert URL] and by talking to your child’s teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Most importantly at this time of year, if you’re planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan.

For up-to-date information on this year’s fire season, visit the CFA website at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on 1800 240 667.

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**Expert’s tips for parents to stop cyber-bullying**

Publication Date: 17/11/2014 5:00 PM

Social media is more accessible than ever – with the rise of smartphones and tablets, it has never been easier to jump online.

For young people, it means being more connected than any other generation – friends are never more than a tweet away.

Unfortunately this has also led to a rapid increase in cyberbullying – to the point that at least one in 10 children are cyberbullied each year.

Cyberbullying can be very different from traditional bullying, and many parents can feel ill-equipped to respond if their child is being cyberbullied.

Susan McLean, a former police officer and Australia’s leading cybersafety expert, said even if parents have no experience with social media, by following a few basic steps, parents can effectively support their children to be safe online.

‘Parenting in the 21st century requires you to be able to parent in the digital space,’ Ms McLean said. ‘Technology is firmly entrenched in our lives and that of our children so we need the tools to deal with issues as they arise.

‘It’s really important that if your child is being cyberbullied, you don’t cut them off from social media and take their technology away - the vast majority of kids won’t tell a parent if they are bullied and harassed online for fear of losing access. They would much rather put up with the bad to keep the good.’

Ms McLean said when confronted with their child being cyberbullied, parents should follow the cyberbullying quick response checklist:

- Reassure and comfort
- Don’t respond
- Block and delete bully
- Report to the site
- Keep a copy
- Tell school (or relevant place) and seek action
- If ongoing inform police
- Support your child as they have done nothing wrong

The Department’s [Bully Stoppers website](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx) has a range of advice for parents, students and teachers about how to respond to all types of bullying.

Susan McLean is Australia’s leading cybersafety expert and was a member of Victoria Police for 27 years. She was the first Victorian Police officer appointed to a position involving cybersafety and young people. She was one of several experts who authored the [Bully Stoppers Resource](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx) and is a published author. Her book *Sexts, Texts and Selfies - how to keep your child safe in the digital space* is available now.
Movember
Mr Gamble and Mr Heath and “changing the face of men’s health” by growing moustaches during the month of Movember.
To support them:
1. Let them know how great they look when you see them and
2. **Please donate to:** [http://mobro.co/gambleheath](http://mobro.co/gambleheath). You can also donate at the office and we will add your contribution to the cause.
   
   Your donation helps support men’s health issues like prostate cancer and depression.
A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL cont’d

Year 6 Camp
I have had several updates from the year 6 teachers and by all reports everyone is having a fantastic time learning lots about our country, its history and its government. The Year 6 students are due back at 4.30pm-5.00pm on Friday.

Year 3 Sleep Over
Thursday last week the Year 3 students had their annual tent sleep over on the oval. A windy and very hot night didn’t make for ideal sleeping conditions. Friday morning I saw some very tired and exhausted faces. Thank you to Sarah Grundy and Meagan Bult for organising and running the sleep over. A special thank you to the following teachers and parents for giving up a comfortable bed at home for a night of no sleep on the school oval: Jenny Silver, Alicia Christie, Jess Crawford, Andrew Savage, Miss Bult, and Miss Grundy.

Thank you to all the parents who helped in other ways such as the BBQ. Without such amazing parents sleep overs like this would not happen. Andrew Savage, Dayne Hunt, Marcus Goodwin, Mel Butler, Kylie Danielson, Maidi Mitchell, Susan Smith, Jaqui Watson, and Alan Agnew.

Transition Grade to Grade and 2015 Class moves
Tuesday this week saw the students participate in the first of our transition sessions preparing them for 2015. This week students were put into groups and spent time with the 2014 teachers at that year level. Please note that the groups students were in this week and next week are not their grades and the teachers may not be their teacher in 2015.

In 2015 there will be several teachers moving classrooms. Over the next few weeks we will be moving classes one day at a time. Please be aware there will be disruption to your child’s normal learning activities for the times of the move. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Technology & Children – Setting Limits
Last week I talked briefly about technology and shared about the impact that technology can have on children. Technology can be great and is incredibly useful and necessary for all of us – including children – to use. However, just like most things in life, technology is only helpful and good for us when it is used in moderation. Like I suggested last week, one of the best things we can do as parents is limit the time our children spend on electronic devices by setting some clear boundaries around the use of technology.

Are you unsure of how to set boundaries around technology with your children? Here are some ideas that might be helpful for you (taken from childparenting.about.com):

How to Limit Technology
It can be all too easy to simply turn on the TV or let them play a videogame when your kids say they are bored. But there are many options when it comes to finding alternative forms of entertainment. Letting kids use technology with limits can be achievable if you keep some of these key tips in mind.

- Do not put a TV in your child’s room. Having a TV in the bedroom has been linked to a number of problems including lower test scores, sleeping problems, and obesity.
  - Turn it off. When the kids are not watching a specific program, turn off the television. Keep it off during mealtimes and especially when they are studying or doing homework.
- Help your child choose a videogame or a show. The best way to know what your child is watching or playing is by helping her /him pick out a show or a game. When picking out a new family movie or game, read the reviews or previews, ask other parents, and above all, know your child and trust your own instincts.
- Limit her/him screen time. Whether it’s one hour of TV and videogames a day or a couple of hours a week, limit the amount of time your child spends watching TV or playing videogames and stick to that number.
- Opt for alternatives to technology activities. Find great ways to spend family time together without tech devices, such as by playing board games or reading good books.

By putting some of these ideas into practice you will be helping your children to learn how to enjoy technology in moderation. They might not be so grateful now for the new boundaries, but I guarantee that in time they will see and appreciate why you made the changes you did. Your family will be better for it I am sure!

Cameron Heath, Principal

Healesville Primary School Giving Tree.

Once again, as in previous years, our students are invited to give gifts to the elderly residents of Holmwood & Monda Lodge Nursing Homes.

If you wish to participate in this community activity, you need to:
1. Take a Healesville Primary School Giving Tree Voucher from the Xmas Tree in the school foyer and present it to the office, who will register your name.
2. You will receive an envelope containing all the instructions.
3. The present needs to be wrapped and returned to the School office by Friday 5th December and will be delivered to the residents during the next week by students of the school on behalf of the wider Healesville community.

This is a great community activity and we hope all families from Healesville Primary School will participate.

Once again we thank you for participating.

Joel Hawting, Chaplain, Healesville PS

Healesville Primary School Giving Tree.