It is unbelievable to think that the school year has just two weeks left and that this will be our last newsletter for 2014. At the time of writing this I am still uncertain as to whether I will be returning as principal of Chatswood Hills or not next year. I certainly hope that I am, but in any case I’d like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in our whole school community for making me feel so welcome here. Your fabulous support certainly makes my challenging role that little bit easier. It has been an absolute pleasure and a privilege to lead such a dedicated and hardworking staff that are so committed and passionate about improving the learning opportunities for our students. Undoubtedly the majority of you are aware of this and that is the reason why you entrust your children to our care here at CHSS. This week we welcomed all of our new Preps and their families as they came for an orientation visit, and before too long I’m sure they will realise what a wonderful choice of school they have made.

A big thank you to our terrific P&C for the awesome support they continually provide to our school. Every morning this week they welcomed our new families during the prep orientation visits, provided tea and coffee, and shared information and ran guided tours of our facility. I fully understand how busy the world and our lives have become, but your child or children are your most valuable commodity and I strongly urge you to become an active member of your school’s P&C. It is both important and rewarding to have a say in your child’s education and they will love you even more for showing an interest in what, and how they are learning. One of my many mantras is that ‘Parents are Partners in Education’ and I’ve especially enjoyed working alongside our terrific P&C team. I truly hope that many of you make the time to become part of this committee next year.

Student safety is certainly paramount as far as the school setting and community goes, and during this year I’ve been made aware of the ongoing concerns many parents have around school drop offs and pick-ups. The local council has been liaising with the school and our parent body and I wish to advise you all of changes that will come into force for the 2015 school year. There will be no parking allowed at any time in the cul de sac on Gibbon Street and there will also be significant alterations to how the Magellan Street turn around area adjacent to our school oval operates. Council has advised that there will be changes in signage occurring over the Christmas vacation in both of these areas, so I just wanted to give all in our community who use these school entrances a heads up on this. The changes have been designed to assist student safety and well-being.

Student reports will go home on the last Thursday of the term and I’m sure all families are eager to see how student learning has progressed during Semester Two. Over the school holidays I’d encourage you to discuss your child’s report card with them and to find some areas to target for the coming year. Across our school this year we have worked hard to help students understand the importance of individual goal setting and to obtain regular feedback on their progress in order to improve. Also on the last Thursday all returning students for 2015 will visit their new classroom and where possible, their teacher for next year as well. Thanks to those parents who did submit an educational request for classes and due consideration has been given to many factors in student placement. No doubt the majority of you are aware that Day 8 of the new school year determines final staffing and resourcing for all schools, so new enrolments and changes in student numbers may necessitate alterations at this stage.

Finally I’d like to wish everyone in our wonderful school community a very merry and peaceful Christmas and a fabulous start to the New Year, and hope that you enjoy spending it with those that matter most to you. Please remember that if your children ever complain about being bored over the school
holidays, hand them a book, encourage them to read, and remind them that “READING GIVES YOU POWER!”

Yours in Education
David Teale
Principal

From the Deputy

I cannot believe that this is the last newsletter for the year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, students and parents that I get to work with every day. It is great to be able to wake up in the morning and look forward to coming to work ready to make a difference and together we have done just that. Having said all of this I am looking forward to the Christmas holidays and time with my family.

Before we finish there are a lot of things that need to be done. My newsletter today outlines most of these. Next Thursday we will be celebrating all that we have achieved together at the P and C Christmas Carols. This is always a fun night. Please be aware that children are the responsibility of parents on the night.

I look forward to seeing the year out with you over the next couple of weeks and look forward to the P and C Christmas Carol night where I will be wearing a very cool shirt especially picked for the night!

Sport and Academic Parade

This term is a report card term, reports will go out on the Thursday December 11. Due to tight timelines we are unable to release Report Cards earlier than this. Students who achieve a very high level of academic achievement will receive a special award presented at our academic parade on the second last day of the school year in the school hall at 8:45am. Class teachers will let you know if your child is receiving an award.

