



The Belltower

Hurstville Public School Newsletter

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Term 4 Week 8
Friday 27th Nov 2015



Education &
Communities

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Monday 30th November	<i>Year 6 Camp</i>
Tuesday 1st December	<i>Year 6 Camp</i>
Wednesday 2nd December	<i>Year 6 Camp</i>
Friday 4th December	<i>Summer PSSA Finals Parent Helper Thank You Morning Tea</i>
Tuesday 8th December	<i>Presentation Day for Years 1&2, and Years 3&4 Support Unit Variety Club Excursion</i>
Wednesday 9th December	<i>Presentation Day for Years 5 & 6</i>
Thursday 10th December	<i>Presentation Day for Kindergarten</i>
Friday 11th December	<i>Picnic Day for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 at Peter Depena Reserve Kindergarten Party Day Bush Christmas Incursion for 1S, 1V, 1R, 1G, 1M & 1A</i>
Monday 14th December	<i>Year 6 Farewell</i>
Tuesday 15th December	<i>Bush Christmas Incursion for 1B, 1D, 2M, 2L, 2D & 2K</i>
Wednesday 16th December	<i>Last day for 2015 for all students Bush Christmas Incursion for 2R, 2B, 2C, Support Unit RED</i>
Thursday 28th January, 2016	<i>First day back for all Years 1-6 students</i>

Principal's Message

How wonderful was our inaugural Performing Arts Showcase!

More than 350 students presented 20 high-quality items in an evening that celebrated the talents and commitment of our students and their teachers to the performing and visual arts. I was so proud of the dedication of our staff. Under the leadership of Mrs Muir and Mrs Cusumano, an outstanding team organised a night that was polished, professional and superbly planned and coordinated. Supporting our students and teachers are our performance partners – Engadine Bandtime, KRS Dance and Mrs Susan Xu – whose expert knowledge and skills are a huge asset to our programs.



At the beginning of 2014, we had one dance group. In 2015, this had expanded to seven dance groups, with plans to extend this even further in 2016. The dancers, including items from Kindergarten and Year 1 that were prepared especially for the Showcase, were fabulous. The three bands were, as always, of such quality that it is easy to forget that these band members are still in primary school!

I thought the choirs were most impressive and I so enjoyed the repertoire that they performed. The children were totally focused on their conductor, Miss Moar and sang their hearts out!

I hope you had the chance to look at the art work that was displayed in the foyer and up the stairs at the Showcase. Every class was represented. It was a big job to collect the work and prepare the display, and I thank Miss Hoskin and all who assisted her.

I know how much teachers have appreciated the positive comments from parents about the Showcase. They mean more than you know, and encourage teachers to continue giving up hours of their time each week to extend the talents of our students and provide them with additional opportunities for success. I am even prouder of our staff's resilience and dedication in ensuring that the showcase went ahead as planned, despite learning of the passing of their friend and colleague, Mrs Rose McClelland, that very morning during the dress rehearsal. They were determined to honour her memory and ensure the children had a wonderful night, and they succeeded on both counts.

You may not be aware that teachers receive no extra payment for the extra responsibilities they take on: they do it in addition to their usual workload, often going without lunch or breaks, and working before and after school (and many hours at home) to deliver these experiences for their students. They do it because they love their jobs and their students and because they believe in the importance of what they do.

I am enormously appreciative of their commitment and dedication, and I am sure you are too. We were delighted to receive a beautiful "Thank You" cake, gifts of flowers and biscuits, and cards from members of our parent community. They brightened our day! Thank you from us all.



Mrs Anne Hewson – Principal





The funeral of Mrs McClelland will be held next Wednesday 2 December at 11:30 am. Our Parent Helper Morning Tea, which had been scheduled at this time, has now been postponed until Friday 4 December.

As there will be a number of staff attending the funeral, there may be some changes to class routine on Wednesday. More details will be provided as arrangements are confirmed. We thank you for your understanding at this difficult time.

Deputy Principals' Messages

The Power of Positive Parenting

Families NSW is running a **free seminar** on the Power of **Positive Parenting**.

Find out how to provide a supportive and enriching environment for your children to grow up in. Tip Sheets will be provided.

To secure your place, paste this link into your browser to purchase your ticket on eventbrite.com.au
<http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/triple-p-seminar-the-power-of-positive-parenting-kogarah-library-tickets-19201281550>

Date: Thursday, 3 December 2015

Time: 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Cost: FREE

Location: Kogarah Library & Cultural Centre, O'Keefes Lane , KOGARAH 2217

Event Leader/Facilitator: Bronwyn Thornton, Practitioner in Dip Community Services Coordination, Dip Management, Dip Leisure and Health, Cert IV Training and Assessment TAE

Phone: Marisa Bottaro: 9330-9579 or email to marisa.bottaro@kogarah.nsw.gov.au

Target Groups: Parents, Grandparents/Carers, Mothers, Fathers



Ms Jennifer Birch – Deputy Principal

Walkathon

A big thank you to all the students and parents who have supported our Walkathon. So far, we have raised \$19 606.25. Today, the students across the school who raised the most money, received a prize from the P&C. Students who have donated \$30 or more will receive a small gift over the two weeks. We are still accepting any sponsorship money. All money raised will go towards our playground upgrade.



