

Castle Hill Public School



NEWSLETTER

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11 August 2009

From the Principal...

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

The Athletics Carnival was held in fine weather with a very high level of participation by students, particularly those in the junior competitions. Results are published in this newsletter. The Year Two carnival at school was also very successful with high levels of participation in a range of athletic activities. Last Friday saw the conduct of the Ball Games Carnival, also in fine weather. Enthusiasm in all events was high and sportsmanship was evident. We will be sending representatives to the Zone Athletics and Ball Games Carnivals selected from these school events. Thank you to all the parents who assisted and supported the carnivals. Without our parent volunteers, we could not offer this opportunity to our students.

BUILDING THE EDUCATION REVOLUTION

I have previously written about the programs proposed under the Federal Government's BER program. In the Primary Schools for the 21st Century program our request was for the construction of five additional permanent classrooms, an additional toilet block and a shade area over our softfall play area. The costing of the proposal has ruled out the construction of the shade area and abandonment of the plan to build classrooms where the demountables are currently located.

I am awaiting advice on the probability of a subsequent proposal for the construction of the classrooms and toilet block. I will be advising the P&C meeting tomorrow night about the alternative that has been proposed and its likely impact on the school during construction. I will provide advice in the newsletter when the final proposal is approved by the Department of Education.

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S VISIT

Last week we had a visit from the Regional Director of Education, Ms Jane Simmons. She visited two classrooms and spent time with our ESL teachers. She was most impressed with the quality of work in the classrooms and in the ESL program. Ms Simmons was particularly impressed by Year Five and Six's study of Twelfth Night and the integrated use of the Interactive Whiteboard for a writing activity in Years Two and Three. She is also looking for more ways to disseminate the resources developed and used by our ESL teachers.

P&C ASSOCIATION

The August meeting will be held tomorrow evening in the school staff room. Proposals for BER will be discussed including the implications for the parent body arising from the construction. All are welcome and encouraged to attend this meeting.

E-ZINE

The latest edition of the Department of Education's online magazine for parents is now available at the link below. It contains a number of articles that are directly relevant to parenting school-aged children. www.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/ezine/yr2009/issue04/index.php

CONGRATULATIONS

Our Senior Girls' Dance Group travelled to the University of NSW last Sunday to compete in the City of Sydney Eisteddfod. It was wonderful to see the amazing standard of performance demonstrated by the dance group who were significantly better than the eleven other primary schools in the competition. The girls' performance was superior to any primary school dance group performance I have previously seen.

Thank you to the parents who gave their time to bring the girls to the performance, who bought tickets to watch, who applied make-up and helped with costumes and who supported this activity.

LEAGUE TABLES

Schools need to be scrutinised. I have written for the last two weeks about why many who work in education are against league tables of schools developed from NAPLAN data. This does not mean that they are opposed to scrutiny of schools and assessment of school performance. As stated by Ken Boston, former Director General of Education in NSW this morning on the ABC, students only get one chance at school, they deserve to get the best chance they can have. We need to know which schools are underperforming so they can be helped to provide better quality educational programs to students.

In identifying underperforming schools, we need to move well beyond NAPLAN data and a "name and shame" regime through the mass media. First of all, we need to look at the communities schools are working with. It is acknowledged through years of research that schools serving lower socio-economic areas have students entering school with lower skills than those in higher socio-economic areas. Even within a single area, there can be substantial differences. (For example, while we have over half of our students coming from a language background other than English, we have a neighbouring school with less than ten percent coming from language backgrounds other than English.) Differences must be taken into account when evaluating school effectiveness.

Secondly, we need evaluation of the broad range of programs schools offer, not just measurement of things that can be easily measured. This will require a substantial investment of resources and a substantial restructure of education systems in some states. It is worth making the investment to ensure every child has the best possible opportunity for learning.

- Mr Bryan Mullan, Principal

Student Welfare...

MINI MERITS -Term Three, Week 2

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

Rainbow:- Peter (KM), Jeffry (2M), Marcus (2P), Tahlia (2P), Hannah (2B), Hunter (2G), Rory (3/2K), Ryan (3/2K), Divya (3/2K), Joonseok (3C), Amal (3S), Ryan (4T), Louisa (4T), Laura (4M), Jessie (4Y), Oliver (4Y) 3 sets, Nick (5W) 2 sets, Luke (5W), Chaneal (6F), Janine (6F).

Citizenship:- Olivia (KL), Daniel (2B), Jasmine (3W), Ryan (3/2K), Taha (3C), Jennifer (5W), Jackson (6G), Luke (5W).