We will also be holding a special parade to honour our sporting achievements tomorrow at 1:45pm in the school hall. Parents are welcome to both assemblies.

Please note that there will be no more assemblies on Monday.

Classes 2015

The process for organising staffing and classes for next year starts at the beginning of Term 4 and continues to after Day 8 2015. To allow us to make decisions based on accurate information it is important to inform the school office if you have decided that your family will not be returning next year. Likewise if you know of anyone who wishes to come to Chatswood Hills State School next year then they need to contact the school as soon as possible and make an appointment.

Students will have an opportunity to meet their teachers for 2015 on Thursday December 11 when we do the shuffle up.

PREP Orientation morning

It has been great to see all of our new Prep students for 2015 visit our Prep classes and it has been great to see our current Prep and next year’s Year Ones all grown up and looking after our visitors. Thank you to our Prep teachers for making the mornings go so smoothly.

Behaviour and Uniform

It is important that students are reminded to follow our school rules, expectations and uniform throughout the next two weeks. Our behaviour policy continues until right up to the last day of the school year.

Year 6 Captains for 2015

Congratulations to our final four candidates for School Captain and Vice School Captain positions. Final positions will be announced on the Academic Parade on Thursday December 11.

Chaplaincy

Students were treated to The JC Epidemic BMX team today. The team showed off their remarkable riding skills and presented a short message on making positive life choices. The whole school got to see the event for free as it was sponsored by our Chaplaincy program.

Year 6 and 7 Graduation
This year’s Year 6 and Year 7 Graduation will be held on Tuesday December 9 2014 at Fitzy’s Hotel and Convention Centre, Bryants Road Loganholme. The Year 6 cohort photograph will be taken at 5pm and the Year 7 cohort photograph will be taken at 5:30pm. Students need to arrive and be ready for their cohort photograph at these times. Due to a tight schedule we will be unable to wait for late arrivals. The photographers, Advancedlife, will be available to take individual and family photos during this time. Payment and orders for this service are to be made directly online to Advancedlife via a password that will be provided on the night. Parents are then invited to attend the official Graduation Certificate Ceremony between 6pm and 6:30pm. After the formal ceremony has concluded at 6:30pm, students will then move to the private function room to enjoy a hot dinner and dessert, followed by dancing. Parents are requested to pick up their students at 8:15pm.

Students do not need to go to any great expense regarding their clothes. Smart casual is all that is required. Students should look presentable.

Due to security reasons NO CAMERAS or MOBILE PHONES will be permitted in the dining room after the Graduation Ceremony.

Have a great Christmas and New Year.

Stephen Josey
Deputy Principal

Principal Awards

Nicholas G for always working independently.
Aaliyah Z for being consistently industrious during all activities.
Amy O for working hard to improve your grades in Maths.
Prudence M for improved effort in Mathematics.
Tarnya P working quickly and quietly on assessment.
Elisse C for displaying a strong effort on English tasks this semester.
Mercedez W for a huge improvement and a huge EFFORT in reading and writing.
Samuel P for being respectful and challenging yourself.

Joel B for always striving to complete your work to the best of your ability.
Izaaq S for working with increased focus during classtime.
Mia T for putting in a great effort towards reading and writing.
Jordan R for writing complex sentences that are interesting.
Jane S for great improvement in reading.
Brianna M for great work with your reading and producing neat written work.
Jazmyn H for working very hard to complete activities.
Josiah P for great improvement in reading and for working hard in class.
Sophie H for excellent work on your historical narrative for History.
Madinyn B for working so hard on your reading.
Danny K for using fantastic before, during and after questions while reading.
Hazel J for outstanding effort and great improvement in reading.
Mia A for always giving 100% in all activities.

