27th March, 2014

The Principal’s Perspective

Where has term one gone? It is extremely hard to believe that there is just over one week left before we have our Easter holiday period. I was telling our staff in my weekly memo that I can’t really remember a busier start to any school year. The Great Results initiative really impacted on the workload of schools at the start of the term, but having this extra money injected into our school was worth the added pressure and demands. Our agreement here at Chatswood Hills has been signed off by Dr Jim Watterston, our Director-General, and the students are accessing increased learning opportunities as a result of this. We have many more students taking part in our Literacy Enhancement Program and the additional teacher aides we have employed are eagerly assisting students in their classrooms with reading and numeracy. A couple of classes already have their new interactive whiteboards installed and the remaining rooms will be completed over the vacation period. A copy of our signed Great Results guarantee can be viewed on our school website.

Chatswood Hills is unashamedly proud of our recent success in the inaugural Excel Cup which was an academic competition hosted by Springwood High School. As well as being crowned overall champions for placing first in the entire competition, one of our teams took out both the Humanities and Mathematics titles. The other team that represented our school won the ‘Spirit of the Competition’ award for displaying excellent teamwork and cooperation. Chappy Karen who accompanied our students on the day returned telling me how proud we should all be of these fabulous ambassadors for our school. Our school consistently produces wonderful children and I’ve experienced this first hand throughout my first term here.

Over the last few Fridays both Mr Josey and I have been attending the various interschool sports competitions that our students are currently contesting. We couldn’t have been more impressed with the way these children carried themselves both on and off the field regardless of the scoreboard result. I am also constantly beaming by the pleasantries exchanged when I talk with our kids, whether it is at the school gates, in the playground or classrooms, or when they visit my office for a positive reward. I highlighted at this week’s junior assembly the importance of manners. I always tell children that two of the most powerful terms in the English language are ‘Please and Thank You.’ Having a mastery of these words can pretty much get you whatever you want in life!

Our teachers are currently hosting parent-teacher interviews and I hope you have all booked a timeslot. I have encouraged our classroom teachers to have the students present during these meeting times as well. This three-way reporting process (teacher-student-parent) is far more powerful and productive than just telling parents how little ‘Johnny & Mary’ are going. After all, we want students taking the ultimate responsibility for their own learning and as parents; you have already completed your own schooling requirements. Feedback directly to the student is essential if learning is to improve. Our children need to know the answers to these Visible Learning questions: Where they are going? How they are going? And Where to Next? We want parents playing an active role in the education process in our school, and I’m sure you will all be asking our teachers what you can be doing at home to assist your child to learn and be successful. I look forward to meeting many more of you at these sessions.

This will be the last school newsletter before the Easter Holiday period so I’d like to take this opportunity to wish all in our school community a very happy and safe Easter break. Thanks also for making my first term as principal here at Chatswood Hills an extremely enjoyable and rewarding time. I look forward to leading our school again during term two. Remember that if your child complains that they are bored over the school holidays; give them a book as Reading Gives You Power!

Yours in Education
David Teale
Principal

CHATTY’S DATE CLAIMERS
18th-31st March Life Education Visit
31st March-2nd Apr Year 6/7 Camp
1st April Grandparents Day
4th April End of Term 1
22nd April Term 2 commences

STUDENT ABSENT LINE 3489 2260
The Principal’s Perspective
From the Deputy

Over the last few weeks I have been talking with students about the importance of the Four Cs. Our Four Cs are Care, Common Sense, Cooperation and Consideration. Students are encouraged to demonstrate these qualities throughout their day and if they are “caught” by an adult they may be given a gotcha! These words can also be used at home to reinforce positive behaviour and provide a seamless link between school and home.

If a child’s gotcha gets pulled out of a box on assembly then they are given the opportunity to come up on stage and are given a choice of taking a prize out of the gotcha box.

This week I was on my way to some classes when I overheard a boy in Wombats talking to the gentleman who has been working on the gardens in front of the office and Year One area. He was very polite and sounded very grown up. As a result of me witnessing his behaviour I gave him a gotcha!

