

# Castle Hill Public School



# NEWSLETTER

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30 June 2009

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## ***From the Principal...***

### ***WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR MY CHILD?***

You are. Each weekday during school term you give us the care of your child between 8.30am and 3.00pm to pursue his/her formal education. We honour that trust and work as well as we can to optimise your child's learning in a safe and caring environment. In addition to paid hours of work, staff give many hours of their time to ensure the best possible education for your child. The staff also work hard, and successfully, to create strong discipline structures that build self-discipline and keep students safe.

Sadly, a significant number of parents take advantage of the school staff by sending their children to school as early as 7.30 a.m. and/or collecting them after 4.00 p.m.

Staff members have missed staff meetings, grade planning sessions and, sadly, appointments and meetings both private and work-related because of parents not accepting their responsibility for their child.

We appreciate that working parents experience difficulty balancing work commitments with school hours. Most staff have experienced the same challenges juggling work with their own children's schooling. However, leaving your child at school outside school hours is not the solution to the problem. Failing to accept responsibility for your child outside school hours places an unreasonable burden on school staff and is counter-productive to the hard work they do in establishing strong disciplinary programs in the school. I thank those parents who act responsibly in the care of their children and ask that every parent do the same.

### ***SWINE FLU***

The NSW Department of Health is no longer monitoring swine flu on a case-by-case basis. It is only testing for this flu when it is a severe case or where the patient has a compromised immune system. We have a much higher rate of absence this week than is normal, even for the last weeks of a winter term.

We are aware that we have had a number of diagnosed cases in the school. This does not mean that our current absences are due to any form of influenza, but it does mean that parents need to be alert for the symptoms in their child.

Symptoms include: fever, cough, tiredness, muscle aches, sore throat, chills or shortness of breath.

If your child shows symptoms, you may wish to take him/her to your G.P. Sick children do not belong at school. If your child is sick, please keep her/him at home until the condition passes and your child is able to participate fully in the learning program at school.

### ***CHILD PROTECTION***

We are currently teaching students the Child Protection curriculum. Research into offences against children clearly indicates that the majority of offences are committed by people who are known to the victim. Teaching children protective behaviours is important in developing their

capacity to protect themselves and to behave appropriately towards others. In teaching we emphasise both personal protective behaviour and privacy.

Lessons begin in Kindergarten and each year students follow an age-appropriate curriculum. They include the use of anatomically correct terms for body parts. During the teaching of this important life-skill your child will probably discuss things with you that s/he would not normally raise. Please retain the focus on trust and privacy. This will help your child to cope if faced with a challenging situation.

### ***CAR PARK***

I have been advised by Laing O'Rourke that they will be commencing work on the Towers car park adjacent to the school this week. For the first month of scheduled works the eastern half of the car park (the part furthest from the school) will be closed. In August, the western side of the car park will be closed. It is important that the safety of our students is everyone's highest priority during these works. Please walk your children into and out of the school during this time. Do not arrange to have your child walk into the car park unaccompanied.

When walking with your child, please keep him/her by your side. With younger children, please hold their hands.

Maps and schedules of proposed work are on display in the office window.

### ***STAFFING***

The panel meeting to appoint a replacement teacher for Mr Sheridan - Mrs Gibbons, Mr Sheridan Mrs Ingy Shokry met with the short-listed candidates today and forwarded their recommendation to the staffing section of the Department of Education. You will be advised of the outcome of the process as soon as all requirements are completed.

### ***PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS***

The majority of interviews were conducted yesterday. Thank you for arranging an interview time. Special thanks go to teachers for giving their time at the end of the school day to meet with you and give you information about your child's progress in the first semester of 2009.

- Mr Bryan Mullan, Principal

## **Student Welfare...**

### ***MINI MERITS -Term Two, Week 9***

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

***Rainbow:-*** Grace (KA), Portia (KA), Indigo (KK) 2 sets, Justin (1C), Daniel (1S) 2 sets, Max (1E), Michael (2P), Claire (2P), Jade (2B), Hayley (2M), Oliver (2M) 3 sets, Mariam (2M), Sherry (2M), Phoenix (3H), Victoria (3H), Nikki (3H), Lachlan (3S), Ruben (3S) 2 sets, Nicola (3S), Brendan (KM), Ella (KM), Lisa (KM), Amal (3C), Rachel (3C), Pax (3C) 2 sets, Vivian (3C), Nathan (3C), Max (4Y), Oliver (4T), Louisa (4T), Jessie (4T), Elaine (4T), Mitchell (5W) 2 sets, Liesl (4C) 2 sets, Aaron (4C), Jacob (4M) 2 sets, Audrey (6G) 2 sets, Mark (6G) 2 sets, Amanda (6G), Danni (6F), Aydin (6R), Adam (6R).

***Citizenship:-*** Hannah (KL), Armaan (KA), Harrison (1S), Nicholas (1P), Annabella (2M), Connor (2G), Ryan (2G), Peter (2G), Martin (2G), Michael (2P), Nicola (3S), Tiffany (4C), Jacob (4M), Rupin (4T), Simiran (4T), Elaine (4T), Mark (6G), Julie (6F), Adam (6R), Anna (6R), Parinaz (6R), Jessie (6R).

