

## The Principal's Perspective

Welcome back everyone to the final term for the 2015 school year. The year really is just flying by but I guess if you reflect on the many activities we have held or been involved in across the school over the last twelve months, it is little wonder that this is the case. Just how amazingly good was the CHSS fete just prior to the September school holidays? I have had nothing but glowing feedback about what a sensational and successful community event this was. A huge thanks must go to the P&C fete committee who were a small but select handful of volunteers who worked tirelessly in the lead up to the day, and even harder on the actual date to ensure all in attendance enjoyed themselves. I don't need to name them as they know who they are and don't give selflessly of their time for mere recognition. However it was their enthusiasm and determination that made our fete so great. Thanks must also go to the teachers and staff who also gave up many hours to run their stalls and help out wherever they were required. Sadly quite a number of people who pledged support on the day didn't arrive for whatever reason making those who were there job's that little bit harder, but great things can be achieved when people work together and this is exactly what happened. Fabulous effort everyone!

I have outlined previously in the school newsletter my view on homework in the primary school setting, and those of you who tuned in to last Sunday evening's 60 Minutes program would've seen this reiterated. The report again highlighted the research indicating that pre-set and structured homework in primary school really has very little benefit in improving student learning. In some instances it can even switch children off learning as parent frustration increases in having to supervise this being routinely completed. In our school the expectation is that students are engaged in reading each and every night and spend time mastering instant recall of number facts. Outside of this any homework tasks should be open ended in nature to encourage creativity and problem solving ability or be differentiated to cater for a specific individual learning need. As often as possible I am at the various school gates of a morning handing out 'Gotchas' to those children who made time to read at home the night before. Time together as a family is becoming increasingly precious in this

fast paced world of today, so we don't need you agonising over homework tasks. Instead, why not spend some of this time enjoying a book or magazine together. Nightly reading really is the only homework expectation at Chatswood Hills as Reading Gives You Power!

I mentioned in a previous newsletter that we are very fortunate to have a wireless upgrade recently completed across our school. It is a significant investment of just over \$70 000 that will enable our students increased access to online learning using mobile devices. Our plan moving forward involves setting up a few trial classes in 2016 using enhanced tablet and laptop technology, with a view to eventually having this concept going school wide down the track. We are currently exploring a myriad of options and possibilities of how this might look at CHSS and will continue to keep you informed as this agenda progresses. What I will say up front about this initiative is that children don't learn just because you give them a computer or electronic device. Great teachers and teaching practice will always be the key to improved student learning in schools and I am proud to say that our school is full of staff of the highest quality. I always encourage parents and carers to come along and see the great work our teachers, aides and support staff do here at Chatty each and every day for themselves. A visit to your child's classroom will impress I am sure!

Yours in education,

David Teale

Principal

## From The Acting Deputy Principal

Whilst Trina has been away on leave, I have had the pleasure of being the acting deputy principal. My usual title at Chatswood is the Pedagogical Coach and this role was outlined more recently in one of our previous newsletters.

As this is a new term, it would be great if parents and carers check in with their children about:

1. Any learning goals they are currently working towards.
- 2.

Positive behaviour choices.

3.

Any resources or materials which need replacing, particularly in Years 4 – 6.

At Chatty we are all very passionate about Reading and following on from David's Reading Gives You Power! statement I've included the following information from the Source: [teacher.acer.edu.au](http://teacher.acer.edu.au)

"The Power of a Good Book

It doesn't matter what age you are, there's nothing quite like losing yourself in a good book. But, did you know that reading for enjoyment is also associated with higher academic achievement? A recent large scale study concluded reading for pleasure has 'a powerful influence on children's learning', particularly in developing vocabulary, but also on spelling and maths skills.

Looking at things from the child's perspective offers a different story. Four out of 10 children aged six to 11 didn't want their parents to stop reading aloud to them. The main reason was because it's special time with their parent (78 per cent), but 65 per cent also said reading together was fun, 48 per cent said they were to listen to books that might have been too hard for them, 36 per cent said they simply liked the fact they didn't have to do the reading by themselves, and 35 per cent said they liked to hear the different voices or talk about the books with the person doing the reading. "

When it comes to picking out books students want to read for fun, they want to do the choosing.

So, in a nutshell, we need to provide our kids with opportunities to read books they are interested in and read aloud to them for fun. Visit our school or the local community public library to get you started.

I would like to finish off by thanking everyone for their support whilst I have been embarking on my new learning journey.

Leslie ward

## Principal Awards

Congratulations to the following students who received awards on assembly:

Nathaniel D for writing a fantastic information report and reaching your goals in English.

Remy W for always trying your best during writing groups.

Angelique S for improvement in your writing.

Joshua H for great work learning your popcorn words.

Summer W for great improvement in reading, writing and spelling.

Zhanna Z for consistently producing neat written work and including punctuation.

Tierra V for a huge effort in your reading-recognising your sight words in the story and sounding out other words.

