

Castle Hill Public School



NEWSLETTER

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10 March 2009

From the Principal...

INTERACTIVE WHITEBOARDS

The installation of another twelve Smartboards (Interactive whiteboards) has begun this week. By early next week all permanent classrooms and the Library will have their whiteboards installed. It will take a few days after that to have them all operational and a few more weeks to have every Smartboard connected to the internet. Some classes are already enjoying the change that the Smartboards bring to their learning environment. Staff are looking forward to their opportunity to engage students in this new learning opportunity.

PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS

The rubber for the fall area in our new playground is completed. We had an opening ceremony today where a student from each class was invited to a ribbon-cutting event. The area was so popular at recess that it was standing room only. Thank you to our wonderful Uniform Shop manager and volunteers. The Uniform Shop paid for the safe play surface the children now enjoy.

NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

We would like to reduce the impact our newsletter has on the environment. One way to do this is to print less of them! If you are happy to receive your newsletter by email and no longer receive the printed copy, we would be grateful for your contribution to the environment.

To withdraw, please send a note to your child's teacher or drop one into the office. Alternatively you can send an email to the school and we will remove you from our delivery address. Our target is a 50% reduction. We look forward to your contribution.

If we do not have your email address, you can join our email list by sending it to the school office.

P&C MEETING

Come and see one of the whiteboards in action. Tomorrow night's P&C meeting will be held in 3/2K room.

BUILDING THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION

The money provided by the Commonwealth Government for improvements to schools will provide a great boost to education. It has also provided a considerable challenge for large school systems like ours. It is a package designed to provide employment and an economic stimulus, so money has to be spent quickly. The State Government and the Department of Education are struggling to create structures that will evaluate applications and commence building programs in the time frame specified by the Commonwealth Government.

We will be applying for funding for the extension and refurbishment of the library to provide greater access for students to the library and to technology. We will also be looking at applying

for other programs. I will advise you of the applications and their progress over the coming weeks and months.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Congratulations to our competitors at yesterday's heats of the Zone Swimming Carnival. The students performed well and behaved very well on a day that was not the best for swimming. We wish our representatives in tonight's finals all the best for the challenge ahead.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Chicken Pox

We have a second reported case of chicken pox in the school. Please mention this to your doctor if your child becomes unwell.

Impetigo

We have a suspected case of impetigo in the school. This begins as small red sores that fill with pus before breaking and forming a dry scab. It is infectious. If you see evidence of sores on your child, please see a doctor as soon as possible.

Whooping Cough

Some staff and students may have come into contact with someone in the early stages of whooping cough. This is a very unpleasant condition for the sufferer and distressing for the family of a child suffering the condition. For very young children it can have very serious consequences. Again, please mention this to your doctor if your child becomes unwell. All of these conditions are covered in NSW Health Fact Sheets that can be found at

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/topics/index.asp>

- Mr Bryan Mullan, Principal

Student Welfare...

MINI MERITS -Term One, Week 6

Congratulations to our fabulous students who have earned seven mini merits over the last week:

Rainbow:- Natalia (1C), Brendan (1P), Rebecca (1S), Valentina (2G), Cherry (2B), Haani (2B), Charlotte (2M), Taline (2M), Aisha (2M), Adam (3S), Brooke (3C), Aaron (4C), Abhishek (3C) 3 sets, Andrew (3/2K), Michelle (3/2K), Kaylyn (3/2K), Michelle (4Y), Nathan (4Y), Tayla (4T), Kaylee (4T), Oliver (4T), Keira (4M), Connor (4M) 2 sets, Christian (4M) 2 sets, Charlotte (4M), Immojen (4M), Honore (4M), Keira (4M), Hamish (4M), Angela (5W), Mitchell (5W) 2 sets, Daniel (5C) 2 sets, Jason (6/5A), Zahin (6/5A), Jayden (6R) 2 sets, Phoebe (6R), Taylor (6G), Bridie (6G) 5 sets, Jackson (6G) 4 sets, Fiona (6G) 3 sets.

