



# The Belltower

## Hurstville Public School Newsletter

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Education &  
Communities

### Calendar of Upcoming Events

<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<i>P&amp;C Meeting @ 9.15am Crazy Hair Day Band Showcase</i>
<b>Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<i>Hurstville Showcase</i>
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<i>Year 6 Camp</i>
<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<i>Year 6 Camp</i>
<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	<i>Year 6 Camp Parent Helper Thank You Morning Tea</i>

### Principal's Message

#### Road Safety

As you will know from the letter sent home on Monday, two of our students were involved in a pedestrian accident in Hudson Street. I'm pleased to report that both boys are recovering well. Our Year 3 student underwent an operation on his foot and will be in plaster and using a walking frame for some time.

Our staff and P&C have been working hard all year to raise awareness of road safety with our students and with our parents and carers. However, there is still lots of behaviour on local streets which causes great concern. We can never relax where safety is concerned. Whilst we will continue to reinforce safe behaviour at school, parents and grandparents also need to ensure that they do the right thing, both when walking with children and when driving cars.

Please continue to be alert at all times about pedestrian safety. You can imagine yourself in the shoes of the teachers, rushing to the accident scene and being told there was a small body under a car. You can imagine yourself in the shoes of the driver, who hit the boys when they stepped out from between parked cars. You can imagine yourself in my shoes, calling the mother to tell her her boys had been hit by a car. And you can imagine yourself getting that dreadful phone call, not knowing how badly your children had been hurt.

This year, there have now been three students hit by cars on their way to Hurstville Public School. All were taken to hospital. Don't think that accidents only happen to other people. Be patient; follow road rules; be alert. Never forget how precious our children are, and how easily and quickly they can be hurt.

On Wednesday, I met with local police to consider how we can address the problems of pedestrian safety. As our Road Safety Committee has discussed, we believe we need a combined approach representing our local schools, council, police and community. We look forward to these groups coming together to consider a total solution to improve safety around schools.

## Friendship

As parents, one thing I believe we all want for our children is for them to have friends and to be well liked. I'm sure we all feel very relieved and proud when our child receives his or her first party invitation, or is invited to a friend's house to play. Seeing our child accepted and included by peers is a great comfort to parents, and gives us an indication that they are developing the qualities that will make them appealing as a friend.

Friendships help children develop emotionally and socially. In interacting with friends, children learn many social skills such as how to communicate, cooperate and solve problems. They practice controlling their emotions and responding to the emotions of others. They develop the ability to think through and negotiate different situations that arise in their relationships. These are life skills that will serve them well beyond the school yard. They are the same 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills that they need to be successful in the workplace.

Learning to have friends and be a friend is not always a smooth and trouble free path. In learning anything, people make mistakes. Relationships are not static—they grow and change and are affected by countless other factors. When children are learning about themselves and others, they don't always act with maturity, wisdom, consideration and insight. Nor do the other children who are learning with them. Even strong friendships can be strained, at times, when new people or events enter the equation.

Children learn many social skills from watching how adults interact with them and other people. Some key points to help our children be good friends include:

- Setting clear rules for appropriate behaviour
- Teaching children how to solve conflicts appropriately by modelling self control and positive conflict resolution skills ourselves
- Helping children develop empathy
- Giving children opportunities to practice cooperation and problem solving
- Encouraging children to show support and appreciation for others
- Helping children to develop skills valued by their peer group, such as turn taking and games skills
- Ensuring that our children use language with care and consideration and understand its impact on the feelings of others.

Supporting our children to be good friends is an important role for parents and teachers. By understanding that there will be challenges as children are required to develop new skills and understanding, and seeking to equip children with skills rather than being too quick to intervene or blame others, we are helping them on the way to positive and independent friendships.

***Mrs Anne Hewson – Principal***

## *Deputy Principals' Messages*

It was another beautiful day for our annual Walkathon this year. Thank you to all the students (and parents) who participated and walked many laps. It is wonderful to see that so many students have already returned their sponsorship money. The continued support of parents is much appreciated.

Major prizes for students who raised the most money will be given out by the P&C on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November. Prizes for students who raised \$30 or more will be sent around over the next few weeks.







*Miss Danielle Scott – Deputy Principal*

## *In The Classroom*

### *Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten)*

This semester, KP students have learnt a lot while working with our buddies in 6B.

In Term 3, we used our collaborative and creative skills to build a diorama of a farm. We had lots of fun using recycled materials to build the farms together. This term, we are putting our heads together to write and illustrate a creative story. They are almost finished, and we can't wait to share them with our families. We are learning lots and having fun working together.

KP hopes that 6B has a GREAT time in high school next year!



*Miss Erin Piper – Kindergarten Class Teacher*

### *Stage 1* **Year 1**

This semester, Hurstville Public School was the host of the fifth KidsMeet event.

KidsMeet is an authentic platform on which students can lead their learning and develop skills of 21st century learners. Students from Rosehill Public School, McCallums Hill Public School and Hurstville Public School, came together to work collaboratively and plan, design and create Recyclobots.

The students had an exciting day, filled with meaningful communication and great collaboration. Critical and creative thinking skills were applied, as the students worked together to build their Recyclobot using various recyclable materials.