Springwood High Excel Cup – We Won!!!

Last week we sent three teams of four students along to the inaugural Excel Cup at Springwood High School. I would like to congratulate all of our teams for their excellent behaviour and hard work.

A special mention goes to team three with Gianluca, Cole, Sohini and Charlie who were awarded the Team Spirit award.

An even extra special mention goes to Team One, with Emily, Nikhat, Jade and Lauren who won the competition and brought the Excel Cup back to Chatswood Hills!

Assembly next week

We will be having a full school assembly on Friday next week at 1-4.5pm instead of the normal time on Monday. At this assembly we will be acknowledging some sporting achievements, presenting the Excel Cup to the winners, presenting badges to our Library Monitors and other awards.

ANZAC SERVICE

Our Anzac Service this year will be held in our school hall on Thursday April 24, after the Easter holidays, at 8:45am. Parents are welcome to attend but please note seating will be limited. As is a tradition at our school individual families and students are welcome to lay flowers or a wreath on behalf of loved ones. Classes will also create their own wreath.

Pastoral Care

Chappy Karen has been running Kids Club for students in Year 4 to 7 and as of next term will also start a Kid’s club for Year 1 to 3. Participation is voluntary and students must have parent permission before they are allowed to attend.

Life Education Van

The Life Education Van leaves next Monday. I would like to thank the Life Education Team for their efforts to provide our students with an informative and important program. Thank you also to parents for supporting the program by letting your children attend.

Uniform and Behaviour

I would like to encourage students to focus on their behaviour over the next two weeks. It is important to remain vigilant as we approach the end of the term. Students who are still on Phase One I would like to congratulate as they receive their Phase One award next week.

Have a safe and wonderful Easter break.

Stephen Josey
Deputy Principal

Principal Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received awards on Assembly:

Robert B for having a wonderful attitude towards learning.
Stuart L for working very hard with your spelling words and writing.
Joey W for your consistent effort and active participation in all classroom activities.
Summer-Rose B for consistently working well in all your school work.
Jake W for outstanding classroom performance.
Lily M for being a conscientious student.
Abbey C for being an enthusiastic student in all subject areas.
Nikhat B for consistent and outstanding results during “Mental Maths”.
Olivia S for going the extra mile with your History research.
Kate S for continually trying your hardest and doing your best.
Kayley S for excellent writing and showing great work habits during class time.
Jazmyn H for fantastic sentence writing for a retell of a familiar story.
Xander K for always being an attentive and co-operative student.
Eddie C for an excellent effort in English and always using great listening skills to learn new work.
Lucas G for always doing your best during writing lessons.
Makayla A for working hard on your editing and being a respectful member of the class.
Luke W for working hard to improve your skills in all subjects.
Jarrant W for doing a really great detailed retell.
Sienna D for always trying your best and doing neat work.
Carter C for mastery of number facts and working mathematically in class.
Ellie F for amazing journal writing and always being a great listener.
Maddison K for working to the best of your abilities in all key learning areas.
Kyaire H for always following the school rules and putting 100% effort into everything you do.
Madelyn M for excellent story writing and for always trying your best.
Heidar A for always putting 100% into your learning.
Jacob A for always being well mannered, well behaved and hard working.

Library Award

Pett for working quietly on mapping in the library with excellent results.
Geckoes for always having lovely Library manners and reading quietly.

From the Guidance Officer

I am collecting names of parents who may be interested in attending a three week “1,2,3 It’s Magic and Emotion Coaching” Parent Course this year. Two courses ran last year. The course would run for 3 weeks from 9.00am-11.30am on a Monday or Tuesday or possibly a Thursday morning depending on which weekend suits best. The course aims to help parents with learning to manage difficult behaviour in children 2-12 years. Parents receive an excellent take-home book to keep and the course for ten dollars. Please register your interest in this worthwhile course with Lea or Jenny in the office and leave your name, phone contact and day most suitable.