Citizenship:- Rachel (2G), Connor (2G), William (2B), Taylor (3S), Althea (4T), Steven (4T), Nathan (4Y), Angela (5W).

English:- Taline (1P), Daniel (1C), Merlin (1S), Heather (2G), Sophie (2G), Joanne (2G), Charlotte (2M), Jade (2B), Kalpana (2B), Brooke (3C), Cameron (4C), Whitney (5W), Angela (5W), Hayden (5W), Pamela (6G) 3 sets, Jackson (6G) 5 sets.

Maths:- Rachel (2G), Ben (4T), Whitney (5W) 2 sets, Simone (5W), Pamela (6G) 2 sets, Fiona (6G), Bridie (6G), Jackson (6G) 3 sets.

Creative Arts:- Haani (2B), Jessica (2P), Ben (3C), Calista (4T), Nicholas (5W), Pamela (6G), Bridie (6G), Jayden (6R).

PDHPE:- Stuart (3/2K), Brooke (3C), Ben (4T), Mason (4C), Simone (5W), Pamela (6G) 2 sets, Fiona (6G), Bridie (6G), Jayden (6R) 4 sets.

Science and Technology:- Rachel (3/2K), Calista (4T), Steven (4T), Bridie (6G), Fiona (6G), Pamela (6G).

HSIE:- Luke (1C), Andrew (3/2K), Keira (4M), Simone (5W), Jasper (6/5A), Jackson (6G), Pamela (6G).

Congratulations!

Bronze Awards

Bronze awards are given when a student achieves 10 mini merit certificates. These 10 certificates are then brought in to the Deputy Principal and a lovely Bronze Award certificate with a digital photo of the student incorporated into the certificate is awarded and each student receives a special school pen. Our Bronze certificate students awarded this week were:

Emma (5W) and Pamela (6G)

Well done, we are very proud of your sustained efforts in your learning. Congratulations!

Well done!

Opening of the new playground area today at recess!



Castle Hill Show - Friday March 20, 2009 (Years 2 -6)

Flat Art /Craft / Paper & Fibre and Photography items need to come to Ms Lockrey's office tomorrow - Wednesday March 11 between 8.15am -9am.

Information regarding food items (only): If your child is making a cake or food items the following options are possible for delivery to the Showground.

1. Wednesday March 11 at Ms Lockrey's office.
2. Monday March 16 Ms Lockrey's office - only between 8.30 - 9am (no late deliveries accepted, as parents are delivering all items at 9am to the Showground)
3. Monday March 16 - parents can deliver the items to the Show themselves. Please let Ms Lockrey know if this is the option you choose, so that we have all entries accounted for.

- Ms Denise Lockrey, Deputy Principal

Premier's Reading Challenge

Well done. We already have 21 students who have started using the online reading log to record their participation in this year's challenge and 6 students who have completed this year's challenge.

Congratulations to Lola 1P, Jeremy 2P, Sophie 2G, Jeremy 3W, Arvind 5C and Jessica 5P!

PRC Log on information

<https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/logon.html> (this address will take you directly to the login page). Each student will be able to logon using their DET username and password (username - firstname.lastname Password - your child has their own password - there is more information in this newsletter about student login details). Once you have logged in click on **Student Reading Records**. To add a book to your reading list type in the PRC book ID number. The book title will appear automatically. Click the **Add** button. Once the students have completed the challenge I can validate their reading log.

SRC

There is no SRC meeting this week. The SRC will also be promoting and supporting Mr Mullan in his walk from Orange to Castle Hill to raise funds for and awareness of the Hills Relay for Life.

Selective High School Placement test for Year 7 2010

Applicants (who have already completed the application process in 2008) are required to take the Selective High School Placement Test to be held from 9.00am to 1.15pm on Thursday 19 March 2009. Each family who completed the forms last year should have received notice via mail. Please contact the Selective High School Placement Unit on 9707 6262 if you have not received confirmation.

The test centre for students from Castle Hill Public School is:

Crestwood High School
17 Chapel Lane
BAULKHAM HILLS 2153

Parents are responsible for student transportation to and from the venue.

