

7th February, 2013

CHATTY'S DATE CLAIMER

13 th	Feb	Book club due
19 th	March	School Photos
20 th	March	Bravehearts Show (Prep – Year 3)

STUDENT ABSENT LINE 3489 2260

From the Principal

The first two weeks of the school year are almost over and classes have certainly settled down into their work routines. It is wonderful to see the students engaged so eagerly in their class programs.

Could I please remind parents that students should not be at school before 8:00am in the mornings. 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 even if they are waiting with their parents. After the 8:15 bell students can move off to sit and wait outside their classroom area.

At the commencement of a new year parking can be an issue at the start and end of the school day as the streets and car parks become busy. For the safety of your children and all other students, please only park in the designated parking bays and in a safe and legal manner. What message are our children receiving when adults model to them a disregard for rules and disrespect for the law by parking wherever they wish, and how does this teach children to do the right thing? Having to wait or walk an extra five minutes by parking correctly is surely a cheap price to pay to ensure the safety of our students and to instil in our children a sense of responsibility.

Today is 'day 8' for all schools when our effective student numbers determine our final

staffing. As mentioned in last week's newsletter, our school has grown to over 660 students and we will remain on 27 classes this year – one up from last year. While the number of classes will remain as we planned, we will have to redesign our year 2/3 Kookaburras class to be a year 1/2 class to ensure all classes are at or below the appropriate size, and to ensure that we have spaces in each year level for future enrolments throughout the year. These changes will be kept to a minimum and only directly affect 11 students. The admin team has attempted to contact the parents of these specific students by phone and written notification of the change will go home with students tomorrow. We aim to make the changes effective from Monday.

Our class parent evenings will be held on Wednesday 20 February between 5:00 and 6:30pm. This session will be a 20-25min general information session 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 information about each individual session and specific class times for Wednesday will be sent home 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, reason, your child's name and class.

Our first P&C meeting will be held at 6:30pm next Monday 11 February in the Admin Block staffroom. We welcome all new parents to our group and we usually finish each meeting by 8:00pm. The P&C Annual General Meeting will be held next month on Monday 11 March and will include nominations for executive positions.

Thank you
Keith GRAHAM
Principal

From the Deputy

After a very full year implementing the National Curriculum Subjects of English, Maths and Science staff at Chatswood Hills State School are implementing History this year. The process of implementation started last year as we began to look at the new curriculum in-depth.

History is replacing one of the four strands of SOSE (Study of Society Education) called Time, Continuity and Change. History is a stand alone subject with its own unique way of teaching. The strands of the new History curriculum include Knowledge, Understanding and Skills. As the students develop their knowledge this brings about an understanding of the concepts that they can then apply using skills learnt.

The other SOSE strands will be replaced by other National Curriculum subjects in the future.

Bravehearts Date Claimer

Students in Years P to 3 are invited to attend the "Ditto Show" that Bravehearts puts on each year. The show has been well received by parents, teachers and students over the last four years. The cost for the show is \$4 and I would like to encourage all students to attend. This is a Personal Safety Education Program that provides children with the basic principles of personal safety and the tools to stay safe. The show will be held on **Wednesday March 20** in the hall. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the office. Notes will go out in the coming weeks.

Behaviour

At Chatswood Hills State School we have a couple of important rules that are designed to keep everyone safe. The first is keep your hands and feet to yourself and the second rule is not to pick up sticks or rocks. When dealing with students who have made the wrong choice I often find that the majority of incidences that I deal with fall under these two categories.

Have a great weekend.

Stephen Josey
Deputy Principal

From the Guidance Officer

I am hoping to regularly add some articles to the newsletter that you may find useful. The first one is on "Worries and Anxieties: Helping Children to Cope."

Children like adults have all sorts of feelings about what is happening to them. At times, the world can seem scary or uncertain which may create fear, worry or anxiety. The start of the school year can create these feelings in children [and parents too]. Access the link below for information and ideas. If you cannot access this then the office will have some copies available in print form.

Jenny Hickey - Guidance Officer [Mondays, Tuesdays, 2nd Thursdays]

Chappies at Chats

This week as I was making fiddly spinach and feta triangles to take to a function I was attending, my teen decided this was an opportune time to ask my opinion about a poem by Chaucer which was part of her English homework. Then, not to be outdone, my tween also decided that Mum's help with a project about wind energy could be accessed at the same time. The homework tasks and spinach triangles were completed but I was reminded of some simple things that help the homework time flow a little more smoothly.

1. Establish a routine which works best for your child and also fits in with the family lifestyle.
2. Set aside a place where homework can be completed.
3. Keep distractions to a minimum.
4. Make yourself available to assist your child with understanding the task and assist where necessary but remember it's not your homework.
5. Be positive and give words of encouragement.
6. Be consistent
7. Make time to read to your child daily and when they are older encourage them to read daily.

