

31<sup>st</sup> January, 2013

**CHATTY'S DATE CLAIMER**

March      School Photos

**STUDENT ABSENT LINE 3489 2260**

**From the Principal**

Welcome back to a new year. I would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to all our new students and families. Chatswood Hills is a great school and I am sure you will enjoy being part of our community.

It was a particularly wild weekend of weather and I trust that you have all come through as un-scathed as possible. Our school did not suffer any major damage or power loss which made us one of the lucky ones in Logan, and it was business as usual this week.

One effect of the weather was the delay in the completion of the new shade area outside of Block 2. This shade structure should be completed this weekend and was funded by our P&C to replace the old shade cloth. I would like to progressively replace all the old shade cloths around the school with more permanent shade structures which provide full protection from the sun and rain, connect completely to the classrooms so that students are fully protected from the elements as soon as they step outside their room, are long lasting structures that don't need frequent replacing and do not pose the same fire risk as the shade cloths. Once completed, the new shade structure will be a great addition to the Year 1 block.

New Staff for 2013

The beginning of a new year sees new staff at CHSS and I would like to introduce and welcome to our school;

Ms Bernadette Sheahan – Kangaroos

Ms Karen Thompson – Kingfishers

Ms Sarah Konecny – Miami

Ms Kate Ekin – Talle

Mr Kyle Wright - Peel

Mr Steve Musch – Karragarra

Ms Kristen Skelton – Prep - Wallabies and Geckoes

Mr Anthony Chapman - Japanese for years 6 and 7 and Non-Contact Time in other parts of the school for term 1 while Mrs Bullen continues her maternity/family leave.

We are still awaiting the appointment of a behaviour support teacher.

It has been a wonderful first week of school and can I say how smart the students look in their new school uniforms. Thank you to the P&C for upgrading the polo shirt. Thank you also to the parents who ensure children are in correct uniform each day and support our school image and also help teach children to respect and follow rules. Students who are not in correct uniform may be dealt with through our behaviour policy including moving off Phase One for their behaviour level. Please help students learn to develop responsibility and respect for rules by ensuring that they are in correct uniform each day. I thank you for your support.

As I walked around the classes this week I was so pleased to see our students with their equipment ready to be engaged in learning. I don't believe in having a 'warm-up week' for school. Everyday counts, and class programs which have been carefully prepared by teachers over the holiday break begin on the bell on the first and every day. Please help us to help your children by ensuring they are ready for school each day, on time so that they don't miss out on any valuable learning time. I was also very pleased to see how well our 5 new prep classes started their first days of school life. Prep is a very exciting time for

both students and parents. We have 122 prep students who commenced school this year at CHSS and they and their teachers have had a very busy and productive first few days of school. All five prep classes seemed very settled when I visited and the students were eagerly engaged in their class activities.

Our school numbers have been fluctuating and it looks like we have increased in size by one class this year to 27. Final staffing and class arrangements are not completed until after day 8 (Feb 7) and some changes to classes may occur after this date. We will aim to minimise any disruptions to students if class changes are deemed necessary.

I look forward to working with you all this year and encourage you to maintain communication with the school through the teachers to solve any issues which may arise. My experience is that the earlier a problem is addressed the easier it is to solve and move forward. Additionally full communication gives a clearer picture of an issue and often a different perspective.

I am looking forward to a very rewarding and productive 2013 school year, where together we can make a positive difference to every student at Chatswood Hills.

On a final note, if your child was away at the end of last year and did not receive their report card, they can be collected from the office any time over the next two weeks.

Thank you  
Keith GRAHAM  
Principal

### **From the Deputy**

Welcome back to Chatswood Hills State School for 2013. It has been a smooth start to the year from a school point of view. I acknowledge however that for some of our community starting back without power, water and flooding has presented some challenges that are not normally faced. I also acknowledge that many schools have had difficulty starting back due to the weather on the weekend.

It is amazing, and somewhat concerning to realise how much we come to rely on electricity these days. I think that I came home each afternoon during our blackout at home frustrated that the remote for the garage wasn't working, before I once again embarrassingly realised that I needed power for them to work.

I would like to welcome all of our new families to Chatswood Hills State School, especially our new Prep families. The overwhelming response to why people have chosen our school is because they either know or have been told that we are a great school.

What makes a great school? Is it the uniform? Is it the teachers? Is it the parents? Is it the academic results? Is it the environment? Well I think it is all of these reasons and more. Our school is a great school because we all work to make it a place with a positive culture for learning.

I wish everybody a rewarding 2013, I hope that you reach your goals and spend lots of time with your family.

### **Australia Day**

All of my plans for the Australia Day weekend were rapidly changed, like many others over the weekend. This however did not stop the Aussie spirit from coming out. It's a tough country Australia, but in adversity Australians work together to help each other out.

### **Uniform**

Students have come back to school looking great in their uniforms. I love the new sports shirt. I have had to talk to a few students regarding their shoes, remember shoes need to be all black. I would appreciate your support with uniform. If your child is unable to wear any part of the school uniform could parents please write a note? We understand that sometime things can happen, like the weather.

### **Behaviour**

Remember all students are on Phase one and will receive an award at the end of the term provided that they stay on Phase one. Thank you to parents for supporting the school's behavioural standards.

Have a great weekend.

