29th May, 2014

The Principal’s Perspective

I hope you have noticed the posters that are up at various locations around our school titled, “Does your child have a chance of being successful?” If you haven’t, then you can view it in this newsletter where we’ve placed a copy for you. The purpose of these posters is to heighten awareness of how vital it is to be at school each and every day. I know that missing a day of school here and there may seem harmless enough, but as you will see on the poster if your child averages a day a fortnight away from school, they will be almost a year and a half behind other students over their schooling lifetime. I’m not sure what was so special about last Thursday & Friday 22 and 23 May, but on these days our school attendance was the highest it has been all year. We had 97.4 and 97.6 per cent of children at school. As a school we have set a target of at least 95% attendance for the year and we are currently sitting at 94.1%. At Chatswood we want to reward those students who are here each and every day, so at the end of this semester those children will go into an attendance draw to win some really cool prizes. We understand that everyone gets sick from time to time so long as you have contacted the school to explain why your child was absent, then they will be eligible for the draw as well. There are always amazing things happening here in our great school, so please ensure that your child is here at school and on time every day so that they have the best chance of being successful!

Last week I read an article in the Courier Mail which concerned me greatly. The story highlighted the belief that reading really isn’t seen as a masculine thing to do. The opening sentence read, ‘Too many boys are made to feel “ashamed” of reading because it’s not seen as blokey.’ The remainder of the article was discussing that some authors are calling upon parents of boys to help make reading more acceptable. You can imagine why this story resonated with me as I am constantly promoting reading as the most important skill and gift we can give to our children. In fact I’m extremely proud that my ‘Reading Gives You Power’ message is being heard and actioned by our kids here at CHSS. Early on Monday morning I had the pleasure of calling Oliver O’s mum from our Koala prep classroom as his teacher had sent him up to the office to celebrate his reading and writing progress. He proudly shared with me that he constantly reads at home with his mother and that was the secret to his success. I felt that his mother needed to know what an awesome job she was doing in helping him to read. She was over the moon to receive this feedback when I called her. Mr Josey and I talked about this article and we’ve decided that in the near future we are going to foster a love of reading with our male students by hosting a ‘Real Men Read’ event. I can’t take credit for the name as it was Mr J’s brainchild, but stay tuned for more details of this.

At last week’s well attended P&C meeting I was asked why the school newsletter is now only published once a fortnight instead of each week as it used to be. I outlined that whilst I understand that communication between the school and the home was vital, I believe that the principal of a school should be the leader of teaching and learning. So in order to make sure that this is the case, I spend a great deal of time each and every day in classrooms assisting where possible to enhance the teaching and learning process. Like everywhere else in society, schools are now extremely busy places and our administration team feels that the fortnightly newsletter sufficiently communicates our current school agenda and priorities. A number of our teachers are also in the habit of sending out their own class newsletters or directly email parents to keep families up to date about the various happenings within their own rooms. As a
school we are also constantly updating and improving our school website and Facebook page, so these are also tools which help to keep our community informed. If you ever want more information or wish to discuss anything concerning our school, my door is always open and I’d love to meet with you.

In closing, I am very excited to report that my time as principal here at Chatswood Hills has been extended until at least the end of term 3, and quite possibly for the remainder of this year. I am very much enjoying learning and working with everyone in this fabulous community. Hopefully this news pleases you all as much as it did me!

Yours in Education
David Teale
Principal

From the Deputy

Thank you to the 285 students and their parents who attended the second school disco last Friday night. The Discos this year are continuing to become bigger and better. The 126 participants at the senior disco was one of the highest numbers in recent times. The final disco for the year is scheduled for Friday August 15 next term.

I would like to thank the P and C representatives for running another successful BBQ which really adds to the atmosphere and community feel for the night. Thank you to the teaching staff who give up their Friday night to make the discos happen. Your contribution does not go unnoticed.