Have a great week! *Chappy Karen*

Principal Awards Prep- Year 3

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

Piper B for using great listening in English.
Mia W for making an excellent start to the school year.
Hamish O for working hard and listening attentively in class.
Haylee W for an excellent start to Year 1 and being a great role model for other students.
Kira D for using the High 5 and having excellent manners.
Paula P for working beautifully and settling in so well in your new school.
Emily P for being confident and responsible in Prep.
Dane M for a great effort in class – listening carefully and answering lots of questions.
Keian S for being a great listener in Prep and always trying your best.
Kahu T for showing great listening in class.
Paige J for giving a clear explanation of how to play UNO.
Luke T for being a kind and helpful class member.
Madelyn M for listening well and working hard in all tasks.
Letisha S for listening well in class and following directions.
Makayla A for always being organised for the day's learning.
CJ C for always working so hard and settling into your new school so well.

Library Award

Wallabies for lining up quietly outside the Library.

Mathletics

2013 will see the continuation of the Athletics 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 Athletics Program in 2013. The online Athletics 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.

If your child is **new** to the school, a permission note will go home today. In order for your child to gain access to Athletics, we will need the permission form to be signed and returned by Friday the 15th February.

For existing Chatswood Hills students, you will only need to notify the office if you **do not wish your child to participate in the Athletics program for 2013**, as permission was obtained in 2012.

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

Olivia Wells
Head of Curriculum.

From the Library

Welcome back to a new school year. Our big Library event during the year is Book Week which occurs in Term 3. We celebrate this with a Book Character parade, Bookfair and an author visit. The theme this year is *Read Across the Universe*. Library borrowing starts next week. Prep to Year 3 children need a *named* library bag to borrow. Years 1-7 may borrow 2 books for and Preps 1 book. Books are usually changed weekly but are due fortnightly. Please encourage your children to borrow and to take responsibility for their return by the due date.

BORROWING TIMETABLE

MONDAY: Peel, Karragarra, Moreton, Stradbroke.

TUESDAY: Lorikeets.

WEDNESDAY: Kookaburras, Echidnas, Kangaroos, Kingfishers, Goannas, Wombats, Quolls, Possums, Bilbies, Cassowaries, Emus.

THURSDAY: Currumbin, Noosa, Rainbow, Burleigh, Miami, Tallebudgera, Wallabies, Geckoes, Platypus, Bandicoots, Koalas.

Thank you for encouraging reading.

Lyndell Roberts
Teacher Librarian

String News

Thanks to all students both new and continuing that attended their first lesson. Looking forward to working with everyone as the term progresses. Reminder to all continuing students that String Ensemble will be starting next Thursday morning - 14 Feb. We will meet in the school hall and start our rehearsal at 7:40am. Lessons are in the music block - rehearsal is on the stage in the hall. Beginner students will have their group rehearsal during the school day starting in Term 2. More information will follow as we get closer to that time.

Any questions regarding required equipment for lessons can be forwarded through the school office. I am only at CHSS on Thursdays.

Thanks to all.

Penny Williams (String Instructor)

Contact/ Medical Details

If any details (eg. address, phone no's emergency contacts child's medical details) have changed 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.

Payment Window

The payment window will be closed on **Tuesday 12th Feb** due to a system upgrade.

P & C News

Email: pandc@chathillss.eq.edu.au

Bookclub

The first issue of this year's bookclub was sent home with students this week. Please have all orders and monies back to the tuckshop before the 13th February to ensure your orders are placed. If you have any queries please contact Paige on 0449 682 178 or Esther on 0413 222 364.

Year 7 Shirts

Order forms have gone out for the YR 7 shirts. Cost \$37 each. Order forms & correct money or credit card details are to go to the tuckshop in a clearly marked envelope "YR 7 Shirt". Alternatively you can come to the uniform shop on Tuesday mornings and pay via eftpos. Orders & money **MUST** in by Friday 22ND FEB ! When the shirts arrive they will go directly to your child's class. This will not be until approx April/May.

Uniform Shop News

The new polo's are in stock cost - \$30each. Currently we are sold out of size 12 & 18's but new stock will arrive in the coming weeks.

If you are unable to get to the uniform shop on Tuesday mornings here are other options to purchase uniforms :-

1) Write the order out & include your child's name, class & a contact ph: number plus the correct cash or credit card details. The order will be processed & sent to your child's class.

2) Email PandCUniformshop@chathills.eq.edu.au to place an order which will be processed & sent to your child's class.

The school photos are next month – all children are required to wear the formal shirt (for boys) or the formal blouse & tie (for girls) for the photos. It would be advised to come in now to purchase so that stock doesn't sell out closer to the date.

School Banking

"Welcome back all youth saver school banking students, during this term available on the rewards program are Wallets, Hand Balls, Knuckle Game as well as Money Boxes.

Those students who had ordered items from the program which were unavailable with the exception of watches9 no longer available) will be ordered and given out on arrival.

Remember there will be rewards for consecutive banking not only to students but classrooms and teachers.

Thank you ,Terry Hodges Bank Co-ord