Citizenship Award

Paula P Kangaroos
Sophia L Kingfisher
Poppy I Quolls
Mia C Wombats
Drew H Goannas
Angus M Cassowaries
Zac M Emus
Dilana H Kookaburras
Emily C Possums
Jake W Geckoes
Zhadae C Koalas
Rory A Lorikeets
Tamara J Bilbies
Mia G Platypus
Reyes B Echidnas
Emma H Wallabies
Aneisha C Stradbroke
Delta O Miami
Tahnee H Karragarra
Bella S Russell
Kate S Moreton
Drew C Tallebudgera
Jade M Peel
Brooke B Platypus
Makayla A Possums
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**Chappy at Chats**

**JC Epidemic BMX Spectacular**

Today is the day when JC Epidemic BMX Spectacular will be on show at our school. Two world class BMX freestyle riders will be performing BMX tricks and aerial craziness using a Half Pipe structure. Two riders will be performing two shows for our school community funded mainly by money raised on the Loom Band Day held earlier in the year. A message about making positive life choices will be included in the show. I hope that the school community enjoy the show.

Today we would also like to recognise the amazing achievements of Maia C, a Year 5 student who placed 2nd at the 2014 World Championships for BMX Racing for 11 year old girls. In 2013, Maia was the National Champion and World Champion 10 year old girls. In 2012 she was the National Champion for 9yera old girls.

A BIG THANK YOU To Victor Ronque for providing First Aid Assistance which hopefully will not be needed but important at such events.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a safe holiday break full of fun times shared with family and friends. I encourage you to take time and celebrate with your child or children some of the significant things they have achieved throughout this year.

Chappy Karen

**Strings News**

**Monday, 1st Dec** - last lesson for the year. Please have a super week of practice ready for last lesson and concert. No lesson on Monday, 8th Dec. I will be at school late on this day as I have a performance at another school. Any instruments or music that have to be returned can be bought up to the music room after morning tea.

**Christmas Concert (Thursday, 4th Dec)** - all string players will be performing. I am having to be at another school on this night for another Concert so the strings will be performing early in the evening. Reminder to wear free dress with lots of Christmas cheer added eg, shirts, Christmas themed ears, jewels etc. Let's get in the spirit of the concert! *All school loan instruments will be left with Ms Williams after the concert.*

Penny Williams
String Instructor

**Past Student Achievements**

Congratulations to Tegan F who topped Year 9 at Shailer Park High for Japanese and Maths. She also received a Silver Academic Award. Well done Tegan.

**P & C News**

Email: pandc@chathillss.eq.edu.au

**School Banking**

Dear Super Savers

Thank you for your wonderful saving efforts for 2014. Not only have you saved your money and received some fun rewards but you also helped our school raise $1649 in commission to go towards fundraising efforts. There are no more handballs or swimming bags.
We would like to let you know some important dates for School Banking.
* Thursday 27th November 2014 – Last Day to Order Rewards
* Thursday 4th December 2014 – Last Banking Day
* Thursday 5th February 2015 (week 2) – First Banking Day

To those of you leaving the school at the end of the year we wish you all the best with your new adventures and remember if you still have siblings banking at the school, you are welcome to send your banking book in with them to continue your saving journey.
Wishing you and your family a wonderful Christmas break and we look forward to seeing you back in 2015.

Kind Regards

T and R Hodges
School Banking Coordinators

Christmas Carols & Raffle

Carols will be on again this year along with a fantastic raffle! Come to the hall on Thursday, 4th December for a fantastic night, see over for more details. We would like to say a massive Thankyou to TPA Furniture, Arbonne, McDonalds and Seaworld for donating some amazing prizes. Tickets have been sent home already, 5 per family. All tickets MUST be returned with payment, or unsold to the tuckshop by Monday, 1st December. Uniform Shop

News

* Hats are available to purchase at the tuckshop - must have correct money ($10) to purchase .
* Limited edition Signature Chatty Bears available now! Sizes Large - $20  Small $15 adopt them at the Uniform Shop on Thursday mornings.
* If your child has grown out of or is leaving the school we kindly accept donations of the old uniforms - bring them down to the uniform shop at the hall on a Thursday morning. Please make sure they are clean, still in good condition (no holes, stains, faded, ripped) so they can be put in the pre owned boxes.