At the request of students through the student council, Friday’s disco had three lucky door prizes. Thank you to Mr Prieditis for donating first prize. The student council is an important forum that provides a voice for students to share their ideas on how to improve the school.

Loom Band Day for Chaplaincy

Last week was Chaplaincy week but due to the proximity to NAPLAN it was decided by the Student Council to postpone our school’s fundraiser to the last week of school. On Thursday June 26 we will be having a Free Dress and Loom Band day. For a gold coin donation students can wear free dress and bring along their Loom Bands. A prize will be given to the longest and the most creative for Years P to 2, 3 to 5 and 6 to 7. Winners will be announced after Star Factor in the afternoon. Money raised will go to our school chaplaincy program. Loom bands can only be worn on that day. Chappy Karen will have Loom bands for sale during this week.

So get looming!

Mabel Park Brain Day

Last week we sent 16 students with Chappy Karen to complete in the Mabel Park Brain Day challenge. Our students did very well with one of our teams winning a Highly Commended Award. Congratulations to Molly, Charlie, Sohini and Kathryne.

Storm Cup

On Tuesday we sent 12 students with Miss Payne to Springwood High School’s Storm Cup. While we didn’t win this year one of our teams won the Spirit Award. Congratulations to Melody, Jazlyn, Rania and Ashleigh.

AFL

Miss Taylor and Mr Teale took a team of boys and a team of girls away on Tuesday to complete in the Lions Cup. Our girls team finished 3rd in their pool while our boys’ team went through the competition undefeated after an inspiring pep talk from our leader! Congratulations to both teams on a great result.

Brave Hearts

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 five 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 June 18 in the hall. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the office. Notes will go out soon. Payment and permission forms need to be returned by Tuesday June 17.

UNSW Competition

It is that time of the year again for the UNSW competitions. These assessments are open to anyone who would like to participate. Please be aware that there is a cost associated with the tests. Students from around Australia and the Asia Pacific participate. Over recent years the school has performed well in these assessments and I would like to encourage our students to be involved.

Next Wednesday we will have 13 students sitting the UNSW Science test.

The dates for the UNSW tests are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>Sitting Date</th>
<th>Closing Date for Payment</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Wednesday June 4</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Monday June 16</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>$17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Tuesday June 17</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>$11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tuesday July 29</td>
<td>Tuesday June 24</td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Tuesday August 12</td>
<td>Tuesday June 24</td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Have a great weekend.

Stephen Josey
As we are coming towards the end of the semester, it can only mean one thing……report cards!  The use of the 5 point report system (A, B, C, D & E - Years 4-7, VH, H, S, D, SR - years 1 – 3 and Applying, Making Connection, Woking Within, Exploring, Becoming Aware - Prep students) has the ability to cause minor confusion amongst students and parents when interpreting their child’s academic result.

When reading through your child’s report and a ‘C’, ‘Sound’ or ‘Working With’ is present, it is important to remember the following:

- A ‘C’, ‘Sound’ or ‘Working With’ no longer means that the student is ‘middle of the class’.  It represents that your child has met the age appropriate criteria in that learning area.
- It means that your child is working at an appropriate standard for their year level.
- Most importantly, it means that your child is on track, or is academically where he/she needs to be.

In saying all of the above, it is important to talk to your child about their achievement as to help guide you in building a thorough understanding of their attitude and level of effort.  So this semester, Celebrate the C!

Olivia Wells
Head of Curriculum

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**Principal Awards**

Congratulations to the following students who received awards on Assembly.

- **Kayley S** for fantastic character descriptions and neat handwriting.
- **Coddy C** for challenging yourself and rocketing with your writing.
- **Jerry P** for a fantastic improvement in your learning and work habits.
- **Aolani H** for always putting in a great effort towards your school work.
- **Connor K** for working quietly and diligently on all tasks.
- **William S** for working so hard to learn your letters and sounds.
- **Angus M** for always putting 100% effort into your work and always willing to help others.
- **Marlene S** for making excellent progress in reading.
- **Amelia R** for some wonderful writing and reading.
- **Grace P** for excellent writing and spelling.
- **Nicolas S** for being a considerate and caring class member, always willing to help others.
- **Ashton B** for staying on task and giving all learning activities a go.
- **Alexander S** for an outstanding story map, complete with detailed pictures and neat colouring.