Miss Danielle Scott– Deputy Principal

In The Classroom

Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten)

All Kindergarten students have been working hard to develop their ability to work collaboratively in groups. Students in KM have enjoyed participating in maths groups where they work together in groups and play number games. Below are some photos of their group work.

A note was sent out this week to invite all our parents to our Kindergarten Presentation Day on Thursday 10th December. This will start at 9.30am in our school hall. Please return your child's permission note and please remember that we are asking for each child to bring only two guests due to limited space in the school hall. Parents are also invited to stay for morning tea at the end of our presentation.

You should also have received a note about our Kindergarten party day that will take place on Friday 11th December. Please return the permission note and payment as soon as possible.



Mrs Jessica Maakaroun – Assistant Principal

Stage 2

Years 3 and 4

This term 3T has been exploring the unit 'Night and Day' in Science & Technology. We have learnt how the sun rotates on its axis around the Earth, which causes night and day to occur and we have investigated how the sun causes our shadows to change at different times of the day.

"We discovered that the length and direction of the shadow changes during the day, depending on the time." Joshua 3T

"Through our experiment, we learnt that the shadow was longer at the beginning and end of the day and it was shorter in the middle of the day." Lachlan 3T

"I liked going outside and conducting the experiment with the girls in my class while the boys did their own one." Stella 3T

We have created some amazing artworks to go with this unit. We hope you like them.



Mrs A. Kakakios – Year 3 Teacher

Stage 3 Years 5 and 6



Year 6 students are looking forward to their camp to Myuna Bay Sport and Recreation Camp. They will be away from Monday 30th November until Wednesday 2nd December. All money should have been finalised by now and all students attending should have their list of things to bring.

The bus will leave Hurstville Public School at 7:00am on Monday 30th November. **Students need to be at school by 6:30am.** *We will not wait for late comers.* The bus will arrive back to school at approximately **3:30pm** on Wednesday 2nd December. Please arrange to have your child picked up at this time. It should be lots of fun for everyone.

Elections for the new group of school captains and ambassadors for 2016 were held this week. The successful students will be announced at Stage 3 Presentation Day on Wednesday 9th December.

The Year 6 Farewell is on Monday 14th December and students have been learning dances in preparation. All money was due this week. The students are looking forward to a great night with their friends.

Notes were sent home this week for Presentation Day (Wednesday 9th December) and the end of year school picnic (Friday 11th December). Please return all permission notes and money as soon as possible.

Stage 3 Class Teachers



Support Unit

Well, here we are! Term 4, Week 8! Where did that year go? It has been a very busy time in the support unit as we approach the end of another school year.

Mrs McEvoy and her Green Class gardening gurus have been filming a short movie as a part of the NSW Environmental Trust grant awarded earlier last year. This is an innovative project with strong and engaging curriculum links, which has proven to be highly beneficial for all the children's learning.

Kindy transition has just finished for this year, where our new Support Unit children are spending some quality time in their new classrooms. This is an exciting time and we welcome all our new children and parents to Hurstville Public School.

A quick reminder that we are collecting final notes and money for our special Variety Club day on the Tuesday 8th December. It is a great day for the children, so please return these so we can finalise numbers for the bus and entry on the day.

Finally, remember with the hotter weather upon us to send in hats and plenty of water.

Mr Leigh Jackson – Support Unit Teacher

Boxes of Love

A big thank you to all the families who made donations towards the Boxes of Love project. Over 20 boxes were made, filled with a variety of toys, writing materials, games and clothes. The children around the world who receive these gifts will be very excited I am sure. It was also a great experience for our children who have so much, to give to other children who live a more difficult life than we do in Australia. Well done HPS!!



Mrs Denise Storr

Library

'Life is short. Read fast!'

As we come to the end of another year, it is important that our children return their borrowed Library books as soon as possible. Students with misplaced/lost books will receive a note early next week asking for payment . Please help them search for missing items.

Premiers Reading Challenge.

We are still awaiting for gold certificates supplied by the PRC organisation. Once these arrive at our school, all children will be presented with their awards.

Ms Leslie Hyde – Teacher/Librarian

Values in Action Awards



The student listed below will receive her MEDAL on Monday 30th November at the whole school assembly. These medals are distributed to students who have received two **GOLD** awards. Congratulations! Parents are most welcome to see the students receive their medals.

Kristy L. 2C

The students listed below will receive their **GOLD** award at the Monday morning assembly as well.

Ryan F. 1S

Sophie T. 1B

Hussein M. 2C

Jingxi H. 3P

Benjamin H. GOLD class

If your child receives 5 Values in Action Awards, please send them in so that your child can receive their Bronze award at their grade assembly.

Mrs Jessica Maakaroun - Assistant Principal

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

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

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](#).

On Wednesday night, over 350 Hurstville Public School students showcased their talents in band, choir and dance at our Performing Arts Showcase.

What an amazing night!



Congratulations to all of the dedicated students who have worked so hard all year! The teachers and families were all so proud of you!



Thank you to all of the families and teachers who have supported this wonderful event and performing arts groups throughout the year.



More photos coming soon to the website.