- Mrs Megan Gibbons, Deputy Principal

From the Classroom...

KINDERGARTEN NEWS - Week 6

The stars of the week are Indigo KK, Samuel KG, Corey KM, Vivien KL and Rebecca from KA.

The sound of the week is 'f' for feather and family.

The sight words for this week are **look, go, like, to** and **see**.

Don't forget to send in photos of the family and the house.

Mrs Lewis is collecting cylinders from inside foil and gladwrap rolls for 3D rocket making.

Donations gladly accepted.

- Kindergarten Teachers

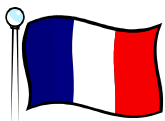
Congratulations to the Term 1 Week 6 French Award winners

Kindergarten Monsieur Taureau Award - Heidi KL, Patrick KL

Year 1 Les Jolies Fleurs Award - Yulissa 1C, Jared 1C

Year 2 Chiot Award - Rebeka 2P, Marcus 2P

Prize Box Recipients: Adam 3S, Jessica 3S



- Madame Fowler

USEFUL WEBSITES FOR ALL STUDENTS

www.kidcyber.com.au very good for basic information on many topics *****

www.starfall.com Google: copocabana public school and click on get smart

www.crickweb.co.uk www.australian-animals.net www.bbc.co.uk/schools

www.eslbears.homestead.com www.primarygames.com www.vocabulary.co.il

www.teachingtables.co.uk Google: Beenleigh State School

As with all websites, we advise that parents check them out.

- Dawne Furze ESL Staff

GOLD EMERGENCY CARDS

New gold emergency cards have been sent home today. These cards are used to contact parents or carers in an emergency when computer records are not accessible. It would be appreciated if you could please complete this emergency card and return it to your child's class teacher as soon as possible.

The K-6 WEB SERVICES AGREEMENT

During this week your child will be bringing home the K-6 Web Services Agreement on a green sheet. On the bottom of each sheet your child's class teacher will have written your child's e-mail username. This is the user name your child will be required to use each time they log in to the DET Portal.

YEARS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, AND 6

All Years 1-6 students are required to log in over the next two weeks at home or school to change their password and secret question. Each child's password has been changed for 2009 to their class name eg: 1s, 3w, 65a, 32k, 4t, 5w or 2m. It is DET protocol that your child informs their class teacher of their new password.

- Password changes - students are able to change their password at any time through the Kids Space homepage. Teachers are to be informed of any changes made to passwords. It is vital that parents discuss with their child the importance of keeping passwords confidential.

Kindergarten:

This e-mail address will be with your child from now until Year 12 (in all DET schools)

The Technology team suggest that all Kindergarten passwords remain as the class name for 2009

(for eg: kk, kl, km, kg & ka.) There is no need to create a secret question this year.

To access your child's e-mail account, go to our website:

<http://www.castlehill-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/> and click on the DET Portal icon (as shown below).

DET PORTAL



KIDSPACE

You may also log into the Portal by opening up a GOOGLE search page and typing DET PORTAL or by typing the following address portal.det.nsw.edu.au/

CHANGING PASSWORD GUIDE for students in Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

The following steps will help you change your account at home.

1. When they log in for the first time, they will come to a blue screen.
2. After you have read the NOTICE TO STUDENTS, you click I AGREE if you agree to be a safe internet user. **If you do not agree, you will not be allowed into the site.**
3. Then on the right hand side is a rectangular light green box with a visual of a key called CHANGE MY PASSWORD.
4. Click on this box.

5. Next type your old password (which is your class name eg: 1p, 2b,3c,4y,5p,65a)
6. Now type your NEW password in the next box.
7. Finally, type your NEW KIDSPACE password AGAIN - just to be sure

Secret question: After this is done, you are ready to create your secret question which is the light blue rectangular box underneath the password change box.

Your password should be: easy to remember and not so easy for others to guess.

A password must not have blank spaces in it.

Password ideas: your family pet, your favourite song, special friend or any other word that has meaning to you. You must type your password and your username exactly the same way every time you log in!