***Miss Nikki Roebuck – Year 1 Class Teacher***

## **Year 2**

In the past few weeks students have received several notes with information about upcoming events and other important information. Please check regularly with your child if they have any new notes each day, as some of these require action by parents and carers.

We are still waiting for some students to return their note regarding the \$18 refund for the two swimming lessons that they did not attend. We are also waiting for the showcase permission notes from many of our choir students. We would appreciate if these notes can be returned to school as soon as possible so that the next part of the arrangements can be made.

This term, our students have been learning about the importance of rules and being responsible. The following is an example of a school rule and some possible consequences that occur when the rule is not followed. The students worked in small groups to discuss and record their answers.

## **If We Don't Follow The Rule- Put Your Rubbish In The Bin:**

### **Our School Looks Dirty**

- *It starts to smell*
- *Germs get spread*
- *No one wants to come to our school*

### **Someone Might Trip/Slip On The Rubbish**

- *You can fall and hurt yourself*
- *You might get a bruise or break a bone*
- *You might have to go to the doctor/hospital*
- *You will miss out on school*

So we should always follow rules!

*By Lucy, Lynn and Alisa*

*Year 2 Class Teachers*

## **Stage 2**

**Years 3 and 4**

### **RSL VISIT**

We had a lovely visit on Monday this week from members of Kingsgrove RSL. The men and one lady visited classes in Stage 2 and Stage 3 to discuss Remembrance Day. The children had an opportunity to ask questions and the questions they asked were interesting and thoughtful.

The visitors enjoyed listening to a song sung by Year 3 students which was called Lest we Forget. The children have enjoyed learning it and singing it and our visitors really appreciated it.

Some children then wrote poems about Remembrance Day.

### **Remembrance Day**

Remembrance day is held on 11<sup>th</sup> November each year.

Everybody remembers the soldiers who died and lived.

Men fought for Australia for peace.

Everybody didn't live, some died on the way.

Men got killed on the way and lived through out the war.

Boom as the cannons get fired and smoke in the air.

Remember the people who made your country safe.

As the war is going, some memories will always stay.

Never forget the soldiers who helped you.

Cannons made the sky dull and black.

Everybody remember the words ' Lest we forget.'

Day by day soldiers lost their lives.

As you remember, say the words 'Lest we forget.'

Yellow sun will rise each day for war.

By JD Zhang 3S

### **Remembrance Day**

Remembrance Day is a day when you think about the people who died in war.

Either Australian or New Zealander.

Many have died so we remember them.

Everyone who survived is well skilled and lucky.  
Many also have children and a family.  
Because of that, we remember the lost.  
Remembering is important,  
And everybody should be sad for it.  
Now, there should be no wars.  
Casualties are always made when war comes.  
Even though things get worse, they are helping.

Doctors try and help the troops too.  
Also diggers got killed by the enemies so.  
Y (why) do they go to war?  
By Brian Liu (3S)

Remember everyone who went to war.  
Everyone had to be brave.  
Men with guns, cannons, "FIRE!"  
Everything in a mess.  
Making lots of noises.  
Big noises and sounds.  
Roaring, they went through every day.  
And people angered.  
Nothing happy, only sadness.  
Can they defeat them?  
End this battle.

Day after day, night after night.  
And finally it's over.  
Yay it's over!!!

by Leanne Baddah 3S

## ***Stage 2 Class Teachers***

## ***Stage 3***

### **Years 5 and 6**

#### **2016 School Leadership Team Elections**

The process for electing our 2016 School Leadership Team has begun. The Leadership Team will consist of two Captains (one boy and one girl), two Vice Captains (one boy and one girl) and eight Ambassadors.

Many students have nominated for a position on the School Leadership Team. Next week, nominated students will participate in a class vote resulting in a maximum of 32 students across the grade being selected for progression to voting. Those students, after considering their responsibilities and making a commitment to uphold the position with honour, will be invited to present a one to two minute speech to the school community on **Thursday 26 November**. The speech will be prepared at school on the day, with guidance and instruction from a teacher. Parents of the candidates are invited to attend this assembly to hear the speeches. This assembly will commence at 11:30am in the school hall.



This will be immediately followed by the election, where all students from Years 4 and 5 will vote for their preferred candidates. The 12 nominees receiving the highest level of staff and student support will move forward to the Principal and Executive for consideration.

The successful candidates will be announced at our Presentation Day on **Wednesday 10 December**.

### *Year 5 Class Teachers*

## *Support Unit*

Support Unit Gold and Green have been engaged in many collaborative and exploratory processes through our Science and Technology unit "Forces and Movement". Look at the working balloon cars we created!



### *Mrs Hatton-Ward – Support Unit Teacher*

## *Cultural Studies*

Hola! As an end of year celebration of learning, the students in Year 4 studying Cultural Studies would like to invite their families to an "Open Classroom" from **10:00-11:00am** on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December** 2015. The students would like to showcase the many skills they have acquired in Spanish this year. We hope to see you then for a fun morning of sharing!