English:- Paris (1E), Sharon (1E), Daniel (2B), Cherry (2B), Taha (3C), Brendon (4Y), Kaylee (4T), Luke (5W), Tianie (6F), Jackson (6G) 2 sets.

Maths:- Sharon (1E), Jackson (6G).

Creative Arts:- Sharon (1E), Sanjoe (1C), Daniel (2B), Kalpana (2B), Taha (3C) Luke (5W).

PDHPE:- Ryan (2G), Ethan (2M) 2 sets, Brendon (2M), Cherry (2B), Haani (2B), Cassandra (2B), Effie (3C), Taha (3C), Oliver (4Y), James (5P), Jackson (6G), Tianie (6F).

Science and Technology:- Kaylee (4T), Jackson (6G).

HSIE:- Jasmine (2B), James (5P)

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 -

Kalpana (2B), Harrison (2P), Sherry (2M), Moomal (6F), Ivan (2B) and Audrey (6G)

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

Gold Awards *** ☺ WE HAVE ANOTHER GOLD AWARD STUDENT! ☺ *******

Gold awards are given when a student achieves 40 mini merit certificates and includes a Peer Support leader's certificate in the package. These 40 certificates are then brought in to the Deputy Principal and a lovely Gold Award certificate with a digital photo of the student incorporated into the certificate is awarded along with a sensational gold badge which they can wear proudly on their uniform daily! Each term a special Gold Award lunch with the Principal & Senior executive will be conducted as another part of the Award package!

Our Gold Award recipient this week is Janine (6F)
Congratulations on your outstanding efforts over many years Janine ! ☺

Kiss and Drop Users and Car park users!



(Stop)

AND



(think) !

Thank you to the parents who use the car parks safely and who follow the Kiss and Drop procedures with patience, as this helps keep your children / our students safe! ☺

A reminder for others:

- At Kiss and Drop, please let your children out in the morning on the kerb side - we would not like your child to be run over in the car park.
- In the afternoons, please wait until the gate is opened by one of the non-teaching Executive at 3.05pm - do not queue in the roundabout or wait near the pool fence in the no standing area - as it holds up traffic and prevents the school buses from entering. Our goal is to get as many buses out of the school before Kiss and Drop starts, as this assists you in a quicker exit.
- When utilising Kiss and Drop - it is essential for the first person in the queue (ie. the orange pick up zone) to move into the required space by moving your vehicle as far forward as possible. To ensure ease of exit turn wheels to the right so that you can easily clear the gutter / safety pole area. This also enables the other cars behind you to pull alongside the correct colour for where their child is standing. This ensures the safety of all students.
- Anyone who still needs a Kiss and Drop number for their car - please ask your child to visit the office and we will make a laminated card for you to display as you use Kiss and Drop. Temporary / home made cards are often hard to see and can slow down the process of Kiss and Drop!
- Please do not park in bus zones - they are for buses and you could be booked if an RTA traffic officer was present
- Please park in the overflow car park if parents need to park and do not drop off children in the staff car park.

Please work with us to achieve a good outcome and especially to maintain safety for the children!

A Mini Merit reminder! Students can carry forward their mini merits from one year to another. For example, if in Year One your child has collected all but one KLA mini merit and then at the beginning of Year Two your child got the final KLA mini merit in the rainbow set, they would bring their full set down to me and then they would be acknowledged at the assembly and receive their lovely certificate! Looking forward to seeing our wonderful mini merit students throughout the next week! ☺

KLA Certificates.

As part of our ongoing recognition of student effort and achievement, teachers award Key Learning Area (KLAs) certificates. Students will earn these certificates by accumulating a set of seven 'mini merits' given by teachers throughout the school. Each week at assembly we acknowledge the students and print their name and class in the newsletter. Mini merit combinations include:

- a) When a student has earned six mini merits in one KLA (term used 'a KLA set') and a white 'thank you' / 'citizenship' mini merit = total 7 mini merits
- b) One mini merit in each of the six KLA's, (term used 'rainbow') and a white 'thank you' / 'citizenship' mini merit = total 7 mini merits
- c) 7 white 'thank you' / 'citizenship' mini merits = total 7 mini merits

How Can You Help?

It will be a great help if you remind your child that he or she needs to keep the mini merits they receive so that they can be awarded the certificate when they have a complete set. You may provide a special envelope, or a small clip lock bag in which the mini merits can be saved.

The students present these mini merit sets to Ms Lockrey at the office, 15 minutes either side of a break. You can also assist by checking your child has completed the following with each set's top card:

1. First name
2. Last name
3. Class
4. Stapled

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 school mouse pad.