Please inform your child's teacher of any changes, questions or any concerns you may have.

PLEASE NOTE: Do not send WEB SERVICES AGREEMENT slip back until your child's password has been changed.

- G Younan and R Lewis
(on behalf of the Technology Committee)

Parent News...

P & C NEWS

I would like to extend an invitation to attend our P&C meeting tomorrow night at 7:30pm. On the agenda will be a demonstration of a new interactive whiteboard. These are being implemented in all the permanent classrooms and the library. The voluntary contribution funds of the P&C have been used to finance half of these.

Volunteers are still required for the Uniform Shop and Canteen. Please see the respective Managers for shifts available.

- Paul Singh, President. 0431 109 819
chpspc.edu@gmail.com

COMMUNITY CLUB NEWS

Thank you to everyone who attended last weeks School Community Club meeting. As part of our meeting we were able to see a demonstration of the new smart boards - thank you Miss Hawes and 3/2K.

At the AGM the following parents were elected as Executive Members for 2009.

President - Belinda McCombe

Vice Presidents - Simone Pedler and Cathy Sinclair

Treasurer - Carol Kern

Secretary - Donna Del'Bo

If you have any concerns or suggestions that the School Community Club can assist with, please let us know.

- Belinda McCombe, President, Community Club and Committee
Ph: 9659 0856 or email: bmccombe@bigpond.net.au

CANTEEN NEWS

Please look in your children's bag today for the Canteen Roster.

ROSTER:

Wednesday 11 th March	Julie Botelho, Vicki Payne, Jo Rayner
Thursday 12 th March	Sharon Liney, Lisa Hayres
Friday 13 th March	Julie Botelho, John Payne, Debbie Muller, Jeanette Berry
Monday 16 th March	Annie Randell, Marisa Giorgi
Tuesday 17 th March	Caroline Smith, Ivana Amico, Soeun Kwoon, Sarah Lee

- Canteen Committee

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Volunteer Roster:

Thursday 12th March - Fiona Barnett, Bayzer Wah, Lisa Echevarria, Majbrit Lund
Monday 16th March - Deborah Kemp, Bronwyn Barrs, Simone Read

A Uniform Shop committee meeting will be held on **Monday 16th March** in the uniform shop. All are welcome to attend.

- Trisha Booth-Uniform Shop Manager
0410466363 or trishmar@bigpond.net.au

BOOKCLUB

Issue 2 orders are now being placed. To optimise the returns to the school we try to submit large orders of \$115 or more. To enable this we require as many orders as possible to be in by the due date. The due date for Issue 2 is Friday 13 March. However, late orders can still be accepted without any problems.

Please ensure your child's name and class is on every order form, not just the envelope, so we know where to deliver your books.

If paying by credit card only one voucher is required for the total of all order forms. As long as the order forms are all named, it's not necessary to complete a payment voucher for each catalogue's order form.

Please call Jane Relyea on 9659 0714 or jrelyea@optusnet.com.au with any enquiries.

- Jane Relyea, Book Club Organiser

Community News...

Attention all Ladies - We need you! Want to play Netball and not wear Lycra? Looking for ladies of all abilities to join the Fun, Friendly, Social, Local Netball Comp. We play Saturday afternoons starting 28/3/09 at Gooden Reserve Baulkham Hills. Fees \$55 under 16's, \$75 over 16. Spots still available for Junior players. Further Information please contact Deanna Moore 9896 3631

Term 1 Overview

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat/Sun
Wk 7	9	10 Yr 5 Planetarium Visit	11 P&C Meeting	12	13	14
						15
Wk 8	16	17	18	19 <i>Selective HS Test</i>	20 Castle Hill Show Yr 2-6	21
						22
Wk 9	23	24	25	26 Yr 5/6 Team Sport Challenge	27	28
				LIFE EDUCATION		29
Wk 10	30	31	1 April	2	3	4
	LIFE EDUCATION					5
Wk 11	6	7 SCC meeting	8 P&C Meeting	9 ANZAC Service 9.30am	10 Good Friday	11
	LIFE EDUCATION					12