

# NEWSLETTER

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## A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### Principals for a Day

Well done to Nick and Phoebe for standing in on Monday as Principals. They did an amazing job taking assembly, writing emails, assisting other students, going into each classroom to say hello, etc., etc. Good luck to our Principals for a day next week.

### Evacuation

As a school it is vital that Emergency Procedures are understood, practised and socialised. Yesterday the entire school practised our off site evacuation to St Brigids School Oval. The aim was to evacuate the entire school in a safe, orderly and timely manner, which I believe we did. The next step allows staff to report back the things that went well and suggestions on what can improve the procedure. Thank you to all staff and students.

### NAPLAN

This week we have sent home the NAPLAN (National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy) testing results for Students in Year 3 and Year 5. Whilst the scope of NAPLAN testing and the snapshot nature of this assessment must be interpreted carefully, it provides a form of tracking for the school which can be incorporated with other forms of assessment such as Running Records, Fountas and Pinnell checklists, On Demand testing, formal pre and post testing and student observations and conferencing to get a full picture of a child's achievement and areas for improvement. The overall picture of our school achievement is positive and I have been through the results with the teachers and they have pointed out some factors that may have both positively and negatively affected the results. If you would like to discuss the individual results of your child please feel comfortable to approach and speak with their teacher.

### School Council

The September School Council meeting was held on Monday where we had Jill Jackson, our school reviewer, deliver her findings from the four days she and Warren St Clair spent in our school. She gave us some really constructive feedback with suggestions on how and what we can improve in order to move forward as an educational institution.

#### Other items we discussed at Council:

**Change of Uniform Companies, Canteen, Year 6 Camp, Retaining Wall & Change to Fee structure for 2015.**

If you would like to discuss any of the items, please come and have a chat with me.

### The Importance of Reading with your Children

Every week is a good time to remember the importance of reading in the lives of us all but especially our children. It is a crucial life skill and is one that can be developed at home through shared reading. Reading together is a wonderful way to create a family culture of enjoying books and stories and also develop literacy skills in children. Reading to and with children is important throughout Primary school and I encourage you to read each day with your children right through their graduation from grade six and beyond. Below is some advice from Australian author Mem Fox on how to support your children through reading aloud.

### Mem Fox's Ten read-aloud commandments

1. Spend at least ten wildly happy minutes every single day reading aloud.
2. Read at least three stories a day: it may be the same story three times. Children need to hear a thousand stories before they can begin to learn to read.
3. Read aloud with animation. Listen to your own voice and don't be dull, or flat, or boring. Hang loose and be loud, have fun and laugh a lot.
4. Read with joy and enjoyment: real enjoyment for yourself and great joy for the listeners.
5. Read the stories that the kids love, over and over and over again, and always read in the same 'tune' for each book: i.e. with the same intonations on each page, each time.
6. Let children hear lots of language by talking to them constantly about the pictures, or anything else connected to the book; or sing any old song that you can remember; or say nursery rhymes in a bouncy way; or be noisy together doing clapping games.
7. Look for rhyme, rhythm or repetition in books for young children, and make sure the books are really short.
8. Play games with the things that you and the child can see on the page, such as letting kids finish rhymes, and finding the letters that start the child's name and yours, remembering that it's never work, it's always a fabulous game.
9. Never ever teach reading, or get tense around books.
10. Read aloud every day because you just love being with your child, not because it's the right thing to do. This is as important for fathers as it is for mothers!

### HATS On in term 4

A reminder that as the weather gets hotter the UV rays can get to a level that can cause damage, especial to young skin. Our school policy states that hats must be worn in term 1 and term 4 however I would suggest that you encourage your child to start wearing a hat as soon as possible.

### Anaphylaxis

At HPS we have several students who have allergies to some foods. I have attached a letter to this the newsletter for families to discuss.