Stephen Josey  
Deputy Principal

### **Chappies at Chats**

Well, this eventful week marks the beginning of the 2013 school year and for 125 Prep Students the beginning of their formal education at Chatswood Hills State School. I have been so thrilled to see the Prep students being cared for by older siblings and other students who have taken the time to be helpful and friendly to the new students. Over the last two days, I have spent most of my time in the Prep area and I have been pleased to see the students so keen to learn and listen to their teachers. This week also marks the beginning of the routines which starting school brings of early mornings, uniforms, school lunches, homework and readers to read. After the long holiday, it can be hard to get back into these routines but be encouraged parents because what you do really does make a difference as it contributes to the success that your child will enjoy at school. Don't hesitate to come and see me if I can be of assistance to you or your child. I will be in the school on Mondays and Thursdays. If you would like to meet with me, please contact the school office to make an appointment.  
Chappy Karen

### **Newsletter Emailed**

We are looking to cut down the amount of newsletters that are printed each week. If you would like to have the newsletter emailed to you please contact the office

### **Contact Details**

If any details (eg. address, phone no's emergency contacts etc) have changed for your family over the holidays please contact the office with the new information. It is important that we keep

our records up to date in case we have to contact you for any reason concerning your child/ren.

### **Student Absent Line 3489 2260**

If your child/ren will be away from school at any time the abovementioned line can be rung anytime. Please follow the prompts and leave the necessary details. Absences need to be explained. If you do leave a message on this line you do not need to send a note to the teacher.

### **Payment Window**

The Payment window is open **Tues, Wed, Thurs 8am-10am.**  
We also offer internet banking.

### **Instrumental Music News**

Welcome back to the Instrumental Music students and families. We are looking forward for some students starting and others continuing their music tuition throughout 2013. Please read the following:

**String Program** - lessons for all string students will be on **Thursdays**. Lessons will be starting Wk 2 (Thursday, 7 Feb). Timetables will be forwarded to classes this week for lessons starting in Wk 2. Please have all required equipment at your first lesson. Any problems can be sorted out at this time also. If there are students using a school loan instrument, the paperwork will be sent home after the first lesson on 7 Feb. When this paperwork is returned to the school office there will be an instrument issued to the student.

String Ensemble (for all continuing students - not new students) will commence in Wk 3 (Thursday, 14 Feb). This will be starting at 7:40am in the school hall.

Beginner String Ensemble (for all beginner students) will commence in Term 2. A note will be sent home in regards to details.

**Band Program** - Lessons for all woodwind, brass and percussion students will be on **Tuesdays**. Lessons will start in Wk 2 (Tuesday, 5th Feb). All continuing band students should have their instrument and required equipment at school in Wk 2 for a lesson. On this day all new students to this program will also receive their paperwork for school loan instruments. Timetables will be forwarded to class teachers. Mr Glidden will be returning for this instruction at the beginning of the year. Reminder to all families that if there are any forms still to be returned for tuition in either the string or band program in 2013 to return these forms to the office asap.

As we finalise our timetables we will detail availability of places for 2013. Please keep reading the newsletter.

Thanks and we look forward to hearing the wonderful outcomes that our music groups achieve throughout the year.

Penny Williams (String Instructor).

### **P & C News**

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

### **P & C News**

Welcome back to all families and welcome to our community to our NEW families.

### **P & C Meetings**

Everyone is welcome to attend our first P&C meeting for the year, to be held on Monday 11 February at 6.30pm in the staffroom. Our P&C meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month unless it falls on a public holiday. Keep an eye out in the school newsletter 'diary dates' section for upcoming P&C events and meetings.

### **Fundraising Meeting**

For those who don't know this is our 30th Anniversary this year with our school fete in September, which will be a big celebration for all of us. To get our idea's running a fundraising meeting will be held next Thursday 7th February at 1.45pm in the hall meeting room. Please join us for a chat and bring your idea's with you too. New idea's are great idea's. So we hope to see you there.

### **Uniform Shop Thank You's**

Firstly a huge thank-you to all the volunteer mums who came in the school holidays & helped me pack the 180+ uniform orders & then came back last week to help at the uniform shop during back to school opening days!

Cath, Amanda, Marie, Marg, Michelle, Tammy, Donna, Janine & Lisa I could not of done it without your fantastic help !!

Secondly, to all the parents collecting orders & buying uniforms – it can sometimes be hectic & busy but your patience was very appreciated !

FYI: The uniform shop is run solely by volunteers so any profit can go directly back into the school to be spent on your children- eg through homereader books, shade structures, playgrounds, smartboards.

### **Uniform Shop News**

The new polo's are in & look great! Some sizes are almost sold out but another order will be placed soon.

The old style polo shirts in sizes 2, 14, 16, 18,20, 22, & 24 are still available at the low price of **\$15**

These are still accepted as a part of the current uniform for the next two years.

School photo's will be fast approaching (March) so if your child needs a formal shirt (boy) or blouse & tie (girls) please come in now before stock sells out.

I can order more in but they can take approx 4- 6 weeks so it's important to do this now please.

Any uncollected pre-orders will be kept for 1 more week then it will have to be put back in stock – unless you come & speak to me to make other arrangements.

### **School Banking**

Banking will start on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb. Deposit books will be collected from the classroom each Wed morn. New application forms will be sent home.