Silver Awards

Silver awards are given when a student achieves 20 mini merit certificates. These 20 certificates are then brought in to the Deputy Principal and a lovely Silver Award certificate with a digital photo of the student incorporated into the certificate is awarded along with a fantastic silver badge which they can wear proudly on their uniform daily! Each term a special Silver Award morning / afternoon tea with the Principal will be conducted as another part of the Silver Award package!

Gold Awards

Gold awards are given when a student achieves 40 mini merit certificates and includes a Peer Support leader's certificate in the package. These 40 certificates are then brought in to the Deputy Principal and a lovely Gold Award certificate with a digital photo of the student incorporated into the certificate is awarded along with a sensational gold badge which they can wear proudly on their uniform daily! Each term a special Gold Award lunch with the Principal & non-teaching executive will be conducted as another part of the Award package!

- Ms Denise Lockrey, Deputy Principal

High School Placement Year 7 2010

Thank you to all the parents who have followed up on their child's high school enrolment form. All Year 6 students should now have placement at a high school whether it be government or non-government. If you still do not have a placement for your child please contact Mrs Gibbons.

Premier's Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading challenge finishes at the end of this month. All student reading logs must be finalised by 4pm Monday 31st August 2009. Any logs completed after this time will not be validated and the student will not receive a certificate. There are a number of students who have almost completed the challenge - keep reading! Remember if your student is in K-2 you can read the books to/with them.

Congratulations to Annelise KG, Lily KM, Ruby KK and Nicholas 5W for completing this year's reading challenge!

SRC

We will have our first Semester 2 SRC meeting this Thursday 13th August. We will be welcoming our Semester 2 representatives as well as discussing the next school disco.

The Semester 2 representatives will be presented with their badges at the morning assembly on Monday 17th August.

- Mrs Megan Gibbons, Deputy Principal

From the Classroom...

KINDERGARTEN NEWS - Week 3

The Star of the Week: Joseph from KA, Owen from KG and Domenico from KL.

The sight words for this week are **off**, **old**, **our** and **out**. The sound for this week is 'p' as in possum. This is the final week for payment for the kindergarten plates.

- From the Kindergarten Teachers

ANNUAL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Our Annual Athletics Carnival was held last Tuesday at Alfred Whaling Reserve. It was great to see so many competitors in all the running, jumping, throwing and novelty events. Well done! A big thank you to all the people who helped make the carnival run successfully: teachers, parents, office staff, canteen helpers and Year 6 helpers. Your wonderful efforts were much appreciated.

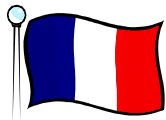
Results of the Carnival

Age Champions were:

Junior Boys:	Mason (4C)	Runner Up:	Travis (4C)
Junior Girls:	Claudia (5C)	Runner Up:	Natalie (4M)
11 Years Boys:	Bradley (5P)	Runner Up:	Luke (5W)
11 Years Girls:	Emma (6R)	Runner Up:	Jordan (6/5A)
Senior Boys:	Jackson (6R)	Runner Up:	Jayden (6R)
Senior Girls:	Dulmini (6R)	Runner Up:	Alysia (6G)

The winning House for 2009 was Banksia. Congratulations! Good luck to our competitors who now compete at the Zone Carnival on Wednesday 19th August at Blacktown Olympic Park (Track Events) and Friday 21st August at Gooden Drive Oval (Field Events).

- K Cahill, Carnival Organiser



Congratulations to the Term 3 Week 2 French Award winners

Kindergarten Monsieur Taureau Award - Rebecca KA, Joseph KA

Year 1 Les Jolies Fleurs Award - Angelina 1S, Logan 1S

Year 2 Chiot Award - Jessica 2P, Michael 2P



The French Stage 2 Stars for this week are Jayna and Lachlan from 3H.

They have earned 10 minutes reward time for their class!

Superbe!

Ms. Rankins

LIBRARY NEWS BOOK WEEK 2009

The Book Week theme for 2009 is "A Book Safari" which describes perfectly the way our students are always on the hunt for good books in our library to read and borrow for fun and for research.

Our Book Week activities will kick off this Thursday with some exciting performances with an African flavour. Kindergarten and Years 1, 2 and 3 will be regaled with the Anansi stories brought to them by Sam Derchie, a renown storyteller from Ghana. Years 4, 5 and 6 will be entranced by "The Mermaid's Daughter" a traditional African tale performed as a shadow puppet play.

The Annual Book Character Parade for Years K - 2 and Year 6 will take place on Tuesday 25th August starting at 9:30am in the courtyard. If you are planning to join us, please return the slip at the end of this newsletter to your child's teacher so that seating arrangements can be made.