***English:-*** Annabella (2M), Jiah (2P), Rebeka (2P), Brooke (2B), Jiwoo (2B), Sophie (2G), Connor (2G), Madison (3H), Catherine(3C), Abhishek (3C), Taylor (3S), Connor (3S), Nicola (3S), Peter (4Y), Max (4Y), Nathan (4Y), Simiran (4T), Tiffany (4C), Liesl (4C), Max (4C), Parinaz (6R), Julie (6F), Stephen (6G), Hayley (6G), Audrey (6G), Caitlin (6G), Amanda (6G), Mark (6G) 2 sets.

***Maths:-*** Diya (2G), Hayley (3C), Bill (4C), Amanda (6G) 2 sets, Mark (6G), Hayley (6G), Audrey (6G), Stephen (6G), Julie (6F).

**Creative Arts:-** Lachlan (1C), Maria (2G), Brooke (3C), Taylor (3S), Tiffany (4C), Charlotte (4M),  
**PDHPE:-** Ruby (KK), Tahlia (2P), Brooke (2B), Oliver (2M), Mavrick (2M), Nicola (2M), Dylan (3C),  
Ana (4T), Dale (5C), Max (4Y), Nathan (4Y), Edward (4Y), Woosin (4Y), Michelle (4Y), Anna (6R),  
Caitlin (6G), Mark (6G).

**Science and Technology:-** Jordan (3H), Gabriella (3C), Nicola (3S).

**HSIE:-** Sam (1E), Tiffany (4C), Jacob (4M), Grace (5C), Parinaz (6R).

### **Mini Merits:**

Term 2, Weeks 9 and 10 Mini Merits and Bronze / Silver students will be announced at Monday July 6 Assembly and Week 10 printed in July 7 Newsletter. Stay tuned!

### **Reminders:**

- **Silver Afternoon Tea with Mr Mullan will be held on Thursday July 9 at 2.25pm. Remember your silver badge is your entry!**
- **Gold Lunch will be held on Wednesday July 8 commencing at 12.20pm. Don't forget your Gold badges!**

## **Staff Development Day - Term 3, July 27**

Castle High School, Samuel Gilbert Public School and Castle Hill Public School are part of a Learning Community and are currently working together to address the needs of up-skilling staff in the area of innovative technologies. The three schools have many interactive whiteboards and two schools have the new video conferencing facilities.

In Term Three, Monday July 27, 2009 all three schools (reflecting over 1000 local families) and their entire staff (totalling approximately 180 educators) will be involved in intensive technology training.

We are seeking support from outside agencies and local businesses who are committed to Public Education and the advancement of technology use in schools. We would like to give anyone within our Castle Hill PS community the opportunity of supporting the Learning Community of these three local schools and join with us in investing in the future of our young people.

The organising committee is collating a 'technology bag' for all participating staff. Any contribution would be greatly appreciated. We have had a number of terrific responses and we are still trying to source donations of:

- Flash drives (we have a number already - but still need several)
- 180 pens (one for each teacher)
- Or any technology related items to be used as lucky door items

Please feel free to contact Ms Lockrey or Mrs Gibbons on 9634 3777 at Castle Hill Public School. Your support of this initiative would be recognized on the day as a supporter and all three schools will happily acknowledge your support through their school newsletters.

- Ms Denise Lockrey, Deputy Principal

### ***SRC***

Thank you to the students who responded to my email and provided feedback on the last disco. The response was overwhelmingly in favour of keeping the new disco provider. There were a few suggestions for improvement that I will pass onto the provider before our next event.

The SRC has also organised for the money from the guessing competition and profits from the disco to be sent to Diabetes Australian Research Fund. They are sending \$405.00.

### ***Premier's Reading Challenge***

Congratulations Minseok KL and Stephen 3S for completing this year's reading challenge!

81 students have completed this year's challenge! Well Done 😊 We still have 73 students who are reading. You have until the end of August to complete the challenge. Make sure you have some reading ready for the winter school holidays!

### ***Learning Support Team - Update reminder***

If you have any additional or updated information regarding your child that may influence their learning, socialisation or well-being at school, please contact the school's Learning Support Team (LST). Any additional or updated information helps the LST support your child and their learning. You may have had your child's vision or hearing checked. You may have an updated Paediatric or Speech Therapists report. Information given to the LST is confidential and only discussed with necessary personnel with parental approval. You can contact Megan Gibbons as the LST Coordinator on 9634 3777.

- Mrs Megan Gibbons, Deputy Principal

### **From the Classroom...**

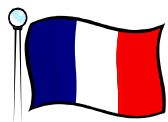
#### ***KINDERGARTEN NEWS - Week 10***

The stars of the week are Joseph KK, Sophie KG, Aisha KM, and Jessica from KA.

The sight words for this week are **or** and **up**.

The sounds for week 10 and 11 are 'v' for vegetable and van and 'b' for butterfly and balloon.