* email address for uniform shop - PandCUniformshop@chathillss.eq.edu.au

* Pick up dates for collecting pre ordered uniforms - These are the only dates/times the uniform shop will be open prior to school starting back in January 2015.

Thursday 22nd January 2015 - 10am till 2pm
Friday 23rd January 2015 - 3pm till 6pm
Saturday 24th January 2015 - 10am till 2pm

Reminder the last Thursday the uniform shop will be open for this year is Thursday 4th December 2014.

Year 6 Senior Shirts for 2015

Order forms for the year 6 commemorative shirts will go out in the early weeks of school starting back in 2015. These shirts do take approx 7-10 weeks from ordering date until they arrive back at the school - this is usually around April/May. So keep an eye out for the forms next year approx cost is $32-$37

Book Club

Last book clubs have been sent home already. Orders must be in at the tuckshop by 28th November. NO LATE ORDERS will be accepted this time. Any orders received after this date will be returned to the child. As this is the Christmas issue, all orders will be packaged in black plastic to avoid present snooping. If you have any queries please contact Esther Daley on 0413 222 364

Chatswood Hills SS

Christmas Carols

Don’t forget to bring along your camera for a family photo in Santa’s Sleigh!

Free Entry

Lucky Door Prizes

Major Prize Raffle drawn

Seaworld Family Holiday

Any remaining unsold tickets will be available on the night, $2 each.
Thursday 4th December at 6pm @ the School Hall

P & C sausage sizzle will start from 5pm with Sausages for $2.50 and cold drinks for $2.

Please bring your family, friends and a blanket to sit on. If you are unable to sit on the ground you are welcome to bring a chair, however we ask that you remain at the back of the hall.

This year we are again collecting gifts for those who are less fortunate in our community. Anna from Kingston East Neighbourhood Group (KENG) has asked that the gifts be themed as “Back to School”. As always we will be looking for parents to assist with the setup, clean up and BBQ. If you are able to donate a small amount of time please phone Danielle on 0402 288 597 or email pandc@chathillss.eq.edu.au

Helping Hands Chatswood Hills School Community Survey
- $100 gift voucher to be won.

To assist us in providing an OSHC program that meets both your and your child’s individual requirements, we would appreciate if you could please take a couple of minutes to complete this survey.

Please include your name and contact details to be eligible to go into the draw to win a $100 gift voucher. (One survey per family).

Follow this link to complete the survey online; https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9VRC9CK

or email accounts@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au to get a copy emailed to you.

This is your last opportunity to participate as the survey will close on Friday 13 December 2014.

Thank you for your feedback.

Rochedale High School Orientation Days

The Year 7 (2015) Transition Day for Rochedale State High School will be held on Wednesday 3 December 2014. We offer enrolled students the opportunity to attend this event.

- The day will commence at 9.00am and conclude by 2.30pm.
- Students will be expected to wear their primary school uniform and a hat.
- A sausage sizzle will be provided for lunch. Please bring own morning tea and water bottle. Please email Mr David Crase (Head of Department – Junior Secondary) with any dietary requirements. (dcras1@eq.edu.au)
- No transport will be provided by the school and students will have to make their own way to and from the school.

This is an important event and we thank you for your support.

Contact: Junior Secondary Head of Department: Mr David Crase 3340 0480.

The Year 8 (2015) Transition Day for Rochedale State High School will be held on Monday 1 December 2014. We offer enrolled students the opportunity to attend this event. The day will commence at 9.00am and conclude by 2.30pm.
• Students will be expected to wear their primary school uniform and a hat.
• A sausage sizzle will be provided for lunch. Please bring own morning tea and water bottle. Please email Mr David Crase (Head of Department – Junior Secondary) with any dietary requirements. (dcras1@eq.edu.au)
• No transport will be provided by the school and students will have to make their own way to and from the school.

This is an important event and we thank you for your support.

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