Parent Information Sessions
Please take the opportunity of meeting with your child’s teacher/s and the team that support them at CHPS on the day and time that is relevant to your child / children. The Parent Information Sessions are a great time to hear about the plans for the year in your child’s grade and for general expectations of each class. It is not a time to approach the teacher about specifics regarding your child and their learning. If you feel it is necessary to discuss matters with the teacher in a confidential forum, please make an appointment via the front office or via written communication.

- All meetings to be held in classrooms.
- NO meetings will be held in the hall.
- Look for school maps around admin area for locations on the evening

6-7pm Tuesday February 17 – Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2
6-7pm Wednesday February 18 – Years 3, 4, 5, and 6. Also 3/2S

NB-3G rescheduled parent meeting on Wednesday February 25 4.30-5.30pm at the 3G classroom.

Opportunity to meet with Mr Tim McCallum regarding the new principal tonight!Our school director Mr Tim McCallum is coming to meet with the school community tonight at 7pm –just before the P&C meeting in the staffroom. This is a great opportunity to have a voice and share your thoughts with him regarding the attributes you are looking for in the new CHPS principal. I look forward to seeing you this evening.

School Expense Collection
Thank you to all the parents who have come to the school hall to pay the 2015 school expenses yesterday and today. We really appreciate your efforts in making the effort to come and patience in the process. The Admin staff were very impressed with how things flowed. Thank you to all the community who have helped the process run so smoothly. There is another opportunity tomorrow in the morning and afternoon to pay school expenses and you are most welcome to pay on other days by presenting at the front office or phoning with your credit card details at your convenience.

If families have difficulty with paying the 2015 school expenses, please contact the principal and together we can work out a plan to ensure your child /children can access activities in 2015.

Staffing
I take this opportunity to welcome Mrs Walker who was recently appointed permanently to Castle Hill Public School as a classroom teacher. She will be teaching the lovely KN. Miss Scott will be returning on Monday February 16 to teach 2D until our new Assistant Principal appointment occurs through the Merit Selection process, replacing Miss Dudgeon. Thank you to Mrs Kalule and Ms Paix for teaching KN and 2D respectively these last weeks

Safety around Carparks /School entry areas
Thank you to all the CHPS families who take safety around school at drop off and pick up times seriously and keep our students / your children safe. Regrettably there have been a few incidents reported to the school over the last few weeks, specifically in the QIC carpark behind The Kids of The Castle. Parents have demonstrated unsafe practices for their children and other children and have acted in a selfish manner. Please ensure we all work together to keep our young people safe and model, as the adults, safe road safety practices.
Volunteering Your Time?

There have been changes to the way in which volunteers are screened in order to work in classrooms in a voluntary capacity. The RMS does this screening, which is free of charge to volunteers. If you plan to volunteer to work with children at school this year, you need to follow the link or QR code to access the forms:


What’s in your child’s bag today?

- **Letters:**
  - Year 6 High School Linkages Programme
  - Year 6 Castle Hill High School Parent Information Evening
  - Year 6 Castle Hill High School Gifted & Talented
  - Year 6 Castle Hill High School Open Day
  - Year 2 2015 Swimming Carnival Permission Note
  - Year 3-6 2015 Swimming Carnival Permission Note
  - Year 6 Girls Interrelate Note

- **Leaflets:**
  - Years K-6 All NRL Rugby League Hills Hawkes open day
  - Years K-6 All VIP Music leaflet

- **Minirelations:**
  - Ms Denise Lockrey, Relieving Principal

**Mini Merit Awards**

**Silver Awards**

Congratulations to our fabulous students who have earned seven mini merits.

Term 1 Week 2

**Rainbow:** Mia 1G (2 Sets), Andrew 4/3W, Amelie 4/3W, Alina 4A, Sooin 4C, Alex 6H, Daniel 6M, Caleb 6M (4 Sets), Sophie 6M, O’felia 6M.

**English:** Bella 1S, Alina 4A, Alex 6H, Sophie 6M, O’felia 6M.

**Maths:** Izaac 2K, Erleen 2N, O’felia 6M, Daniel 6M.

**Creative Arts:** Joshua 4/3W, Alina 4A, O’felia 6M.

**PD/H/PE: Science & Technology:** Andrew 4/3W, Alex 6H, Chelsea 6M.

**Citizenship:** Joelle 3G, Aisha 6M, Ofelia 6M, Chelsea 6M.

**CASTLE HILL SHOW 2015**

Registration forms and money will be collected in the computer lab (next to after school care) TOMORROW, Thursday February 12, 2015 ONLY. If your child wishes to enter please ensure they bring the completed form (including parent signature on back of form) and correct money. Late entries will not be accepted by the school.

**Children’s’ Art Section (Flat Art)** – WHITE FORM & $2.00 per entry

**Craft (Youth activities)** – BLUE FORM & $2.00 per entry

**Photography (Youth activities)** – PALE GREEN FORM & $3.00 per entry

**Paper & Fibre Creations (Youth activities)** – YELLOW FORM & $3.00 per entry

**PARENTING IDEAS – Michael Grose**

Have a look at the website - www.parentingideas.com.au This week’s topic “Help your child achieve”.