*Cameron Heath. Principal*

## SCHOOL EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

#### Friday 12<sup>th</sup>

Grade 3 Bike Hike

Grades 3 & 4 – Footy Clinic

#### Monday 15<sup>th</sup>

150<sup>th</sup> Healesville Celebration Meeting

– Library 3:30pm

#### Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>

Grade 3 Poetry Recital in Hall – 2.30pm

#### Friday 19<sup>th</sup>

Grades 3 & 4 – Footy Clinic

**Last day term 3 – 2:30 pm finish**

(Bus travellers finish 2:15 pm)

### OCTOBER

#### Monday 6<sup>th</sup>

First Day Term 4

#### Monday 13<sup>th</sup>

School Council Meeting

#### Friday 17<sup>th</sup>

Curriculum Day

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> – Friday 31<sup>st</sup>**

Junior School Swimming

## Last Day Term 3

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September - Students finishing at 2:30pm - Bus travellers finish 2:15pm**

# ENROL NOW FOR PREP 2015

## CANTEEN

SEPTEMBER 2014

Mon 15 <sup>th</sup>	CANTEEN CLOSED	
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup>	CANTEEN CLOSED	
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup>	Tash Bassett	
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup>	Donna Kennedy	Sharee Anderson
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	NO LUNCH ORDERS - LAST DAY OF TERM	

The term is quickly drawing to a close. Rosters for term 4 are available to be picked up from the Canteen. Please remember that on **Friday 19th September, (last day of term), there are no lunch orders available.** The canteen will be open to sell off any remaining stock, but not lunch items.

On the first day back in term 4, children will be given an order form for a special lunch day, to be held on **Thursday 16th October**. This is the second week back at school, and if you would like to participate, the order forms will need to be returned with payment to the canteen by Friday 10th October.

*Thank you, Vikki Chandler*

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO ALL PARENTS - Communication Tools

**TiqBiz** is an app and **SMS** is a tool that we will be using to communicate with the school community. This week we will be sending home a notice to each family with more information about TiqBiz and SMS, with a consent form and update contact details. We are also attaching student photo permission and local excursion permission forms to ensure we have current permission. **Could you please fill these forms out ASAP and return school.**

### Parents & Friends Club

Congratulations to our Fathers 'Day raffle winners:

1. Xavier G
2. Blake G
3. Lily C
4. Liana L
5. Branny M

Thanks to everyone who donated to make this raffle possible. Keep an eye out for our next get together in term four.

*Thanks for your support, Maida Mitchell*

### UNIFORM SALE

**40% discount on ALL HPS Logo Items -**

***Be Quick!***

**Shop Open at HPS : Mondays 2:45 to 3:45 pm  
& Thursdays 8:30 – 9:30 am**

Please note that the school logo **WILL NOT** change even though we are changing uniform suppliers

### SAVE THE DATE

**Healesville Community 150th Celebration  
Street Parade, Saturday Nov 8th**

## STUDENT AWARDS

<b>Prep M:</b> Charlotte R, Josh S	<b>PP:</b> Finlay M
<b>10:</b> Sienna AH	<b>1/2A:</b> Brea M
<b>2R:</b> Tauga L	<b>3G:</b> Davey W
<b>5K:</b> Cooper P	<b>6N:</b> Ellie W
<b>5/6S:</b> Taylah C	

### 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).



Our theme last week was cooking and food and did the kids love the experience of making cookies damper and pasta etc . There are some photos from the experience displayed on our board. We also did some observation activities to see how quickly the children could find pictures of fruit hidden throughout our service from A-Z. (U was ugly-fruit). This week's theme is 'Outer space' so we are looking forward to some strange space crafts!!

This week's staff member is one of our assistants – Melissa Wilkinson , and her philosophy is

***"I believe the children have the right to have fun and to learn new skills in a safe environment."***

I have been working for Camp Australia since February this year. I am currently studying a Bachelor of Education at Deakin University. I have two dogs and I love to play netball!

Melissa has been showing the children some skills in the cooking area each week.

