17th May, 2012

**From the Principal**

It has certainly been a busy week here at Chatswood Hills and even though it feels like we have only just returned from the Easter break, tomorrow marks the mid-point of term two.

Like all schools nationwide, this week saw our year 3, 5 and 7 students participating in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests. Our school will use the information from these tests in a number of ways, primarily to better identify students requiring additional support, and to identify strengths and improvement areas in teaching programs. While the NAPLAN report is a significant measure of how all students are performing, it is important to remember that it is only one aspect of the school’s assessment and reporting process. It does not replace the more extensive and informed judgements made by the class teachers throughout the year.

Semester one reports will be sent home at the end of term on Friday 22 June for years 1 to 7. Teachers are currently busy finishing off assessment and writing the reports so that they are ready to go home on the last day of term. Due to the logistics of writing, copying and signing 500 odd report cards it is impossible to give them out early to students who are not going to be in attendance on this final day. Our expectation is that there is regular schooling up to and including the last day of term and any student absent can collect their report from the office next term.

Please be aware that school starts each day promptly at 8:30am and students should be ready to begin the day at this time. With the colder weather setting in, some students have been arriving at school consistently late and missing out on vital learning time. Additionally we have had students away from school for extended absences without an explanation from parents. All unexplained absences are followed up with individual parents through the office.

I have had a request from Outside School Hours Care to remind our school community that the school playgrounds are not for general use afterschool. OSHC hire the playgrounds and outdoor areas as part of their afterschool programs and occasionally they have had children who are not part of their program playing in the school grounds and using this equipment during OSHC time. For the safety of all children and to uphold our duty of care to the OSHC children please ensure that children who are not part of the OSHC program leave the grounds after the school day is finished.

Thank you
Keith Graham
Principal
From the Deputy

Naplan

A big thank you to all of the parents, teachers and students involved in the 3,5,7 NAPLAN tests this week. The process has gone smoothly for another year. I have been very proud of the way our students have approached the tests and this is testament to the great support provided by parents and teachers.

Today is the final day of testing with catch up tests being implemented tomorrow.

Ritchies IGA at Daisy Hill

Ritchies IGA at Daisy Hill provided our Year 3, 5 and 7 students with apples for each day of the NAPLAN assessments. We ordered 240 apples each day for three days, these apples were provided to us at a very low price. I would like to thank Allison, Scott and Benita at Ritchies IGA for their support and flexibility.

Mabel Park Brain Day and Springwood Storm Cup

Chatswood Hills State School will be entering teams in the Mabel Park High Brain Day for year 6 and 7 students and the Springwood High Storm Cup for year 4 and 5 students again this year. Mabel Park is on May 22 and Springwood May 29.

Permission notes will go home to students selected to participate in the Storm Cup next week.

The Mabel Park team is being finalised. Please be aware of a date clash with Rochedale High Open Day. As a result some changes to the team and supervision on the day have been made and an updated letter has been sent home.

UNSW Competition

It is that time of the year again for the UNSW competitions. These assessments are open to anyone who would like to participate. Please be aware that there is a cost associated with the tests. More details are available in the newsletter regarding payment. Over recent years the school has performed well in these assessments and I would like to encourage our students to be involved.

We have 11 students competing in the Writing and 22 participating in the Spelling assessment.

The dates for the UNSW tests are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>Sitting Date</th>
<th>Closing Date for Payment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Wednesday June 6</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Monday June 18</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Tuesday June 19</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tuesday July 31</td>
<td>Tuesday June 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Tuesday August 14</td>
<td>Tuesday July 10</td>
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Have a great weekend.

Stephen Josey
Deputy Principal

Principal Awards

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

Paris G for a great effort learning her weekly core spelling.
Harrison B for beautifully presented work and for trying his best.
Luka J for always working consistently and having a positive attitude to work.
Taleah D for thinking creatively and showing initiative in the creation of your Science concept map.
Filip G for writing a creative poem for reading groups.
Peter B for always completing tasks on time and enthusiastically participating in all lessons.
Austin B for great thinking and problem solving in Maths.
Noah P for continuing to work hard across all areas of the classroom.
Denita B for completing work of a consistently high standard.
Kyle S for always working co-operatively in class and taking the initiative.
Sreyam D for enthusiastic participation in Animation activities.

Library Award

Peel for always using great Library manners.

Gotcha Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received gotchas for obeying the 4C’s in the playground: Jenna B, Jay D, Carly S.
**String News**

It will be a busy end to the end of Term 2 for the String Program.

**Beginner String Ensemble:** this group will start their rehearsals next week. It will involve all string students who commenced their string tuition this year. We meet at first break on a Thursday up in the music room. It is a condition established within Ed Qld that if students have a music lesson they also need to be part of an ensemble. This group will meet every Thursday in preparation for upcoming concerts etc. Students will bring their morning tea up to the music block and eat on the verandah. We will then start our rehearsal asap. Lessons will continue at their normal times - they are unchanged.

Looking forward to starting this ensemble next week and to showcase the great work these students will soon achieve.

**String Ensemble:** (Thurs morning before school) is going well and all students are working well. This rehearsal is in the hall.

Thanks to all.

Penny Williams (String Instructor)

**Helping with reading at home**

The Support-A-Reader training program is being conducted at school this term. It is designed to show parents, grandparents, carers, teacher-aides or any other interested people how to assist beginning readers or those experiencing difficulties with their reading. The program will give you the knowledge and confidence to enable you to help in the classroom and/or your own children at home. The program is not difficult and is free of charge. The sessions are informal and discussion and questioning are a major component. The program will be conducted for four weeks on the following days.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>1:00pm – 2:30pm</td>
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If you are interested in attending, please contact the office on 3489 2222 with your details.

Liz Bundy
Key Teacher Year 2 Net

**Lost Property**

The following items have been handed into the office:
- Girls bracelet
- A girl’s school shoe
- 1 pair of black school shoes
- 1 jogger

**P & C News**

**Email:** pandc@chathillss.eq.edu.au

**Family Portraits** - Saturday 9th June. Flyer home today. $15 booking fee (donated back to P&C) gets you a FREE family portrait. Packages available to order if you choose. Book early as this always fills up quickly. Return Money and booking slip to Tuckshop. Split families welcome to book 2 separate times if needed (conditions apply) $15 each sitting still applies.

Co-ordinator Kirsty 0413 202 325

**QLD P&C DAY** - Friday 25th May. A day to thank all our valuable volunteers. Look out for more details on how we are celebrating this day in next weeks newsletter.......  

**Bookclub** - out tomorrow. Orders and money due back by 31st May to Tuckshop.

**Next P&C Meeting** - Monday 18th June. 6.30pm in the admin building all welcome.

**Tuckshop** - A lot of students are writing their lunch orders at the tuckshop in the morning and wasting valuable learning time. Please have all orders written out BEFORE you come to school. If you don't have a paper bag, write you order AT HOME on an envelope and put the money inside (we will write the order on your bag for you) to save time and congestion at the Tuckshop counter in the mornings. (remember to add 10 cents for your bag) Coming soon - new environmentally friendly re-usable Tuckshop bags. Look out for the flyer soon.

**Banking** every Wednesday, to redeem prizes you need 10 tokens and Banking **not through the school** does not attract a token.

**News from OSHC**

The cold weather is approaching so why not sleep in a little and come to before school care for breakfast and have a nice warm milo before you go to school. The vacation care program has been completed and we are having four incursions during the June/July holidays. We will have a Circus School, an Ocean life visit, a sporting visit and a martial arts session. The program will be available in the next few weeks. Please remember to book as soon as possible to secure your child’s spot.

Wendy
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