**Help your child achieve.**

One way to help your child achieve at school is to work together with your child’s teacher. The parent-teacher partnership takes work from both sides to become a reality. Here are some ideas that will help.

There’s no doubt that the best outcomes for kids happen when teachers and parents work together to support children’s learning. Here are 10 ways you can work with your child’s teacher to maximise your child’s chances of school success.

1. **Know what your child’s teacher is trying to achieve**

   Like children, every teacher is different with their own specific expectations, goals and interests. Get to know your child’s teacher and gain an understanding of their approach and aspirations for your child’s class.

2. **Keep your expectations reasonable and positive**

   If your expectations are too high your teacher may give up. Too low and they will meet them! The trick is to keep your aspirations for your child in line with their ability and their interests. Also be realistic about what your child’s school can deliver. Sometimes our expectations of schools are not in line with their capabilities or their roles.
3. Support your teacher’s expectations & activities at home
One practical way of supporting your child is to take a real interest in their home-based learning tasks and follow the guidelines laid out by teachers.

4. Send kids to school ready to learn and on time
Maximise your child’s chances of success by sending them to school in a good frame of mind, with plenty of sleep and a good breakfast. Also make sure they get to school on time. It’s estimated that many kids miss up to two weeks of school a year when they are routinely late by just five minutes a day.

5. Inform teachers of your child’s challenges and changes
Life’s not always smooth sailing for kids. Family circumstances can alter. Friends move away. Illness happens. These changes affect learning. Make sure you keep your child’s teacher up-to-date with significant changes or difficulties your child experiences, so he or she can accommodate their emotional and learning needs at school.

6. Skill children to work with others
Schools are social places requiring children to work and play with each other much of the time. Teaching manners to kids, as well as encouraging them to share their time, space and things with others are practical ways to help kids with their social skills. Talk through any social challenges they may have, helping them develop their own strategies to get on with others.

7. Respectfully seek joint solutions to problems and difficulties
Resist the temptation to solve all your children’s problems or think you have the only solution. Most learning and social problems can be resolved when teachers and parents work together in the best interests of the child.

8. Participate fully in class & school activities
There is a huge body of research that points to the correlation between parent involvement in a child’s schooling and their educational success. Quite simply, if you want your child to improve his learning then take an interest in his learning, attend as many school functions as you can, and follow the lead provided by your child’s teacher. This simple strategy will have a massive, long-term impact.

9. Trust your teacher’s knowledge, professionalism and experience
Your child’s teachers are your greatest allies. Their training, their experience around kids, and their objective professionalism puts them in a strong position to make judgement calls about your child.

10. Talk up what happens at school
Your child will take their cues from you about how they see their school. If you want your child to value learning, and enjoy their time at school then you need to support your school and make sure he or she hears positive messages about learning, teachers and the school itself. You can set a strong educational agenda at home by talking up your school. This type of 10-point plan is easy to read but hard to put into practice, particularly when you get busy or your child has significant difficulties. Choose two or three ideas from this list to really focus on in the coming year and you’ll find that the rest will fall into place. Good luck and nurture the partnerships you have with your child’s teachers.

- Mrs Julie Smith, Relieving Deputy Principal

Kindergarten News
Well done to all the Kindergarten students who are settling in well to routines and learning at CHPS. We have started new things this week including attending K-2 Assembly and our Sport program. The students are doing a great job of remembering school rules and organising their belongings.
Please remember to label your child’s belongings. Sports day is Wednesday; students can wear their sports uniform and sports shoes.
A school requirement note went home last week. Please send the following items to your child’s classroom this week: 2 boxes of tissues, 1 bottle of soap on tap, 1 roll of paper towel, paint shirt with your child’s name and a packet of textas.

All students will visit the library at school weekly, please ensure your child has a library bag so they can borrow a book. Library bags can be purchased from the library for $2.
KN, KS, KG and KP visit the library on Tuesday.
KS go to the library on Wednesday.
KM and KK visit the library on Friday.

Your child will need a small piece of fruit or vegetables for crunch and sip, a bottle of water and a small snack for recess and lunch. Any containers need to have your child’s name on them.

Kindergarten classes will be dismissed from where they line up in the morning. Please wait for your child near their line.
Students will be dismissed when the bell rings at 3pm. If you need to take your child earlier than 3pm, they will need to be signed out at the main office.
If your child is absent for any reason, please provide a note explaining the reason for the absence to your child’s teacher.

- From the Kindergarten Teachers
P&C News
Our first meeting for the year will be **tonight at 7:30pm** in the staff room located in the Admin block.

Prior to the meeting at 7:00pm, **Director Tim McCallum** will be addressing interested parents about the selection criteria required for interview for a school Principal. A parent representative is always selected for all interview panels at CHPS. At our P&C meeting we will be voting on the parent representative to sit on the upcoming panel for the interview process.