Indigo J for great journal writing.

Myah A for always trying your best at everthing you do.

Bailey E for persistant effort in our writing focus lessons.

Coen A for identifying examples of all action and onomatopoeia as well as using these language devices in your work.

Ryan K for working hard on poetry activities.

Elliot H for excellent participation in poetry activities.

Marsya S for always trying your hardest.

T.J.P for taking pride in your book work and being an active listener.

Riki T for contibuting well to class maths discussions.

Nicole W for consistently working at a high standard.

## Libray Award

Coolum for being a joy to have in the Library, always using the 4C's

## Citizenship Award

Bree A	Wombats
Cassie M	Kingfishers
Eason C	Geckoes
Javahn P	Kookaburras
Takoda G	Koalas
Silvia A	Platypus
Peyton B	Platypus
Maxwell T	Bandicoots
Jinaya F	Bilbies
Haylee S	Lorikeets
Mantha K	Coolum
Ashlyn P	Rainbow
Zahra R	Currumbin

Jazlyn J	Karragarra
Shyne F	Tallebudgera
Andre C	Macleay
Nathan B	Moreton
Oscar S	Peel

Arigatou gozaimasu to all the parents that helped on the Japanese stalls on the day to make them a success. Tokoton Drumming commented that our school fete was one of the best they had ever seen. Also arigatou to P&C who spent hours, day, weeks, in fact months preparing for this wonderful event for our students and community. I know the students had a tanoshikatta time!

Sayounara

Bullen Sensei

## Library News

From The Library

During Term Two we were fortunate to have Bruce and Denise Morcombe speak to our children about child safety. As a result of that visit and to show support for the wonderful work the Daniel Morcombe Foundation continues to do, CHSS has registered to be a part of 'Day for Daniel' on Friday October 30. On that day children are invited to wear something red and make a gold coin donation to the Foundation. This is not a free dress day. A red t shirt, shorts or accessory would be appropriate. All children have the right to feel safe and learn to Recognise, React and Report when they don't. Awareness has been addressed in Library lessons through material provided to the school by the Foundation. Thank you for your support in this worthwhile initiative.

During the term books will be disposed from the library according to age, relevance and condition. These are offered to the students for a donation of 50cents for one book or 3 for \$1.

Lyndell Roberts  
Teacher Librarian

## Lote News

Sensei Says ...

Tanoshikatta! Which means 'it was fun'. Our spring fete which we held at the end of last term was definitely 'tanoshikatta'. Hopefully you enjoyed yourselves and were able to visit our little Japanese sideshow alley and watch one of the two taiko (Japanese drum) performances. Did you try the okonomiyaki (Japanese pancakes)? I got to sneak one in at the end of the night while everyone was watching the fireworks : )





The students documented their experience from start to finish in a learning journal which we showcased alongside Chatty Moo Moo at the Picasso Cows presentation day. This was held on October 8 at the Brisbane Golf Club and we celebrated with other participating schools in the region.

While we didn't win the title, our students thoroughly enjoyed showing off their new creation and all of their hard work. We are exceptionally proud of their efforts and they are certainly considered winners at Chatswood Hills State School. Chatty Moo Moo is now a permanent member of our school community. If you haven't seen her in the flesh, you'll find her near the hall so be sure to keep an eye out!

## Chatty Moo Moo

Our cow has students over the moon!

She may be made of fibre-glass, but Chatty Moo Moo has certainly made a name for herself at Chatswood Hills State School since she was primed, painted and primped as part of Dairy Australia's Picasso Cows program!

As part of our classroom nutrition education, students have spent the last two months learning all about the Australian dairy industry and the benefits of consuming dairy foods such as milk, cheese and yogurt for good health and wellbeing.

Armed with paint and loads of enthusiasm, we chose Fuel for Life as our dairy learning focus, which saw Chatty Moo Moo transformed from a blank life-size fibreglass cow, into a piece of art with an important educational message!



## Music Excursion

# St Mark's Church Music Performance

Last Wednesday on the 7<sup>th</sup> of October, our Year 3 to Year 6 Music students from Senior Choir, Zumba Dance Group, Senior and Junior strings and the Grade 2 vocal ensemble went to St Mark's to perform. We had a lovely time there, performing for the senior citizens who also enjoyed all of the music. St Mark's said it was a pleasure to have CHSS students perform and, that they displayed wonderful manners. Overall, everyone had a good time and St Mark's hope to invite CHSS to do a performance again.

By Jazlyn J

## Chappy At Chats

### Operation Christmas Child Boxes

Packing an Operation Christmas Child box is a voluntary initiative where children have the opportunity to bring joy and hope to a child in a desperate situation around the world. Often when a child receives an Operation Christmas Box, this will be the first gift that the child has received.

Here are a number of ways that your family can be involved if you are interested.

