

27th February, 2014

CHATTY'S DATE CLAIMERS

28 th February	Interscholar Sport begins
28 th February	School Discos
4 th March	Cross Country
11 th March	School Photos
18 th -31 st March	Life Education Visit
31 st March-2 nd Apr	Year 6/7 Camp

STUDENT ABSENT LINE 3489 2260

The Principal's Perspective

At the beginning of this week we held our student leaders' induction assembly for the 2014 school year. I place a great deal of emphasis on student leadership as schools are for kids and it is important that they have a say in what happens in our school and the direction Chatswood Hills is taking. I said last Monday that, "Leadership is all about influencing and inspiring others to be successful. It is the ability to unlock people's potential to become better." I am excited to be working with the student representatives in their various roles across the school and know that they understand the respected positions they have been elected to, and the responsibility that comes with this. Our school appreciated Councillor Steve Svenson coming along to present badges and it was lovely that so many proud parents could join in the afternoon tea with our student leaders.

Our six school captains recently met with me over morning tea and raised some interesting topics that they'd like to explore in more detail throughout the course of the year. They talked about the possibility of setting up some activity clubs that could run during the play breaks. In particular the mention of a Reading Club was one that resonated with me. The students spoke about exploring a Prep Buddy Program whereby our Prep classes could link with an older grade to help with reading, maths and art. They'd like to look at an Adopt-A-Cop project as well as running a competition to create and design a school mascot. Further items they discussed included fund raising, school uniform violations, the Gotcha system and creating and

clearing pathways as well as the further beautification of the school. This student leadership team is currently sourcing other ideas from the student body to present to Mr Josey and myself at our next meeting.

I was super impressed with the number of families that attended last Wednesday week's parent information evening. I know that the majority of our class teachers do send home their own class newsletter to keep parents and carers up to date with routines, learning expectations and activities. However it was pleasing to see so many people here in person to hear directly from our staff and to have so many questions answered. Many of you also took the time to feed back to me personally how useful you found the experience and how informative the sessions were. Parents are partners in education and knowing how you can best assist your child to be successful in school is a great place to start. I have placed another little reading tip poster for parents and students in the newsletter as being a fluent reader unlocks many doors to the future.

After collating all of the responses and ideas for our Great Results funding that I mentioned in the last newsletter, we have developed a plan that we believe will improve student outcomes in the P-3 area initially, with flow on effects for all students. There will be a significant increase in teacher aide time in the lower school to focus on guided reading and numeracy sessions. Our already successful Literacy Enhancement Program is being expanded to include more students having access to this targeted intervention. All Prep – 3 classrooms will have Interactive White Boards installed and we are reviewing and refining how we use Information Communication Technologies across our school. We have also allocated funds for staff professional development and the purchase of more teaching and learning resources in the literacy and numeracy areas. It is the quality of teaching and learning that occurs everyday in our classrooms that makes the most difference for students, and of course parental involvement and encouragement is also vital.

Yours in Education
David Teale
Principal

From the Deputy

I can't believe that we are half way through the term already. I would like to bring to your attention three events that will be occurring over the coming weeks.

The Life Education Van team and Harold the Giraffe will be visiting the school from Monday March 18 to Monday March 31. **The cost of the program is \$4 per child (which has been subsidised this year). Money must be paid by Thursday March 13 so that numbers can be finalised and arrangements made for students not attending.** Notes will go home very soon. Payments can be made from next Tuesday. For parents who are interested the Life Education Van will hold a free parent information session on Tuesday March 18 at 2pm in the Life Education Van. I would like to encourage all students to participate in this important opportunity particularly when the normal price is \$9.

After a successful Leaders' Induction ceremony this week I will be attending the Halogen Foundation Young Leaders' Conference at the Brisbane Convention Centre on Monday with Chappy Karen and our six school leaders. Our leaders will be a part of two thousand or so Primary students from Queensland and Northern N.S.W who will hear from a variety of leaders from our community. Our school leaders will report back on their experiences in the next newsletter.

On Monday 10th March, between 11.45am and 2:30pm, Springwood High will be running a SECONDARY EXPERIENCE AFTERNOON for Year 6 and 7 students from Springwood Road, Springwood Central and Chatswood Hills State Schools. The aim of the day is to take the mystery out of secondary school whilst also providing a fun and educational experience for participating children.

Students will have the opportunity to:

- Access specialist facilities and participate in high school lessons such as science and art
- engage in workshop lessons
- enjoy a range of activities
- be entertained by our talented student performance groups
- participate in performing arts, touch and netball extension lessons

Permission notes and further information will be sent home soon. There is no cost for this opportunity.

Curriculum Corner

This week teachers have been taken off line to undergo planning sessions with our Head of Curriculum. Teacher planning and time to engage in professional dialogue are crucial to the ongoing development of staff. On Wednesday afternoon teachers met with teachers from our cluster schools to plan for moderations sessions to be held later this year. This meeting allows teachers to develop a common understanding around assessment items across the four schools in our area.

Uniform and Behaviour

I have had to deal with a number of incidents this week involving students throwing sticks or rocks. On both occasions another student was injured. Fortunately the injuries were minor but could have been worse. Students need to be reminded that at Chatswood Hills State School rocks and sticks are not to be picked up and definitely not thrown.

Students looked great at the full school Leaders Induction Parade this week. Thank you to parents and students for supporting our uniform.

Key Dates - School Disco

SENIOR DISCO FINISHES AT 7:45pm!!!