- Mrs Guild, Teacher Librarian

YEAR 6 FAREWEL

Thank you to the parents who came to the first meeting to organise the Year 6 Farewell. All parents of our Year 6 students who are able to give some of their time to help with the organising of the Year 6 Farewell are invited to contribute. The next meeting will be on Thursday 20th of August at 3:10pm in the 6F classroom. If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to take part, please send your name and contact details to Ms Fernandes.

- Ms Fernandes, on behalf of the organising committee

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL EXCURSION.

Students from our school have undertaken an educational tour of the National Capital. While on this tour they participated in a variety of educational programmes focussed on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the important of all young Australians being able to visit their national capital as a part of their civics and citizenship education. To assist in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government will contribute funding under the Parliament and Civics Rebate (PACER) program toward the travel expenses incurred. This contribution will be paid directly to the school. The subsidy was included in the costing for the excursion.

We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this program. We hope that the excursion was a rewarding experience for all students.

- Ms Fernandes, Assistant Principal

BALL GAMES CARNIVAL 2009

The Ball Games Carnival was held on Friday 7th August. Congratulations to all the winning teams! We would like to commend the students for their team spirit and cooperation. The Zone Carnival will be held on Friday 21st August. Please can children return all notes and money to Ms. Fernandes.

The overall results were 1st Bluegum, 2nd Wattle, 3rd Banksia and 4th Waratah

Year 3 Girls Tunnel Ball

1st Banksia, 2nd Bluegum, 3rd Waratah & Wattle

Year 3 Boys Tunnel Ball

1st Wattle 2nd Bluegum 3rd Banksia 4th Waratah

Junior Girls Tunnel Ball

1st Banksia 2nd Wattle 3rd Bluegum 4th Waratah

Junior Boys Tunnel Ball

1st Wattle & Bluegum 2nd Waratah 3rd Banksia

Senior Girls Tunnel Ball

1st Bluegum 2nd Wattle 3rd Waratah 4th Banksia

Senior Boys Tunnel Ball

1st Wattle 2nd Bluegum 3rd Banksia 4th Waratah

Junior Girls Captain Ball

1st Waratah 2nd Bluegum 3rd Wattle 4th Banksia

Junior Boys Captain Ball

1st Waratah & Bluegum 2nd Banksia 3rd Wattle

Senior Girls Captain Ball

1st Bluegum 2nd Banksia 3rd Waratah 4th Wattle

Senior Boys Captain Ball

1st Wattle 2nd Bluegum 3rd Waratah 4th Banksia

Girls Tug-o-War

1st Waratah 2nd Banksia 3rd Wattle 4th Bluegum

Boys Tug-o-War

1st Wattle 2nd Banksia 3rd Bluegum 4th Waratah

- Ms Fernandes

Parent News...

P&C

The school held its Annual Athletics Carnival last Tuesday. It was a great success. I was most impressed by the level of participation by all the children. Many thanks to all the parents and staff that helped with events, canteen and logistics. The weather was magnificent.

Our next P&C meeting will be on Wednesday 12th at 7:30pm. Bring your jacket and scarf.

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

COMMUNITY CLUB

Year Six students are invited to participate in the Picture Plate Fundraiser. Plates Cost \$22 each. Please contact me for further information if your child is interested. Orders close this Friday.

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

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

Volunteer Roster: Thursday 13th August - Majbrit Lund, Bayzer Wah, Lisa Echevarria
Monday 17th August - Deborah Kemp, Bronwyn Barrs, Simone Read

Volunteers Needed - **2nd Monday** of the month & **any Thursday**.

The price for **Hats** is now **\$13.00**.

Dr Shoe will be available for the purchase of school shoes on **Monday 31st August, 8.30 to 9.30am**.

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

CANTEEN NEWS

Don't forget to order Sushi on Monday or Tuesday for Wednesday.

ROSTER:

Wednesday 12 th August	Julie Botelho, Vicki Payne, Jo Rayner
Thursday 13 th August	Sharon Liney, Lisa Hayres, Jackie Vandermeer
Friday 14 th August	Julie Botelho, John Payne, Debbie Muller, Daniella Fattoretto
Monday 17 th August	Annie Randell, Marisa Giorgi, Kylie Ide, Linda Lee
Tuesday 18 th August	Caroline Smith, Ivana Amico, Sarah Lee

-Canteen Committee

HILLS PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL - CONCERT TICKETS ON SALE!!

Concert B - Tuesday 1st September, 2009 at 7:00pm at the Hills Centre

\$15.50 (A Reserve) or \$13.00 (B Reserve), No concession or children's prices.

Tickets are required for all children over 2 years of age.