- **Renae C** for excellent reading and for always working well in every subject.
- **Kieran C** for always being a responsible class member.
- **Kirra M** for your commitment to learning and using the 4C’s at all times.
- **Alarni K** for your persistent and industrious effort on all classroom tasks.
- **Bailey C** for putting more effort into your homework and trying to focus more during the school day.
- **Christian P** for working industriously regardless of the tasks undertaken.
- **Hope G** for outstanding effort in History.
- **Amy-Lee R** for demonstrating consideration for peers and common sense during classroom activities.
- **Melody F** for a fantastic effort with vocabulary in your narrative.
- **Kiara K** for being a quiet achiever who always gives her best.
- **Ellora S** for being an attentive and enthusiastic student.

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**Library Award**

**Burleigh** for excellent efforts in mapping, sensible sharing and quiet borrowing.

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**Chappy at Chats**

**Parent Connect**

The next Parent Connect will be in Week 8 on Thursday the 12th of June in the school Library from 2 pm.  Refreshments supplied.  This is a time for parents to connect and chat together and there is no set agenda for this meeting.

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**Mabel Park State High School Brain Day**

Last Thursday, I had the privledge of attending the Brain Day Challenge with 16 talented students.  The students followed instructions and worked in their groups to make a Space Shuttle.  Then they planned, created and tested a Water Rocket made out of a 1.25 Litre plastic bottle.  The students then had the opportunity to test their rocket by adding compressed air and launching them on the school oval. Some rockets travelled more than 40 metres and the testing process was impressive. One team from Chatswood Hills was awarded the Highly Commended team for the Year 6 group.

Whilst not all of our teams were awarded prizes, all of the students represented our school with character, clever thinking, cooperative group work, care, common sense and creative flair.

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**The Logan Lighthouse Chaplaincy Dinner**

Last Friday evening, The Logan Lighthouse Chaplaincy Dinner was held at the Logan Entertainment Centre and a small number of parents from our school attended.  At this stage approximately $50 000 was raised for 34 Chappies in the Logan area.  A most enjoyable evening.

Chappy Karen
From the Guidance Officer

I have a few names of parents who are interested in attending a “1,2,3 It’s Magic & Emotion Coaching” course for Mon/Tues morning 9-11.30am and a couple of parents for a Thursday 9-11.30am. However I do not have a minimum number of parents for any one day. If you are interested please put your name down at the office so that this worthwhile course can be presented at Chatswood Hills.

Jenny Hickey - Guidance Officer

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If your child misses…</th>
<th>That equals…</th>
<th>Which is…</th>
<th>And over 13 years of schooling that’s…</th>
<th>Which means the BEST your child might perform is…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 day per fortnight</td>
<td>20 days per year</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly <strong>1.5 years</strong></td>
<td><strong>Your child</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Other children</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>40 days per year</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td><strong>OVER 2.5 years</strong></td>
<td><strong>Your child</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Other children</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Equal to finishing in grade 10</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2 days per week</td>
<td>80 days per year</td>
<td>16 weeks per year</td>
<td><strong>OVER 5 years</strong></td>
<td><strong>Your child</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Other children</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Equal to finishing in grade 7</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>3 days per week</td>
<td>120 days per year</td>
<td>24 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly <strong>8 years</strong></td>
<td><strong>Your child</strong></td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Other children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Equal to finishing in grade 4</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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1 or 2 days a week doesn’t seem much, however…….

At Chatswood Hills State School, **EVERY DAY COUNTS**. 
*Always our Best.*
From The Library

This year National Simultaneous Storytime brought together 400,000 children to listen to Too Many Elephants in this House by Ursula Dubosarsky and Andrew Joyner. NSS celebrates the wonderful talent of our Australian authors and illustrators. At CHSS all P-3 students listened to this story during their library lesson last Tuesday and Wednesday. Much laughter was heard throughout the story.