1. Pack a box. See Chappy Karen for a brochure and a box to pack
2. Donate an item to be included in a box packed at school with a range of items donated by different people. Some classes may choose to pack a box or a number of boxes as a class.
3. Donate \$9 which is used for the costs involved in delivering the boxes.  
If packing a box, firstly choose age and gender. Then fill a box with a selection of items appropriate for the age and gender chosen.  
These are some ideas of items to include in a box
  1. Something to wear (T-shirt, polo shirt, shorts, cap, sandals)
  2. Something to love (teddy bear, doll, soft toy)
  3. Something special (Carry bag, sunglasses, bangles, stickers, necklaces, crafts, a personal note, a photo of yourself)
  4. Something for school (Exercise book, pencil case, pens, pencils, colouring pencils, sharpener, chalk, eraser)
  5. Something to play with (tennis ball, cars, skipping ropes, marbles, musical instruments, yoyo, slinky, finger puppets, , wind up torch)
- 6.

Something for personal hygiene (soap, face washer, toothbrush, hairbrush, comb, scrunches, hair ties)

7. If possible, include \$9 to pay for shipping and other costs involved in delivering the box.

\*\*\*All boxes or items need to be given to Chappy Karen by \*\*\*

Monday the 26<sup>th</sup> of October so that boxes can be finalised and dropped off to the Distribution centre by the 30<sup>th</sup> of October.

Due to regulations of countries where boxes are being sent, please do not include the following -

- \* No Items that leak or melt
- \* No Food or lollies of any kind
- \* No used or damaged items
- \* No breakable items
- \* No items that can scare or harm a child including war or pirate related items such as toy guns, knives, military figures, or skull and crossbones
- \* No gambling related items
- \* No items with a religious, racial or political nature

Parenting Seminar Date Claimer - Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> of November 6:30 pm for a 7 pm start

Parenting a child or children is such a special gift and yet there are times it can be challenging to know how to best guide our children to reach their potential.

On Tuesday the 17<sup>th</sup> of November, there will be a parenting seminar on Developing Resilience in children where a guest speaker Peter Janetski will present practical ideas on how to develop resilience in children. Resilience is the ability to cope with change or challenges

and be able to bounce back during difficult times.

Peter Janetski is a regular radio presenter on 96.5 Talking Life Program.

A movie will be shown for children in a nearby room and a free Sausage Sizzle will be provided by the Chaplaincy Program from 6:15 pm.

To express interest in attending, please email Chappy Karen ([karenk@chappy.org.au](mailto:karenk@chappy.org.au)) for catering purposes and room set up. In your email, please include names of adults and children attending.

Chappy Karen

## Athletics

Congratulations to Alarni K, Levi H, Taizy H, Melody & Sunny F.C. and Jade A who competed in the Metropolitan East Athletics Championships at QEII before the holidays.

Melody, Taizy and Arlarni all qualified to become member of the Met East Team to compete in Townsville at the QLD Titles.

Taizy- 2nd long jump, 3rd 100m

Melody- 3rd 200m, 6th long jump

Alarni- 1st discus (a new Met East record), 1st shotput

Jane Taylor

## Lost Property

The lost property is building up again. We have an asthma puffer, a camera and a sports medallion at the office. Please contact the office if you have lost these items.

## Brisbane Football Stars Program

Where: Chatswood Hills school oval

When: Mondays 26/10, 2/11, 9/11, 16/11

Time: 2.45pm - 3.45pm

Ages: P-Yr 6

Cost: \$55

All enquiries to Marco Ahlrichs 0402 041 475

email: [bfs-coordinator@outlook.com](mailto:bfs-coordinator@outlook.com)

## Logan North Milo T20 Cricket Blast Program

Homestead Park, Jodie St Shailer Park

\$120 for 8 weeks

Wednesday 21st October 5.30pm-7pm

Bonus Pack: Brisbane Heat Pack, shirt, hat and a bag

Professionally delivered program

To find out more visit

[PLAYCRICKET.COM.AU](http://PLAYCRICKET.COM.AU)

## Free Netball Clinic

Rochedale Rovers are hosting a free netball clinic on our courts from 20th October for 6 weeks. Classes have been given brochures. These are to be returned to Ms Taylor

## P & C News

Tuckshop will close after 1st break on the last day of school. Please ensure your child/ren has a packed lunch for second break.

Christmas Carols will be on Thursday 3rd December. More details will follow soon- lock in the date!

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

## Date Claimers

Fri 16th Oct	Sports Photos
Mon 19th Oct	Pupil Free Day
Mon 16th-Wed 18th Nov	Year 5 Camp
Mon 30th Nov - Wed 9th Dec	Swimming Program (Prep to Year 3)
Thurs 3rd Dec	Christmas Carols
Tues 8th Dec	Dreamworld Excursion (Year 6 & Year 5 Russell)
Wed 9th Dec	Year 6 Graduation
Thurs 10th Dec	Academic Parade
Fri 11th Dec	Last day for 2015