Our first disco is on tomorrow night, 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.

Bailee R for excellent handwriting and for always trying your best.

Roger T for writing excellent sentences to describe characters emotions.

Tori M for excellent writing about characters emotions.

Kihan Z for always being an "active listener" and using beautiful manners.

Jordana H for using great persuasive language and being a hard worker.

Nevech W for always working so hard on your "Must do" boxes.

Cassie M for working beautifully and making great improvements .

Zak B for being a great listener at all times.

Jessie C for trying hard to sound out all the letters in your journal writing.

Martin C for settling in well at your new school and for excellent spelling and reading.

Nina B for being a caring, helpful and hardworking student in class.

Hayley B for using our word of the week correctly and working to the best of your abilities.

Hamish O for being very helpful during the first 2 weeks of school.

Phezy K for always trying your best and being an excellent learner.

Jade R for working independently to describe a character's feeling.

From the Guidance Officer

Our friendships are important to us all. Children are no different. It is not always easy for children to know how to manage friendships effectively. Parents and carers can help children learn the kinds of friendship skills they will need as they grow and develop. Friendships skills are developmental meaning they develop as they become older e.g. younger children are learning how to take turns whereas understanding another's feelings and perspective takes more time. I will leave a handout at the Office entitled "Helping Kids With The Ups and Downs Of Friendships" for any interested parents and carers.

Jenny Hickey- Guidance Officer

Chappy at Chats

Kids Club

Kids Club is for students in Years 4 to 7 and meets during the first lunch break on Thursdays. We play games, participate in craft and activities. We are getting to know each other, learning about God and the Bible. Parent permission needs to be given for children to be able to attend this club and forms can be collected from the office.

A number of students have been asking about a Kids Club for the lower school. At the beginning of Term 2 we will be starting a Kids Club Junior for students in Years 1 to 3. If parents are interested in assisting with this lunchtime club could you please email me at karen@chappy.org.au. More information next newsletter.

Holiday Camps

This week marks the mid-point in the Term and some parents may be making plans for the holidays. SU (Scripture Union) has run camps for students for many years and on the Easter holidays there are some exciting camps on offer for Primary (Years 5 -7) and High School students. Please see Chappy Karen for a brochure with more details of all the camps on offer. All camps will have some Christian input. Some parents may be eligible for a Childcare rebate to assist with the costs.

There are camps for just boys or for boys and girls. There are adventure camps with tubing behind a jet boat, nerf gun wars, BMX riding, exploring the Sunshine Coast, outback survival skills, playing computer games and creating things using technology

Chappy Karen



School Crosscountry

When: Tuesday 4th March

What to Wear: Sport House Colours

Mars- Red, Venus-Green, Mercury- Blue, Pluto- Yellow

Times: 8.45am – Prep

9am- 11yrs, 12yrs, 13yrs

12noon -10yrs

12.30pm- 6yrs, 7yrs, 8yrs

Age Group: Students run in the age group they will be turning by the end of 2014.

Presentations will be awarded at the end of each age division.

Spectators welcome.

Interschool Sport

Interschool netball, soccer and league begins tomorrow 28th February. All paperwork and payments should have been received at the cash window. Cheerleading and social sport for those students not travelling to an outside venue, also starts tomorrow. Good luck to all our Chatswood teams!

P & C News

Email: pandc@chathillss.eq.edu.au

Next P&C meeting: Monday 10th March 6.30pm (AGM & General Meeting) in admin building, all welcome. (meeting usually finished by 8pm most months)

TUCKSHOP

Volunteers are needed to help in the tuckshop on Wednesdays & Fridays. Times required are: 8.30 – 10.30am or 12.30 – 2pm or full day 8.30 – 2pm Please see Sophie in the Tuckshop if you can help.

COOKIE DOUGH

Order forms going home this week – return correct money & order from to the tuckshop by 9am WEDNESDAY 12/3/14 #NO LATE ORDERS ACCEPTED#

AGM (Annual General Meeting) 2014

The AGM is your opportunity as a parent of the school to join the general P&C members to have your opinion heard and have input into school. Being involved in the P&C is a very rewarding experience for both yourself and your child. Children love to see the passion their parents have for the school – which in turn creates great leaders of the future as they will usually follow in your footsteps as a great role model and “get involved” in the community.

2014 AGM being held on Monday 10/3/14 at 6.30pm

(followed by the general meeting) All new & existing persons wishing to join the P&C as a general member are asked to attend this meeting. At the AGM all executive position will be declared VACANT.

If you wish to become an **Executive Committee Member** - **Nominations IN WRITING required to be returned to P&C BOX in office by 2.30pm Friday 7/3/14.** Nomination forms are available from the office. Nominations will only be taken from the voting floor on the night if no written nomination have been received by 2.30pm Friday 7/3/14.

The following positions **WILL BE VACANT** at the AGM (current members stepping down after 4-6 years in these positions.) President, Vice President, Secretary, Assistant treasurer.

The current P&C are looking forward to welcoming parents from any grade to the P&C but we would love to see some new prep – year 3 parents join our committee.

School Banking

School Banking is well and truly up and running and the new automated system is in place. Just a reminder if parents can fill in the deposits form, this saves me some time. No foreign currency as they will be returned, some deposits have had the incorrect amounts written and the appropriate adjustments have been made. There are quite a few students who as yet have not started to bank. Did you know by participating in school banking you also help your school.?

Application form are held in the Admin Office .