The Premier's Reading Challenge is an annual state-wide event for students in Prep-Year 7. The Premier challenges children to reach a specific reading goal to receive a certificate from him. Students in Prep –Year 2 experience or read 20 books. This will be done in class library time. Year 3-Year 7 will have individual Reading Logs to record the books read from 20 May to 5 September. Year 3 and 4 read 20 books and Year 5-7 read 15 books. Please encourage your children to participate in this challenge.

Lyndell Roberts
Teacher Librarian

Strings News

Strings rehearsal will be held next Wednesday in the Hall at 7.40am.

P & C News

Email: pande@chathillss.eq.edu.au

A Pizza and Popper Day will be held on Monday, 16th June for first break. Order forms will be sent home this week, please get your orders in quickly so you don't miss out!

Yatala Pies Orders have been completed, thanks to everyone who supported this fundraiser. Pies MUST BE COLLECTED on Wednesday, 11th June from the school hall between 2.00pm - 2.30pm ONLY. Pies need to be refrigerated so cannot be held past this time. Contact Danielle on 0402 288 597 if you have any questions.

Our monthly meeting was held last week with a lot of topics discussed. If you would like to receive the minutes please email the P&C to request a copy. The next meeting will be on Monday 16th June.

Year 6 Shirts

Please note that we received enough orders to place a second round order for year 6 shirts only. Any payment made with credit card will be processed by Tuesday 3rd June.

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Correction on email address for uniform shop that was in the last newsletter - the correct one is:- PandCUniformshop@chathillss.eq.edu.au

Orders can be emailed to the above address or any uniform questions you might have.

Please note the uniform shop will be SHUT on Tuesday 10th June 2014. Sorry for any inconvenience.

School Banking

We are now half way through term 2. It is good to see lots of students have been redeeming their ten tokens for their school banking rewards.

By now I should not have to use the automated system to collate student tokens, for over the last few banking days I have adjusted what each student has accumulated. However if you believe that there is a mistake please let me know.

Some students have not banked for some time and notices have gone out to encourage them to continue banking. It is undoubtedly an advantage if we can assist children to have an understanding of money matters early in life. Please remember that if a student leaves the school to attend another, their account will follow them. All you need to do is see the new school’s Banking Co-ordinator as they will have been given a new student identification number.

Terry Hodges
School Banking Co-Ordinator

Bookclub

"Issue 4 of Bookclub catalogues went out to the classes last week and all orders and monies are due back to the tuckshop by Friday the 6th of June. Please have the correct money with your order as change is limited. No cash in the house? You can pay for your child's Bookclub order via credit card at www.scholastic.com.au/payment Just record the receipt number, total amount and your choice of books on your order form and hand it in at the tuckshop for collation.

Community News

Shailer Park High Enrolments

Enrolments to Shailer Park SHS in 2015 are open. Parents and carers should be aware of new quality options available for secondary education in our school. Our school has raised the stakes for quality under our High Standards and High Expectations school improvement journey. Discipline, pride and work ethic are embedded in our school that has undergone a revolution in curriculum, teaching and learning and standards.

New and continuing to refurbish facilities and a switch to Apple iPad Mini as the preferred “Bring Your Own Device” (BYOD) or payment plan purchase from 2015. Smarter resources contained within the current costs of schooling to parents providing 24/7 learning access. Click the link below for an Enrolment Form
Enrolment interviews will only be required where
  • a parent/carer requests one
  and is mandatory where
  • application for entry to Academy or scholarship
    application is being lodged
  • Special Needs or family circumstances such as shared
    guardianship or other family matter
  • a serious medical condition requires management

Our Prospectus documentation for 2015 is being produced now
and released early in semester 2.
We look forward to seeing your child with us in 2015.

Shailer Park State High School
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