### *Mrs Ximena Pino – Cultural Studies Teacher*

## Library



*'Never put off till tomorrow the book you can read today.'*

*- Holbrook Jackson (Journalist)*

Our Library is transforming into an even warmer and more welcoming environment. Our students are loving the new furniture in the Fiction area, and taking full advantage of it during morning, lunch and lesson times. The photographs below show you a few samples of our new layout.

### Before:



### After:



### End-of-year Information

It is important that overdue books are returned within the next few weeks. In Week 9, notes will be given to the students who have still not brought books back to school. Please help your child(ren) by logging on to Oliver Library through our Hurstville Public School website to check their loans.

*Ms Leslie Hyde – Teacher/Librarian*



## Values in Action Awards

The students listed below will receive their **GOLD** award on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November at the whole school assembly in the morning. Parents are most welcome to see the students get their awards.

Thomas L. 1M

Adam I. 5V

Linda C. 5T

Candy L. 5A

Jordan M. 2R

Kane B. Gold Class

Matthew D. Gold Class

*Mrs Jessica Maakaroun - Assistant Principal*

## ***Band***

What a busy term it will be for our Band students, with two large performances occurring this term. What a great way to demonstrate skills and celebrate a year of hard work. It is expected that all Band students attend both showcase performances. If you are unable to attend, please let the band coordinator or myself know.

Please find below some important information about our upcoming performances.

### ***Band Showcase – Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November in the School Hall***

All band students are required to bring their instrument and music, and wear full band uniform.

**Training Band** students are required to be at the school hall at **5.45pm**.

**Concert Band** students are required to be at the school hall at **6.30pm**.

**Wind Orchestra** students are required to be at the school hall at **6.50pm**.

We hope you enjoy watching your child performing and see their growth over the year.

### ***Performing Arts Showcase – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November at Marana Hall, Hurstville***

All band students are required to bring their instrument and music, and wear full band uniform to both the rehearsal and performance. Wind Orchestra students should bring their portable music stand.

**Students** are required to be at the school hall at **5.30pm**.

Parents will be able to enter the hall from **6.30pm**

Tickets can be purchased from **[trybooking.com](https://trybooking.com)**

Wind Orchestra rehearsal will be cancelled on the morning after the Performing Arts Showcase as a lot of the equipment will not be at school.

**Please make sure there will be an adult to pick up your child at the end of both performances.**

***Miss Danielle Scott – Deputy Principal***



**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

**Marana Auditorium, Hurstville**

**Doors open at 6pm, concert starts at 6.30pm**

**Don't miss out! Buy your tickets at:**

**[www.trybooking.com/JMAA](http://www.trybooking.com/JMAA)**



## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL OPAL CARD**

The Minister for Transport and Infrastructure and the Minister for Education announced the launch of the new School Opal Card on Thursday 29 October.



The School Opal card will officially launch its new online application for relevant parents and students travelling in the Opal public transport region on Monday 2 November.

The application can be found at:

**([transportnsw.info/school-students](http://transportnsw.info/school-students))[transportnsw.info/school-students](http://transportnsw.info/school-students)**

Just like current paper travel passes, the School Opal card gives eligible students free travel to and from school on school days. However, the School Opal card makes travel simpler, because now students don't need multiple application forms and passes if they use different transport operators within the Opal network.

Students with school travel passes this year will not need to apply for a School Opal card unless they are changing schools, campus, their home address or moving from Year 2 to 3 or Year 6 to 7.

Those students who do not need to apply will have a School Opal card sent to your school for the beginning of the first term in 2016.

More information will follow in the next few weeks to help both your staff and students with the transition.

Sincerely

The Opal Team



Transport  
for NSW

Use public transport... plan your trip at [transportnsw.info](http://transportnsw.info)  
Get on board with Opal at [opal.com.au](http://opal.com.au)

### **Whooping cough information for schools**

There is an outbreak of whooping cough (pertussis) in NSW, mainly affecting school-aged children.

Coughing spreads the infection to others nearby. Whooping cough can spread to anyone at home, including younger brothers and sisters. Whooping cough can be especially dangerous for babies.

Whooping cough starts like a cold and progresses to bouts of coughing that can last for many weeks. The infection can occur even in fully-vaccinated children. Older children may just have a cough that is persistent and may be worse at night.

- Children with these symptoms should see a doctor.
- If your doctor diagnoses whooping cough in your school-aged child, please let the school know and keep your child at home until they have taken 5 days of antibiotics. Keep coughing children away from babies.
- Whooping cough vaccines give good protection against infection but immunity fades with time. Check that all your children are up to date with their vaccines, due at 6 weeks, 4 months, 6 months, 4 years and 12 years of age (offered to all Year 7 students through the NSW school-based vaccination program). A booster is also recommended at 18 months of age.

A booster dose of vaccine is also recommended for adults that are in contact with young children, such as school staff and parents. Pregnant women are recommended to have a booster dose during each pregnancy and this is funded by NSW Health. Those who are new parents or carers of babies should consult their general practitioner about appropriate immunisation.

Your local public health unit can provide advice about whooping cough on 1300 066 055 or visit the NSW Health website for [information for childcare and schools about whooping cough](#).