***Thanks, Bob, Michelle, Regan, Jessica, Nicola and Melissa  
from Camp Australia.***



Welcome to ***Crunch and Munch an Awesome Lunch*** at Healesville Primary! So far the kids have all had awesome food lessons and parents have had an interactive session with an Eastern Health dietitian. In the coming months there will be more activities for you and your kids to be involved with. For more information on awesome lunches, or to provide feedback and ideas see the ***Crunch and Munch an Awesome Lunch*** display table at reception. For more details or suggestions about the program please contact:

***Raini 0420 883 993  
or email raini.nailer@easternhealth.org.au***

## **Canberra Camp for our Year 6**

### **Australian government assistance for National Capital excursions**

Students from our school will soon be undertaking an educational tour of the national capital. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$30 per eligible student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) program towards the travel expenses incurred.

The rebate will be paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this program. Activities undertaken as part of the educational tour are outlined elsewhere in the newsletter.

We hope the excursion is a rewarding experience for all students.

### **Canberra Camp 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> Nov. 2014**

Some places we'll visit and activities we'll do on our Canberra trip.

- **Parliament House** – tour of the House of Representatives and Senate & education program.
- **National War Memorial** – tour and 'Discovery Zone'.
- **Electoral Education Centre** – Education program.
- **Old Parliament House** – guided tour and educational activities.
- **Questacon** – National Science and Technology Centre. Hands-on activities.
- **National Gallery** – child appropriate guided tour of artwork in gallery.
- **AIS** – Australian Institute of Sport. Guided tour and Sportex activity zone.
- **High Court of Australia** – Student friendly guided tour.
- **National Museum** – Self-guided tour and interactive sessions.
- **National Film and Sound Archives** – presentation and exhibit room.
- **National Dinosaur Museum** – 'Dinosaurs at Night' program.
- **Telstra Tower, Embassy drive tour, Mt. Ainslie lookout**

### **JUNIOR SCHOOL SWIMMING for PM, PP, PC, 10 and 1/2A**

**MONDAY 20<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER to  
FRIDAY 31<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER**

The Swimming program involves 10 lessons over 10 days. The children will be transported to and from the school by a McKenzies bus.

The total cost of the program is \$75.00. This covers entrance to the pool, instruction and transport.

**This money can be paid in instalments starting from now or in a lump sum before the swimming sessions commence.**

## **Sports Report**

We played football last Friday at Millgrove Primary School against Millgrove/Warburton. Our score was Healesville 43 to Millwarra 26. Our best players were Dylan S, Bailey K, Seth A and Luca. We had a good game. Go Healesville! **Jye & Shyam**

On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September Red team played netball against Millwarra. The scores were 12 – 2 and we won. Our best players were Mikayla and Phoebe for always getting under the ring and having a go at shooting and Ruby L for always getting in front of her defender and being 'Fab'. **Bronte**

On Friday the Netball Blue team played Millwarra at Millgrove. We had a good game and beat Millwarra 5 goals to 2. Jocelyn and Gabby were our best players. Jocelyn defended well by getting to the ball first and Gabby was there when you needed her and she got in front of her player. Gabby and Layla shared the goaling around the ring well. **Layla T**

On the 5<sup>th</sup> Sept. the Volleystars team played Millgrove/Warburton at Millgrove. We won the first game, lost the second and won the third. We didn't get to finish but we got higher points so we won. **Eliza**

## **Kew Traffic School Reports by Grade 3**

**On Wednesday the 27<sup>th</sup> August, all of the grade 3 kids had gone to Kew Traffic School. It was SUPER AWESOME and we had loads of fun.**

When we got free time, I loved going up the bumps. There were even small houses. My favourite bit was the fact that we were the first people in the school to ever do it!! **by Xavier G**

On Wednesday the 27<sup>th</sup> I went to Kew traffic school. It was really fun. I liked that the traffic lights worked and we got free riding. When we were off the bikes, we played on the make believe roads. We could press the button on the pole and we had to wait for the man to go green. That was a fun day. It was a 1000 out of 10. **by Joel D**

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August I went to Kew traffic school with my class. It was so fun, it had traffic lights that worked and the place looked like a little village. In the end every on enjoyed it. I really want to go there again. **by Riley H**

Kew Traffic School was the best thing in the whole world and that has happened in my life so far. I loved it so, so much. I also liked it when Xavier was the crossing man, it was so funny! I got to ride on uneven ground. **by Kiera E**

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August, our grade went to the Kew Traffic School. We had the best day. Everyone had a great time in the sun. My favourite part was the roads, it's so fun to ride on and I liked all the traffic lights as well. It was 21 degrees, so it was a beautiful day. I give the place a 10/10. **by Jack C**

## A Note from our Chaplain – Joel Hawting

### Focus

I have been thinking lately about what we choose to focus on as parents with our children. If any of you have ever tried your hand at photography like I have, you would know that focus is crucial to taking a good picture. Simply put if you fail to focus, your picture is bound to fail.

