

30<sup>th</sup> January, 2014

**CHATTY'S DATE CLAIMERS**

6<sup>th</sup> Feb                      School Banking resumes

18<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> March      Life Education Visit

**STUDENT ABSENT LINE 3489 2260**

**The Principal's Perspective**

Hi everyone and welcome to the 2014 school year at Chatswood Hills State School. My name is David Teale and I'm extremely excited at being given the opportunity to be principal here for the first six months of the year at least. I have been fortunate enough to work in many schools all over Queensland during the last 29 years and believe that experience is certainly an asset in education. I also have plenty of experience in Logan schools having been principal most recently at Slacks Creek for just over four years, as well as performing deputy roles at Kimberley Park, Kingston and Crestmead. Woodridge North was my first school all those years ago and I have also taught at Boulia, Burpengary and Chinchilla State Schools. I'm really looking forward to working closely with the Chatswood Hills community and building strong relationships with everyone here. The school has a very warm and positive feel about it and everyone associated with CHSS should be proud of this, as students, staff and parents all contribute to a school culture.

No doubt our teaching staff will share and unpack with you the key directions for our school this year when you attend our upcoming information sessions, but I just wanted to mention some of them here as well. I'm sure it goes without saying that literacy will remain a key priority and supports a fundamental belief that reading underpins all other learning. In my visits to all classrooms this week I've highlighted the importance of students being able to read well. My motto to children has

always been that 'Reading Gives You Power.' I tell kids that once they can read they can do almost anything and this is a key priority for the year. Students also clearly need mastery of numeracy skills and the school is going to build on the progress made already in this area. Just like reading being the foundation to becoming literate, a deep understanding of the concept of number, is the key to mathematical success. I am extremely passionate about catering for individual difference and I guess my whole philosophy of education can be summed up in these four words, '**Kids Differ, Teaching Matters.**' Students are all individuals and should be catered to as such, and it is the quality of teaching that makes the most difference to student outcomes whilst attending school. I am hoping you will see an even greater emphasis placed on 'differentiation' in my time here as principal.

You will hear me repeatedly mention that, "Schools are for kids!" The students are the most important people in any school community and should be central to all decision making processes. I see parents as partners in education and encourage you all to play a very active role in your child's school life. It would be terrific to have many parents helping out in classrooms and it has been my experience that the majority of teachers welcome parent volunteers with open arms. Coming along to the monthly P&C meeting is another way of becoming involved and having direct input and influence for your son or daughter. Having said all of this I acknowledge how fast paced our world is today and fully understand how busy most parents are and that committing to things like this is problematic. However, showing that you are interested in what your child is learning about in class may seem like quite a simple thing to do, but be assured that your child will love you more for knowing that you care about what they are doing. I'm yet to meet a parent or carer who doesn't want their children to love them, so make sure you ask what they have been learning in class every day.

Yours in Education  
David Teale  
Principal

## **From the Deputy**

Welcome back to Chatswood Hills State School for 2014. Thank you to all families and teachers for such a smooth start to the year. By 8:45am on Tuesday (the first day of school) all classes and students had settled down to work which sets a great tone for the year ahead.

I trust that everyone has returned rested and ready to “kick some goals” in 2014! This year we say good bye to Year 7 from Primary schools in Queensland. I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new staff and to our new Principal, Mr Teale. I know that the school community will make them all feel welcome and I look forward to working with Mr Teale.

I look forward to working with staff, parents and students throughout the year to help our students reach their full potential. I agree with Mr Teale’s mantra that “kids differ, teaching matters”. Research tells us that teachers’ have a significant impact on the results that students achieve. Parents also play an important part and I encourage parents to encourage and promote reading at home. School cannot do it alone but together we achieve a lot.

## **Curriculum Corner**

This year the national curriculum roll out continues with the implementation of Geography. Other National curriculum subjects History, Science, Maths and English continue to be taught at Chatswood Hills State School.

## **Uniform and Behaviour**

Generally the uniform at Chatswood Hills State School is good and I would like to thank parents and students for supporting the uniform policy as outlined by the school in agreement with the P and C.

I need to express the importance of students wearing all black shoes. Some shoes worn by students would be ok if they had black shoe laces. If your child’s shoes have coloured shoelaces could you please replace these with black as soon as possible.

All students start the term on Phase One and will receive a Phase One behaviour award if they maintain the Phase One throughout the term. This phase means that students can organise themselves and don’t require the assistance of a teacher.

## **Pastoral Care**

Chappy Karen will be working at our school on Mondays and Thursdays again this year. She is very proactive in supporting students in the classroom and the playground. Parental permission is required in cases where a student or parent would like Chappy Karen to talk to a student on an ongoing basis.

## **Dates**

This year our discos will be held in Term One, Two and Three. There will be no disco in Term Four. Our first disco will be held on Friday February 28. Please note that there will also be a variation to the times this year.

The Junior Disco will start at 4:30pm and go to 6:00pm. The senior disco will start at 6:15pm and go to 7:45pm. All profits at the disco go back to the students either directly to year level budgets or through the student council.

Have a great weekend.

Stephen Josey  
Deputy Principal

## **Chappy at Chats**

Welcome back everyone! Welcome is the Year 1 Wonder Word for the week. As Chaplain, I would particularly like to welcome all the Prep students as they begin their educational journey as well as new students and parents.

This week, I have seen many examples of kindness as students have been keen to help other students particularly siblings settle here at our wonderful school.

