

13<sup>th</sup> February, 2014

### **CHATTY'S DATE CLAIMERS**

19 <sup>th</sup> February	Parent Info Night
28 <sup>th</sup> February	Interschool Sport begins
28 <sup>th</sup> February	School Discos
4 <sup>th</sup> March	Cross Country
11 <sup>th</sup> March	School Photos
18 <sup>th</sup> -31 <sup>st</sup> March	Life Education Visit
31 <sup>st</sup> March-2 <sup>nd</sup> Apr	Year 6/7 Camp

**STUDENT ABSENT LINE 3489 2260**

### **The Principal's Perspective**

I highlighted in the last newsletter the importance I place on students being able to read well and thought that I'd share a few relatively simple ways that you as parents can assist your child to acquire this most vital skill. I'm sure our class teachers will also share their own ideas and thoughts at the upcoming parent information sessions on 19 February. Here are some hints to help with reading at home:

*As a parent, you are your child's first teacher and it is important to encourage your child to read outside of the classroom.*

*Our school is asking all parents to help their children to improve their reading skills. You can do this by:*

- *Visiting the local library – this is an economical way to provide access to different kinds of books and learning materials and allows children to borrow from a wide range. Your library may also offer a reading program which makes reading an exciting experience and allows them to mix with other children*
- *Asking 'why' questions as you read a book or story together to help your child understand and asking them to think about alternate endings to make much-loved books even more interesting*
- *Reading to your child as often as you can and by trying to carry a book with you when away from home*
- *Letting your child hold the book and turn the pages when you are reading*

*together – this lets your child join in and allows you to talk about the pictures*

- *Congratulating your child on their reading – this will encourage them to enjoy the reading experience*
- *Pointing out words as you read them, especially long or interesting words – this will create a word bank or a spelling list which will help your child with their writing*
- *Making a message board or space at home and encouraging your child to read and leave messages for other family members – this will also give them an important job in the household.*

*For more tips and online resources about literacy and numeracy visit*

[www.education.qld.gov.au/parents/map/](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/parents/map/)

It was wonderful to meet so many parents at this week's P&C meeting and I was encouraged by the knowledge and enthusiasm which was clearly evident from those in attendance. I get a very real sense of a community approach to the educational process here at Chatswood Hills and I'm just so excited to be working with you all. Tomorrow I am hosting a morning tea for our six student leaders and I'll be asking them for their input into the future direction of our school. Students are the most important people in our organisation and their opinion really matters. I will share their collective thoughts with you all in our next newsletter.

### **Great Results Guarantee**

As Principal I will be responsible for drafting a guarantee to ensure that every student at our school achieves the National minimum standard for literacy and numeracy in their year level or have an evidence-based plan, developed by the school, in place to address a student's specific learning difficulties. This guarantee when approved will attract an additional funding of around \$220000. Part of drafting this guarantee involves a consultation process with parents as discussed last Monday evening at the P&C. The focus is on the Prep to 3 areas, but clearly we want flow on effects

across the school for all students. I am happy for parents to share any great ideas they may have with our school staff.

Yours in Education  
David Teale  
Principal

### From the Deputy

Our School Captains were selected at the end of last year and have hit the ground running with the Australian Flag being displayed each day, recycling each week and assembly being run smoothly. This year our Captains are taking a more hands on approach with assembly almost doing me out of a job. On Monday March 3 Chappy Karen and I will be taking our school leaders to the Halogen Foundation Primary School Leader's Conference.

The process for classes selecting their Environmental Ranger and Student Council representative is well underway. The selection of Sports Captains will be occurring on Friday. Our Leaders' Induction Assembly will be held on Monday February 24 at 1:45pm. During this parade student leaders will receive their badges. Parents of student leaders will receive an invitation to an afternoon tea at 1:10pm on that day before the assembly.

Next Wednesday, February 19, we will be holding our Parent Information night. Letters went home this week with the session times and details. This night is an opportunity for parents to receive general information on how their child's class will operate during the year, homework, routines and the like. If you are unable to attend then please contact your child's teacher to arrange a mutually agreeable time to find out more.

### Curriculum Corner

Chatswood Hills has implemented a phonics program last year called Letterland. Mrs Wells will be running an information session on the Parent Information night to help parents understand this program and share ideas on how parents can support the program at home. Information on the sessions went out in a note this week. This session will run from 5:00pm to 5:45pm and will be held in the library. I would like to encourage parents to attend this session. It is primarily for Prep parents and or any new parents to the school with Year 1 and 2 students.

Staff this afternoon will be involved in training for a vocabulary building program called Strive. As a part of the program classes have a word for the week that they investigate in depth. An increased vocabulary helps to improve both reading and writing.

### Uniform and Behaviour

It is important that we all work together as a community to ensure that our students are in the correct uniform. I would like to remind students that coloured wrist bands are not to be worn at school. Interschool sports shorts should only be worn on Fridays when interschool sport begins and girls should be wearing culottes and not skirts. Socks need to be white. I appreciate the support that the community provides towards the school uniform.

This week on assembly I reminded students to keep their hands and feet to themselves. A lot of behaviour issues can be

prevented by students following this simple rule. I would appreciate parents reinforcing this at home

### Pastoral Care

At Chatswood Hills State School we focus on the 4 Cs – Care, Cooperation, Common Sense and Consideration. Over the coming weeks we will be looking at reinvigorating our gotcha system and promoting more these qualities.

Chappy Karen is attending a Professional Development Day today.