Jenny Hickey - Guidance Officer
Chappy at Chats

Kids Club Junior

Kids Club Junior is a new club that will be starting in Week 2 of Term 2 for students in Years 1 to 3. This Club will be held in the empty Prep Classroom during the first lunch break on Mondays. We will be learning about God and the Bible. There will be games, dance and also craft. Parent permission needs to be given for children to attend this club and Kids Club Junior Forms can be collected from the office. If you would like further information, you can email me at karenk@chappy.org.au or I am happy to meet with you to discuss the program.

Excel Cup

Last week, I had the privilege of attending Springwood State High School as 12 very clever and talented Chatswood Hills students participated in groups of four to complete tasks in the areas of Humanities, Science and Mathematics. In Science, the students were required to work as a team to plan and build a bridge that spanned 30 centimetres and could hold 10 weights. They were able to use carefully selected materials like newspaper, Paddle Pop sticks, sticky tape and pipe cleaners which they had to purchase whilst working within a $10 budget. In Humanities, the students were required to write and perform a ballad as well as solving some brain teasers. In Mathematics, they were given pages of problems to be solved in a given time.

On the day the students participated with confidence and were such excellent ambassadors for our school. They should all be commended for their participation, perseverance, creativity, thinking skills and cooperation. The winning team won the Excel Cup and were the leaders in the areas of Humanities and Mathematics. The Team of Maia, Molly, Abdur and Clancy also participated strongly in all areas.

From the Library

Library Monitors will be presented with their badges on the final assembly for the term on Friday April 4 at 1.45pm in the hall. All Parents of these children are welcome to attend. These enthusiastic volunteers assist with shelving resources, distributing lunchtime games, monitoring computers and preparing books for cataloguing. Congratulations and thank you girls!

Lyndell Roberts
Teacher Librarian

District Cross Country

The top 5 qualifiers in all age groups for our school cross country, competed against all other Logan schools at John Paul College yesterday. Well done to all athletes.

Cross Country Champion House

Mercury has won the Chatswood Hills Cross Country shield for 2014.

District Tennis

Congratulations to Robert B who was selected in the Logan District Tennis team.

Swimming Champions 2013

Unfortunately our swimming champions from 2013 did not receive their Age Championship trophies last year. These will be given to winning students on the last Friday of term.

10yr Harrison B Erika A
11yr Keeley S Jonty G
12yr/13yr Helena W Jaspar G

THIS IS THE LAST PAPER NEWSLETTER WE WILL BE SENDING OUT. NEXT TERM NEWSLETTERS WILL BE SENT BY EMAIL ONLY. IF YOU HAVE NOT REGISTERED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS WITH US PLEASE DO SO ASAP.

Lost Property

We have had a pair of girl’s earrings, a pair of girl’s reading glasses and a mobile phone handed in. Please call in at office if you have lost them. Lost property will be on display outside the office next week. Please check the box if items have been lost. All items in lost property are unnamed. Please ensure all items of clothing are named.

P & C News

Email: pandc@chathillss.eq.edu.au

School Banking

The new automated systems only allows me to redeem the students rewards one per week, if your child has requested two it will arrive a bit later.
Please fill in your child’s deposit book as this saves me some time. Please send your deposit book so it can be stamped. Over the last few weeks students have had the incorrect deposit amounts and they have been adjusted accordingly. Sorry only one deposit per week the new system will not allow me to make two if you had missed a banking day.
Please no foreign coins they will be sent back. Put on your calender at home “School Banking is Thursday”, it is a pity some students start up an account then loose interest, banking teaches us how to control our finances. Only a few more weeks to go before our Bronze Certificates are handed out for students who have banked ten consecutive weeks.

Thank you
Terry Hodges
School Bank Co-Ord.

Vacancy-School Crossing Supervisor

A casual position exists for a School Crossing Supervisor at the school. Up to 6.25 hours a week, split shifts (7.55-8.40am, 2.25-2.55pm)
Remuneration $26.90 per hour.
Applications close Thursday 20th March.
Enquiries to the school office or Peter Young. TMR, 55851871 peter.z.young@tmr.qld.gov.au