2nd February, 2012

From the Principal

Two weeks are almost over and school has certainly settled down into work routine. Could I please remind parents that students should not be at school before 8:00am in the morning. Teachers are not on duty before school as they are preparing for the day so students cannot come early to play. Once students do arrive on school grounds they must sit under the tuckshop covered area until 8:15. After 8:15 they can move off to sit and wait outside of their classroom area.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our teachers for the extra efforts they have been giving to ensure that the new National Curriculum is in place and being used in classes for English, Maths and Science as outlined by Education Queensland. This new curriculum has caused teachers to gain an understanding of entirely new content as standards and concepts in these subject areas have been modified to be standardised across Australia. It is a huge task for teachers to embrace this change and gain an understanding of these new areas to ensure that they are being taught effectively. I know many hours are being spent by teachers each day after school and weekends to ensure class programs are in place and in line with the National Curriculum. This extra commitment from the CHSS staff does not surprise me, as I am constantly impressed with their professionalism and dedication each day as they strive to improve outcomes for every one of our students.

Today is ‘day 8’ for all schools when our effective student numbers determine our final staffing. We will be notified later today as to any staffing changes, however at this stage it looks like our number of classes will remain constant. There may, however, be some internal shuffling to help balance out class sizes. Any disruptions to the school will be kept to a minimum and parents of specific students involved will receive written notification of a change. We aim to finalise any changes by the end of next week.

Our class parent evenings will be held on Wednesday 15 February at 5:00pm for Stage 3, 5:30pm for Stage 2 and 6:00pm for Stage 1. These will be 20-25min general information sessions talking about the year ahead and classroom routines and expectations. (This is not a time for individual progress reports – these will be held at the end of term). More specific information about each individual session for Wednesday will be sent through your child’s class teacher.

Please note that we have a 24hr absent line which you can use to let us know if your child is away from school. The number is 3489 2260. There is a requirement for parents to advise the school with reasons for student absence and this can be done by using the above number or by a written note. If you are using our absent line please leave the date of absence, your child’s name and class.

Thank you
Keith GRAHAM
Principal
From the Deputy

Week two is almost over, the first full week of school. It has been encouraging to see our students; especially our Preps make the adjustment from holidays to full time school. With the implementation of the National Curriculum in Maths, English and Science, 2012 will be a busy and rewarding year.

Chatswood Hills State School is a great place to spend your Primary years of education and I would like to extend my gratitude to parents, staff and students for a great start to the year.

Ready Reader Volunteer Training Program

Our school currently has 3 trained Ready Readers. If you would like to join the program please read the following message:

The Ready Reader Volunteer Training Program, coordinated by Education Queensland’s Community Participation Officers, recruits and trains community volunteers and parents to support young readers in the classroom.

The trained volunteers are placed in a school of their choice to assist individual children in grades Prep to Year 3. They engage with each child, building their reading confidence so that they enjoy books and the art of reading.

Parents and community members are invited to become Ready Readers and make a difference in a young reader’s life in the classroom or at home. Both principals and volunteers are reporting great progress with the children being engaged.

Would you like to hear more about the program? Do you think you would like to be involved?

The following training sessions are being offered. You are welcome to attend the session that is most convenient for you from the dates and venues outlined below and to bring along a friend or family member who may also be interested in volunteering.

Registration is essential as sessions with little response will be cancelled.

To register please contact the school listed for the session you would like to attend.

For further information contact Lynn Lloyd on 5562 4826

Hilliard State School,  
Cnr Alexandra Cct & Hanover Dr  
Alexandra Hills  
3820 1666

Ormeau  
Monday 27th February 9:30 – 2:30  
Norfolk Village State School  
83 Halfway Drive  
Ormeau  
5549 4222

Shailer Park  
Tuesday 13th March 9:15 to 2:15  
Shailer Park State School  
Bulwarra Street Shailer Park  
3440 8333

Park Ridge  
Thursday 22nd March 9:30 to 2:30  
Park Ridge State School  
3776 Mt Lindsay Highway  
Park Ridge  
3380 4333

Behaviour and Uniform

It has been great to see the majority of students return to school in full school uniform. Just a friendly reminder that shoes at Chatswood Hills need to be all black, including black laces, or Velcro (no slip on shoes). I appreciate your support with this matter.