### Key Dates - School Disco

Our first disco will be held on Friday February 28. **Please note that there is no theme for this disco.** The Student Council and Years Prep to 3 run the Junior Disco for Prep to Year 3 students, it starts at 4:30 and ends at 6pm. **Prep parents are required to stay for the duration of the disco.** The Senior disco is run by Year 4 to 7 and the Student Council for Year 4 to 7 students and starts at 6:15pm and finishes at 7:45pm. **Could parents please be prompt with picking up their children at the end of each disco.**

The entry is \$5 with drinks, chips and glow products available for sale. There will also be a sausage sizzle put on by the P and C during the Junior Disco. The money raised by the discos will go towards the Student Council and each year level to be spent on our students!

An area will be cordoned off outside the hall for eating. Students will either be inside dancing or in the designated area eating. **I would appreciate students and parents supporting this in the interests of everyone's safety.**

Have a great weekend.

Stephen Josey  
Deputy Principal

### Principal Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received awards on Assembly.

**Elliejoy C** for excellent work and settling in beautifully to your new school.

**Morell K** for being so brave in your first week in a new school.

**Alex A** for always using beautiful manners and being a wonderful listener.

**Jordan A** for being a good listener and trying your best in class.

**Sebastian B** for being kind, friendly and hardworking.

**Mia Y** for an excellent start to the new year – working hard in every lesson.

**James B** for settling into Prep well and listening beautifully.

**Jaylah H** for settling into Prep and trying all activities.

**Tayla C** for listening beautifully and participating during class discussions.

**Andrew B** for excellent story writing.

**Chloe P** for being a caring, helpful and hard working student in class.

**Ashlee P** for great editing and journal writing.

**Lily B** for using outstanding work habits that allow yourself and others to learn.

**Zoe W** for making an excellent start to the school year at your new school.

**Izaak T** for trying so hard to remember to put up your hand during carpet time.

**Danny K** for good listening and trying your best in all key learning areas.

**Oscar S** for having a great start to the year trying hard and remaining focussed.

**Taizy H** for your positive and persistent attitude towards all tasks.

**Bella S** for a focussed and conscientious start to 2014.

**Sohini K** for being a diligent student and competent respectful peer tutor.

**Meaghan H** for excellent effort during all classroom activities.

**Matthew S** for outstanding effort and behaviour in class.

**Jack G** for excellent manners and always trying your best.

**Sarah M** for an outstanding start to Year 4.

**Christian P** for outstanding classroom performance.

### From the Guidance Officer

In the last two weeks I have seen the children at Chatswood Hills State School settling nicely into their new classrooms and with their new teachers. This is a wonderful start. The start of the new school year can be an anxious time for children and parents too! Some children have more difficulty adapting to the change than others for a number of different reasons. Sometimes having a talk to your child, showing that you care and showing a desire to understand reasons for any worries may be all that is needed. Sometimes it is worthwhile checking to see that they do not have an underlying illness which is causing some distress. I have left copies of a handout at the Office called - "Worries and Anxieties: Helping Children To Cope" for any parents who are interested. Please free to call in and ask for one.

Jenny Hickey- Guidance Officer

### School Photos

School photos will be taken on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March. Dress Uniform must be worn. Photo envelopes will be sent home next week. **DO NOT RETURN ENVELOPES TILL PHOTO DAY.** Sibling envelopes will be available at the office.

### School Volunteers

Whist volunteering in classrooms at Chatswood Hills, it is a Workplace Health & Safety and an Education QLD requirement that all volunteers sign in and out at administration.

### String News

Thanks to everyone for the start they have made this year. We have a lot of students ready at lessons with the required equipment. Reminder that lessons are on Mondays. If there are any students still keen to start their music tuition please make contact with the office. There are only a few instruments still available. These instruments are small in size so are best suited to Yr 3 or 4 students.

Instruments for Sale - we have a few second hand instruments that are for sale. This is a great way to continue the music education of your child especially if the cost of buying a new instrument is a hinderance. There are a few Yr 4 students who may want to continue but haven't been able to without a school

loan. These instruments are great quality and are for sale. Please leave a message for Penny Williams at the office if you are keen for further information. There are a few violins (various sizes) and possibly a 1/2 cello available.

Thank you.

Penny Williams (String Instructor)

### Lost Property

The following items have been handed in to the office: single key and 2 children's books.

### P & C News

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

### Scholastic Bookclub

The first Bookclub catalogue for 2014, orders and money, are due back to the tuckshop Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February. Remember for every book purchased by you, a percentage goes back to the Library to spend on new and exciting books for all children at Chatswood Hills.

If you have any questions or queries, or would like to volunteer to be a catalogue stapler for your child's class please phone Esther Daley (0413 222 364) or Paige Petersen (0449 682 178).

### School Banking

Welcome back to School Banking. School Banking rewards tokens will continue, I apologise to Teachers and Parents for any confusion as this was a late notice given to me. The start of the year has shown some good expectation from the students/parents who have grasped the school banking concept. There are quite a few who have not started so reminders will go out shortly. Application forms are held in the School Admin so ask Jenny or Lea. If you have any queries leave your name and number at the office and it will be passed on to me.

yours faithfully

Terry Hodges  
School Banking Co-ordinator

### Yr 6 & 7 SENIOR SHIRTS

Tomorrow is the final day to put your order with payment in 14/2/14.

NO orders can or will be accepted after this date.

This is the only opportunity you have to order these special shirts - they ARE NOT for sale during the year.

### UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

\* The school photo day will be in the coming weeks. So get in now to purchase your child's formal shirt while stock is here. It is a school requirement that every child wears their formal shirt for the school photo - NOT THE POLO SHIRT. Don't leave it too late - open every Tuesday morning from 8:15am

\* Girls formal shirts must be worn with a tie - these are also in stock - come & purchase your daughters school tie.

\* New school back packs are in stock again.

\* Book covers are available at the uniform shop from \$2 & we stock re-usable bright coloured tuckshop bags - very environmentally friendly & hygienic !