- From the Kindergarten Teachers



#### **Congratulations to the Term 2 Week 9 French Award winners**

Kindergarten Monsieur Taureau Award - Cassandra KL, Divesh KL

Year 1 Les Jolies Fleurs Award - Rosa 1C, Sanjoe 1C

Year 2 Chiot Award - Krupali 2B, Daniel 2B

Prize Box Recipients: Harrison 3S

Vraiment bien!  
Madame Fowler



### ***ANNUAL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL***

The Annual Athletics Carnival for Years 3 to 6 will be held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August (Week 2 of next term) at Alfred Whaling Reserve, Baulkham Hills.

Any parents who would like to volunteer to help with timekeeping, novelty events or First Aid, please let me know. Kindly complete the form at the end of this newsletter and return it to Ms Cahill as soon as possible. Thank you.

- K. Cahill, Carnival Organiser

### **Parent News...**

#### ***P&C***

On behalf of the P&C I would like to thank all the volunteers at Canteen, Uniform Shop and at various functions throughout the year. Your assistance at these organisations greatly helps the school.

The School Administrative Staff led by Cathy Wong, also deserve special mention. The Administrative Staff is often the first port of call for both parents and students. They do a great job - thank you.

There will be no July P&C meeting. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August at 7:30pm.

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

### ***SCHOOL COMMUNITY CLUB***

The next School Community Club meeting will be next Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July at 9:15am in the staffroom. The SCC meeting will be followed by a morning tea for Rosalie Goodie as a thank you for all her hard work with the SCC, Canteen, Book Fairs and Bookclub over the past years. Everyone is welcome.

### ***Thank you Rosalie***

Please join us in an morning tea to recognise Mrs Rosalie Goodie for all the hard work and dedication she has given to the School Community over the last 12 years.

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2009

Staffroom at 10:00am

Please RSVP to Simone Pedler on 0438 809 993 or [LSTCP@internode.on.net](mailto:LSTCP@internode.on.net)

### ***Entertainment Books - Last weeks!!!***

Purchase of the 2009/2010 Entertainment Books will end next week. You only have until the end of this term to buy your book. The books are packed with excellent discount vouchers and will pay for themselves by the end of the school holidays. We have almost sold out of the Parramatta/Hills edition and won't be getting any further supply, so be quick to get your copy. Books and Order Forms are available at the school office or linked to the on-line newsletter. Any questions, please phone Fiona Barnett on 0407 279527.

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

### ***UNIFORM SHOP NEWS***

Volunteer Roster: Thursday 2nd July- Lisa Ruiz, Ayesha Duncan  
Monday 6th July - Rhonda Poole, Elizabeth Berthon, Linda Hart  
Thursday 9th July - Majbrit Lund, Bayzer Wah, Lisa Echevarria

- Trisha Booth, Uniform Shop Manager,  
0410466363 or [trishmar@bigpond.net.au](mailto:trishmar@bigpond.net.au)

### ***CANTEEN NEWS***

#### **ROSTER:**

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Julie Botelho, Vicki Payne, Julie Wilkins
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Carolina Zurueta, Fiona Foote, Alice White
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	John Payne, Olivia Grant, Lynda Syme, Bayzer Wah
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Renee Swart, Sharlene Mansfield
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Molly McCrossen, Elizabeth Gordon, Olivia

-Canteen Committee

## Community News...

### Term 2 Overview

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat/Sun
Wk 10	29	30	1 July	2	3 Peer Support	4
	Book Fair					5
Wk 11	6	7	8 Dance Spec rehearsal + performance	9 K-2 Peter Coombe Concert	10	11
		SCC meeting 9.15am				12



# On NOW!

Our Book Fair is on now but we are closing tomorrow, Wednesday 1st July at 6.30pm.

Most of the children have filled out their wish lists and are keen to purchase a book or two.

So hurry into the school hall and show your support for reading!  
We are open till 3.30pm today and from 8.30am to 6.30pm tomorrow.

**TERM 3: StarTime's Drama Workshop** Friday afternoons: 7th August - 25th September (8wks)

**6-9yrs:** 3.30-4.30pm. Have fun and build confidence in:

- Vocal, physical & creative expression
- Character creation & improvisation
- Stage craft & self devised theatre

**Cost:** \$136/term **Newcomers, try the first class free!**

**TERM 3: StarTime's Hip-Hop Dance Workshop** Monday afternoons: 10th August - 28th September (8wks) **6-8yrs:** 4.00-4.45pm **9-12yrs:** 5.45-6.30pm

Have fun learning the latest Hip-Hop moves from StarTime's professional Hip-Hop dance choreographer Yolanda Thomas. If you have ever thought of learning Hip-Hop don't miss this opportunity to learn from Yolanda, who has a knack of building confidence in beginners and getting results. The aim will be to learn one routine and work towards a performance at the end of term and show off your new funky dance moves to family and friends!

**Cost:** \$136/term **Newcomers, try the first class free!**

For more information or to enrol phone 1300 463 513. Alternatively you can visit [www.startimestudios.com.au](http://www.startimestudios.com.au)

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**ANNUAL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

I am able to assist at the Athletics Carnival on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August, 2009.

Timekeeping

Novelty Events

First Aid

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_