Have a great weekend.
Stephen Josey  
Deputy Principal

Curriculum Corner

Welcome back! This year has marked a significant event for Queensland Schools as all are now implementing the Australian Curriculum for English, Math and Science. Here at Chatswood, we too have begun to implement the new curriculum. The Australian Curriculum aims to enhance the core knowledge, understanding, skills and general capabilities for each and every student within Australia.

Other areas of our current curriculum will be developed over the coming years, so until then the QCAR Essentials will inform our teaching practice for The Arts, Languages, Health and Physical Education, SOSE and Technology.

This is a momentous change for all involved! As we continue to embed the new curriculum here at Chatswood, I will endeavour to keep you informed. The new curriculum is available online and there is a section of Frequently Asked Questions, well worth a look if you are interested.

http://www.acara.edu.au

Mathletics

Just a reminder that every child will need to return their Mathletics form to their classroom teacher by the end of next week, thank you.
Olivia Wells  
Head of Curriculum


**From The Library**

We have had a busy start to the new year and welcome new students as well as our old ones. Please find the Borrowing Timetable and general details below.

Children from Year 1 to Year 7 may borrow 2 books for two weeks. Preps may borrow 1 book. Prep to Year 3 must have a library bag to borrow.

If a student fails to return a book to the library, borrowing is suspended until replacement value payment is made.

Monday: Tallebudgera, Rainbow, Currumbin, Burleigh, Stradbroke, Karragarra, Moreton, Russell, Emus, Cassowaries.

Tuesday: Lorikeets

Wednesday: Possums, Bilbies, Echidnas, Kookaburras, Goannas, Quolls, Kingfishers, Wombats

Thursday: Noosa, Peel, Macleay, Wallabies, Geckoes, Bandicoots, Platypus.

Occasionally we send books home to parents with contact for covering. If you would like to volunteer for this please contact the library.

Happy reading with your children.

Lyndell Roberts
Teacher Librarian.

**Rugby League Visit - Eatwell, Playwell, Staywell**

Chatswood Hills students were treated to a visit from 3 rugby league stars yesterday during PE lessons. Mario Fenech, Trent Barrett and Luke Covell talked to students about healthy living and showed a video- EATWELL, PLAYWELL, STAYWELL. Students received signed posters and some lucky students were also given watches with the rugby league insignia on them for answering questions correctly.

Football were signed by the players and will be awarded to students during PE Week later in the year.

A big thank you to our National Rugby League Program for making this visit possible.

Jane Taylor
HPE Teacher

**P & C News**

Email: pandc@chathillss.eq.edu.au

**P & C Meeting**

The next P & C meeting will be held on Monday 13th February in the staffroom at 6.30pm. All welcome to attend.

**Uniform Shop News**

Currently stock for girls ties has still not arrived. As soon as they do if prepaid I will send them straight to your child’s class.

**Special ** For February **

Boys Navy Shorts (Gaberdine material) $12
Sizes 8, 10, 12, 14 & 16 only – 20 to 30 pairs of each size only available.
They will be on sale for this month only unless sold out prior.It’s a huge $4 saving!

School photos are fast approaching… all students MUST wear the formal white-stripe shirt / blouse (with tie).
Get in early to ensure your child’s size is in stock!

Hats are available to purchase at tuckshop on days the uniform shop is closed. You will need to have the correct money ($10) as no change is available.

Reminder to keep receipts as uniforms are a tax deduction.

Email: PandC Uniformshop@chathillss.eq.edu.au for any uniform questions or orders.

**Emailed Newsletters**

We are looking at cutting down the number of newsletters printed each week. We would like to encourage families to now receive the newsletter by email. Please contact the office with your email address. If you were receiving the newsletter by email last year there is no need to re-register. The emailed newsletter is received the same day as the printed one.

**Community News**

Spirit First Martial Arts is offering karate training for the whole family. Our new range of "Start-up" programs is now suitable for children from the earliest age. For more info visit: www.SpiritFirstMA.net or call 0431 907 414.