8th Nov., 2012

STUDENT ABSENT LINE 3489 2260

From the Principal

How quickly this year is going, tomorrow marks the halfway point of term with only five weeks left until the end of the school year.

One of the major tasks for the remainder of this term is preparing the classes and staffing for 2013. The staffing process is underway but will take a while to finalise. To this end it is not possible to give definite answers to which teacher will be on which class next year. While we should have a good indication of teacher placement before the end of the year, final staffing is never complete until day 8 of the following year when we know how many students have actually enrolled in the school.

Next year will see a change in the number of classes in year levels due to the progression of our year 5’s through the school. These Year 5 students are our original first prep enrolments and are our smallest cohort as they only had a 6 month enrolment window. Next year will see this ‘half cohort’ enter Stage Three resulting in lower Stage Two classes as a full cohort enters Year 4. As is the case with all allocations (staffing and classes) final make-up will depend on actual numbers of students next year and will not be finalised until early next year. Our aim is to get class formations as accurate as possible to avoid large changes at the beginning of 2013. I have also put in a submission for an extra classroom as we currently have 115 students enrolled for Prep in 2013 – our largest ever Prep cohort - meaning that our school will grow by one class next year.

In the meantime teachers will be asked to look over their current year level and make recommendations on student combinations and how these impact on learning. The current teachers will then construct next year’s draft of classes taking into account; friendships, academic ability, social and emotional factors, behavioural considerations and any parent educational requests. To assist us with this process please let the school know through the office if your child(ren) are not returning to Chatswood Hills next year.

Whatever the class and whoever the teacher, our school’s focus will remain on improving literacy and numeracy outcomes for all students by catering for individual needs.

Monday will see the start of our selection process for our 2013 school leaders. Year 6 students will be invited to nominate for these school captain

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positions and undergo an endorsement and shortlisting procedure over the next
two weeks. Successful candidates will then give speech on assembly followed by a voting and interview process. Our 2013 School Captains will be announced during our end of term Awards Parade held on Thursday 13 December.

Thank you

Keith GRAHAM
Principal

From the Deputy

This week has seen the formal Prep interview process come to an end. Prep interviews will still occur as needed but the majority of Prep families have now been interviewed and the required paper work handed in. It is important to remember that Prep children are unable to start next year unless the school has sighted the original Birth Certificate and obtained a copy.

I would like to welcome all of the new families starting with us next year. It is always exciting enrolling children new to the school and we thank you for choosing Chatswood Hills State School.

Choosing a school is very important and a big investment in your child’s future. Parents to some extent have a lot of choice when it comes to choosing an educational institution and this can sometimes be quite daunting. For me a good school is one that provides quality teaching and rich learning but also has a caring and safe environment. A good school has a positive learning culture and a parent community that supports the school and Chatswood Hills State School I believe has all of these elements.

Remembrance Day

This Sunday we stop to remember the end to the “War to end all wars”. At the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month 1918, the guns fell silent on the Western Front and World War One was over. Sadly this major conflict, that caused the death of millions of people, was not the last time the world would see nation rise against nation, and even today we have some of Australia’s finest men and women on active duty overseas.

This Friday our school will stop for a minutes silence to think about the sacrifice made by men and women during war time. I encourage us all to make a similar gesture on Sunday.

Staffroom for Improvement

Our staff is interested in competing in the QTMB Staffroom for Improvement competition. The idea is that as many people in the community vote for Chatswood Hills State School by logging onto the Staffroom for Improvement website. If we get the most votes based on an algorithm that makes the voting fair between small and bigger schools we could win a $20,000 prize to renovate the teachers’ staffroom.

Have a great holiday.

Stephen Josey
Deputy Principal

Chappies at Chats
Chappy Karen and Chappy Alexa

Introducing Chappy Karen

Over the years, I have taught in a range of city and country schools, including a small 2 teacher school and also large schools. I have travelled by car, bus, ferry and even a helicopter to get to school. I am thrilled to be at Chats as Chaplain and my current challenge is getting to know names. I enjoy reading, swimming and going to the beach. You are welcome to come and talk to Chappy Alexa or myself if we can be of assistance to you.

Principals Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received awards on assembly on Monday:

- **Preston T** for excellent reading and trying hard with all his work.
- **Amanii M** for a great improvement in your independent writing.
- **Seb B** for great listening in class and always contributing his ideas and thoughts.
- **Una L** for always listening to her teachers and following instructions.
- **Zac M** for being an enthusiastic learner who always tries his best.
- **Jared B** for fantastic effort in reading and trying his best to learn new reading strategies.
Ben F for always remembering classroom rules and trying hard in all his school work.
Hope G for making a great effort to improve her spelling.
Jackson P for great work in maths.
Paige M for consistently working hard and for making thoughtful contributions to class discussions.
Jack G for always displaying excellent manners and putting in 100% effort at all times.
Will R for great work in class and always giving 100%.
Ashleigh C for writing a beautifully creative ending to “Kumiko and the Dragon’s Secret”

Library Award
Kookaburras for great browsing in the Junior section of the Library.

From the Library
Logan City Council Libraries offer a free online homework service called Your Tutor [yourtutuor.com.au]. It is available for students in Years 3 to 12. Access is free for any student who holds a Logan City Council Library card and is available either from home or any of the nine Logan City Council Libraries. Trained Australian teachers and tutors are available from 4pm to 8pm Monday to Friday.

Lyndell Roberts
Teacher Librarian

Stage 1 Swimming
Payment for this is due next Thursday by 10am. NO LATE PAYMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Music News (Brass, Woodwind, Percussion)
Instrumental Music lessons will be held on Monday 12th November next week instead of Tuesday 13th November. Please remind your child to pack their instruments on Sunday night.

Aaron Glidden
Acting/ Instrumental Music Teacher

P & C News
Email: pandc@chathillss.eq.edu.au

School Banking
"Who loves school banking, well I know Chatswood Hills State Schools does. If you have a Youth Saver Account and haven't banked for quite some time why not re-start. See what you can be rewarded with when you bank 10 consecutive school banking days.
Remember Wednesday is School Banking Day 

Thank you
Terry Hodges
School Bank Co-Ord

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS
SPECIALS: Clearance – need to make room for new stock
Polo shirts sizes 14 to 26 only - ** $15.00 **
** There are 10 only - size 2 polo shirts available for the special price of $15.00
Boys school shorts sizes 10–16 only - ** $8.00** (gaberdine) buy now for next year !
* Forms for uniform pre-orders 2013 will go out today....
NO money/payment required with pre-orders pay on pick-up in January 2013.
The new polo shirt can be pre-ordered but won't be available until January 2013 - place pre-orders in box at office, tuck shop or at uniform shop on Tuesday mornings by November 13th.
'NEW' to the uniform shop & in stock – Library/ Homework Satchels – $6.00