If I can help your child or you, please don’t hesitate to contact the office to make an appointment. I will be at school each Monday and Thursday. Alternatively, The Chappy Room is located next to Year 7 at the end of block 5 and you can drop in to see me.

Kids Club is a club for Year 4-7 students which is held during the first Lunchbreak on Thursdays. We play games, do fun activities and learn about God. We will start meeting from Week 4 and as this group has some Christian input students will need to have parental permission to attend this club. Forms can be collected from the office and returned to the office.

On Thursday the 20th of February at 2 pm all parents are welcome to meet with other parents in the library to have a chat. Bring along healthy lunchbox ideas to share and meet other parents.

## **Report Cards**

We still have quite a number of report cards from the end of last year that have not been collected. If your child did not receive theirs please call at the office to collect.

## **Change of Newsletter 2014**

This year our newsletter will be issued fortnightly from today. We will be phasing out paper newsletters in the next few weeks. Please supply email address to the office for you to receive the newsletter. If you already receive the newsletter by email you don’t have to resubmit your address.

## **Payment Window Hours**

The payment window is open Tues, Wed, Thurs **8am.-10.am.** Internet banking is available anytime.

## **Morning Procedures**

As there is no supervision before school all students and parents who arrive at school before 8.15am are asked to sit in the Tuckshop area until the first bell rings. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

## Mathletics

2014 will see the continuation of the Mathletics Program, thanks to funding and support from our P & C. This means that there is **no** cost to the parents for your child to participate in the Mathletics Program in 2014. The online Mathletics Program can be accessed from both school and home and is a website designed to engage students in a fun and safe on-line learning environment.

**For every student**, a permission note will go home today. In order for your child to gain access to Mathletics, we will need the permission form to be read, signed and returned by **Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> February**.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me on 3489 2222.

Olivia Wells  
Head of Curriculum.

## Instrumental News

Welcome back to all Instrumental Music students and their families. There are a few changes for our faculty for 2014. Any confusion with the following information please make contact with the office or a member of the music staff.

School Loan Instruments – if your child is starting their tuition and using a school loan instrument there is a corresponding form that needs to be returned before the instrument can be issued. The Instructor will give out the Loan Agreement form at the first lesson for completion by the family. The form can either be returned to the Instructor at the next lesson or handed to the school office. Please do this as soon as is convenient.

2014 Annual Levy – the Instrumental program is fee paying. If you have a school loan instrument the annual levy is \$65. If you have your own instrument the annual levy is \$35. This money is used to run the program eg. purchase of instruments, repertoire, repair of instruments and ongoing maintenance. Invoices for this levy have not been finalised. When we have our lists finalised we can give those names to the school office – payment on this levy can only be made once this has happened. It is expected that by the end of Wk 3 we will have completed this.

## String News

Lessons during 2014 will be on a Monday. Lessons will start next week (Monday, 3 Feb). All students, regardless if they have an instrument already or not, will come to their lesson. Any questions will be resolved at this time. The students are allotted times through a timetable and their class teachers have this in the classroom. Lessons are held in the Music Block. String Ensemble — our first rehearsal will be on Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> Feb. This is in the school hall starting at 7:40am. *String Ensemble is for continuing students - new students will have their ensemble starting in Term 2 and there is no requirement for them to be at this rehearsal.*

## Woodwind, Brass & Percussion News

We welcome a new Instructor to Chatswood Shills for 2014. Claire Van Vurren will be teaching all woodwind, brass and percussion students. The teaching day for these students will be Wednesdays. The first lesson for these students will be Wed, 12<sup>th</sup> Feb. All students should attend their first lesson regardless if they have an instrument or not. Lessons are held in the Music Block. Loan Agreement forms will be handed out at this lesson. The class teachers will have the timetable. We welcome Claire and hope that she has an enjoyable year with the students. **Ensemble** – more information in regards to band and ensembles will be forwarded shortly.

Thanks to everyone. If there is any further information required please make contact with an Instructor on Monday or Wednesday or through the school office. If there are any students interested in learning an instrument, please make contact with the office and we'll try to accommodate.

Instrumental Music Staff.

## P & C News

**Email:** [pandc@chathills.eq.edu.au](mailto:pandc@chathills.eq.edu.au)

### Uniform Shop

\* The uniform shop is open on Tuesday mornings from 8:15am until approx 9am.

If you cannot get to the uniform shop on Tuesdays you can

- 1) email your order with credit card details to - [PandCUniformshop@chathills.eq.edu.au](mailto:PandCUniformshop@chathills.eq.edu.au) or
- 2) write down your order put it in an envelope marked UNIFORM ORDER along with your child's name & class & correct money or credit card details & hand into tuckshop. The order will be sent to your child's classroom.

\* Hats are available to purchase at the tuckshop on Monday's, Wednesday's, Thursday's & Friday's - please have the correct money (\$10 each- sizes 53cm, 55cm, 57cm & 59cm)

\* Any pre-orders not collected by next Tuesday will be put back into stock.

\* Thank-you SO much to all the volunteers who gave up their time in the school holidays to help with the packing of pre-orders & on the pick up days. Amanda, Donna M, Marg, Tammy, Kerry, Cath, Sue, Lisa, Kirsty & Chloe'. The uniform shop is always totally run by volunteers no one is paid to work in it. So without great helpers it wouldn't run as smoothly as it does. Thank-you!