I remember attempting to take a photo of a beautiful animal on a bush walk one day. A cheeky little spotted quoll was hopping around our tents in Tasmania and I really wanted to capture just how amazing and beautiful this little creature was. I viewed the animal through my viewfinder on the camera and took plenty of shots hoping that at least one would work and capture the beauty of this endangered animal. When we returned home from the Overland Trail, I was reviewing the photos and realised that my focus was unfortunately not great and that the animal had not been captured very well at all by my camera. The beautiful animal was misrepresented in my photos because I did not focus the camera properly. The way that I had focussed the camera affected how the animal was viewed.

Just like with this camera example, our picture of our children can get out of focus if we are not careful. We deal with our children day in day out and see them at their best, and we also see them at their worst. Perhaps your children might remind you of cheeky little quolls at times with the mischief they get up to! Regardless of their behaviour at times, it is important as parents that we check our focus and consider how it is that we are viewing our children.

You see, the way in which we view our children has a profound influence on the way in which we treat our children. If you see your child as a naughty boy, it is likely that you will treat them more harshly. If you see your daughter as a pain in the neck, it is likely that you will avoid time with her. Just like with my photo of the beautiful quoll, if our focus is not right we will miss the beauty of our children.

I encourage you this week - check your focus with your children. Yes, their behaviour can be off-putting and frustrating at times but don't let them cloud your view of your children. Children are beautiful gifts who need to be treasured and celebrated by their parents. Re-focus your view and see your child in a positive light this week!

## *FAIRIES IN THE FOREST*

*Come and see the beautiful forest at dusk and Find the Fairies!!!  
Stroll through the forest in search of fairies and other mythical creatures!  
The fairy lights will be out to help with the search!  
Wear your favourite fairy costume and you might get to see a REAL fairy!!*

*Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm  
Wirra Willa Rainforest Walk - Sglvia Creek Road, Toolangi  
There will be a sausage sizzle and snacks!  
Entry Fee – Gold Coin Donation*



Dear Parents,

I wish to advise the school community we have several students across the school who have food allergies to nuts, dairy products, eggs, fish and lamb. Anaphylaxis is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction and can result in death within minutes. Although this may not affect your child's class directly we are asking you to try and limit the amount of egg and nut products you provide your child.

It can be difficult for parents of students who do not suffer from these allergies to appreciate the implications of these circumstances for the parents of these children and the schools. Most of us see peanut butter or Nutella and think 'easy lunch' while the parents of these children think 'life' threatening food.'

The incidence of severe food allergy seems to be on the increase. Nut products are present in a wide range of foods. Students who suffer from these allergies have to learn from a very young age to be vigilant and disciplined however they cannot be counted on at this stage to take the precautions against nuts and eggs that are required.

Rather than ban nut and egg products, our preferred option which is in line with current research, is to educate staff, students and the school community and to discourage students from bringing nut and egg products to school. A severe reaction can be triggered through swallowing and to a lesser degree touch. We ask you to support the health of these students. If your child has peanut butter, nut products or eggs for breakfast please ensure that they wash their hands with soap before coming to school.

As you can appreciate we need everyone's assistance to help prevent these lovely children from experiencing a severe reaction. A great deal of preventative planning has taken place already by staff and we are hoping that all families will support us. Children will be educated about Anaphylaxis and be involved in daily routines of washing hands after eating, not sharing their lunches, snacks, treats or drink bottle.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in making our school a safe environment for all students.

Cameron Heath  
**Principal, Healesville Primary School**