Tickets will be available through the following methods:

- Over the Counter - Office hours 9:00am - 12:30pm Saturday & 9:00am - 5:00pm Monday - Friday
- Over the Phone on 9899 3433 - Office hours 9:00am to 12:30pm Saturday & 9:00am - 5:00pm Monday - Friday
- Over the Internet from 9:00am of on sale date at www.hillscentre.com.au 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until 2 hours prior to each show.

Available from Saturday 15th August, 2009 from 9:00am

Contact the Hills Centre on 9899 3433 for phone bookings or The Hills Centre, Carrington Road, Castle Hill Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm and Saturday 9am - 12 noon

A surcharge of \$2.75 per ticket applies to telephone bookings.

Please note there is no bulk school bookings accepted.

Community News...

The Hills Family Centre has moved to Bella Vista 8805 7288. The Centre provides support (counselling & groups) for families with children 0-16 years living in the Hills area.

· **Engaging Teenagers** - For parents of teenagers, providing navigation tools to guide our teens through the turbulent waters of the transition from childhood to adulthood.

When: 1 Sept - 22 September, 7-9pm

Where: Bella Vista

Cost: \$50 each or \$90 couple

Contact: Jenny 8805 7288

· **Intro 123 Magic** - An uplifting group for parents and carers of children aged 1-5 yrs, focussing on increasing positive interactions with your children and maximising your strengths as a parent. Childcare available.

When: 3 Sept - 1 Oct

Where: Bella Vista

Cost: \$60

Contact: Jenny 8805 7288

· **Social Skills Holiday Program for grades 4, 5 & 6** - For children in grades 4, 5 & 6. To assist children in developing social skills to improve communication and social understandings. Children learn techniques in developing friendships, cope with bullying and build self esteem and self worth.

When: 8 & 15 Oct only

Where: Castle Hill

Cost: \$120 (food provided)

Contact: Adrian 8805 7288

Hills District Little Athletics



welcomes children aged 5 (tiny tots) - 17 to join in family fun and fitness with Little Athletics

Registration Days for 2009 / 2010 season will be held on

Sunday 23 August 10am - 2pm

Saturday 29 August 10am - 2pm

at

A.H. Whaling Reserve Roxborough Park Road, Baulkham Hills

New athletes will be required to provide proof of age at registration, please bring Birth certificate, Blue Book or Passport. Register online at www.laansw.com.au

Season commences 8am Saturday 5 September, 2009

For further enquires please contact Joanne 0404 452 210 / 8677 0188 or Trish 9634 3213

Term 3 Overview

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat/Sun
Wk 3	10	11	12 SiSA P&C Meeting 7.30pm	13 K-4 Anansi Stories 5-6 The Mermaid's Daughter	14	15
						16
Wk 4	17 Music Festival Workshop	18	19 SiSA ICAS Maths Test Zone Athletics	20	21 Zone Athletics	22
						23
Wk 5	24	25 K-2 & Yr6 Bookweek Parade 3.15-4.15pm Parent interrelate talk	26 SiSA	27	28	29
						30
Wk 6	31	1 Sept SCC Meeting 9.15am Music Festival	2 SiSA	3 Golden Ridge Farm - Kinder	4	5
						6
Wk 7	7	8 K-6 Opera Australia	9 SiSA P&C Meeting 7.30pm	10	11	12
						13
Wk 8	14	15 Yr 5 Antarctic visit - in hall	16 SiSA	17	18	19
						20
Wk 9	21 Regional Athletics	22	23 SiSA	24	25	26
						27
Wk 10	28	29	30 SiSA	1 Oct	2	3
						4

SiSA = Sport in Schools Australia

KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENT FOR 2010

If you have a child starting school in 2010, please complete the following form and return it to the school office. An enrolment form will be generated which will include all current details. We will send this form home to you to change or add any information. Please return this form to the school office as soon as possible. When returning your forms, please remember to bring with you:

- Your child's original birth certificate or passport
- Your child's immunisation records (Health Department certificate, if you have it, or the blue book) if the 4 year old needles have been administered.
- Your proof of address (e.g. a current original rate notice or electricity bill)
- If both parents were born overseas, your passports (with visas) or Australian Citizenship documents.

FAMILY NAME: _____

NAME OF CHILD CURRENTLY ENROLLED: _____

CLASS IN 2009: _____ DOB: _____

NEW CHILD'S FAMILY NAME: _____

NEW CHILD'S GIVEN NAME: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

MALE

FEMALE

BOOK WEEK PARADE
(Please return to your child's teacher)

I will be attending the Book Week Parade on Tuesday 25th August at 9:30am.

Number of people attending _____

Child's name: _____ Class: _____