The following positions are still vacant:

**P&C Treasurer:** TBA  
**Canteen Secretary:** TBA  
**Canteen Treasurer:** TBA

No prior experience is required so please do not hesitate to give me a call to find out what sort of commitment would be required to fulfil one of these roles.

While you are paying your fees this week be sure to have a look at the P&C presentation on the screen in the hall put together by our VP Lisa Stokan. This will give a good summary of what the P&C has been up to and how we are spending the voluntary contribution.

I sincerely hope to see many new faces tonight.

- **Liga Hegner** (President) 0400 887 785

**Student Representative Council**
Year’s 2-6 classes have elected their SRC representatives for 2015. Each representative serves on the SRC for one semester. The SRC are looking forward to hosting many events this year, including discos and fundraisers and supporting local initiatives such as Hills Relay for Life and Nude Food Day. Students will be presented with their badges at next week’s assembly. Meetings begin this week and will be held fortnightly on Thursday morning at 8:30 in 6L.

**Gifted and Talented**
The testing for Year 6 students wishing to try out for the Gifted and Talented Class (Year 7 2016) at Castle Hill High School is occurring this term.

The testing will take place on **Tuesday March 17, 2015** at Castle Hill High School (from 8.30am).

If you wish for your child to sit the test, please see Mrs Lees for a copy of the letter. Forms and payment must be submitted by **Thursday March 5 2015** to Castle Hill High School Reception.

**Uniform Shop News**

**Volunteer Roster:**  
**Thursday February 12** - Marrisa Giorgi, HELP NEEDED  
**Monday February 16** - Marie Dols, HELP NEEDED  
**Thursday February 19** - Jie (Jane) Li, Lee Lau, HELP NEEDED

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS** for every shift this year, so if you could spare an hour it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact me if you are on the roster and would like to stay on the roster.

1st Monday – 2 people  
2nd Monday – 3 people  
3rd Monday – 3 people  
4th Monday – 3 people  
5th Monday – 2 people  
1st Thursday – 2 people  
2nd Thursday – 3 people  
3rd Thursday – 3 people  
4th Thursday – 3 people  
5th Thursday – 2 people

Dr Shoe will be here Thursday March 12, 8.30-9.30 in the ACOLA area.

Second Hand Uniforms- Do you have uniforms your child has grown out of? We would love you to donate your pre-loved uniforms as we are running very low.

You can order online through Flexischools. Please go to [www.flexischools.com.au](http://www.flexischools.com.au) where you can place your orders, which will be delivered to the classroom. Parents are advised that Flexischool orders will be signed for by the child. Loss of orders will be the responsibility of child and their parents.

- **Simone Pedler, Uniform Shop Manager**  
  simone.pedler@det.nsw.edu.au
Canteen News

ROSTER:
Thursday 12 February David Baldwin, Marie Osborne
Friday 13 February Alenka Maguire, Valentina Barbone, Gita Tahib
Monday 16 February Charlene Stewart, Lana Hannelly
Tuesday 17 February Marilin Ilp
Wednesday 18 February Cindy Wills, Bhavisha Solanki

If you are interested in volunteering in the canteen this year, please contact us on 9634 4306 for further information. It's with your help in volunteering that we are able to continue providing an important service to students and teachers by providing healthy, affordable food.

BIRTHDAY ICE-BLOCKS:
Did you know you can purchase ice-blocks from the Canteen for your child's class on their birthday?

Let us make it easy for you! Just come to the Canteen window in the morning to the purchase the required number, we will put them aside and have them ready for collection at a time suitable to your child's teacher.

No dashing to the supermarket, no running back into school, and no hoping you've chosen a suitable time to drop them in. See? Easy!

FLEXISCHOOLS ONLINE ORDERING:
Jump the queue at the canteen by ordering online! Flexischools is the fast and secure way to order and pay for your children's lunches from your mobile or desktop.

Simplify your day and take advantage of this convenient service by going to flexischools.com.au and click "register".

- Canteen Committee
Community News
Unitingcare Wesley Preschool is a Community based, not for profit preschool in Castle Hill for 3 to 5 year olds. We have been in operation for over 40 years providing an excellent preschool educational programme to nurture each child reach their potential and assist in a smooth transition to school.
We are rated at Exceeding National Quality Standards in all 7 quality areas. Currently we have limited vacancies for 1, 2 or 3 day placements. Our operating hours are 9.00am to 3.00pm during school terms. Our fees are $45 a day with subsidies for those on a health care card, working or studying.
If you would like to enrol or visit the centre please contact the Director Jane Harvey on 96345282 or wesleypreschool@unitingcarenswact.org.au

BOOKCLUB
After three years of running Bookclub, I will be looking for 1 or 2 volunteers (if 2 people want to work together) to take over from me this Term if possible. I have set up the current 2015 teacher list and will help with training but as it is a new method of ordering from Scholastic, you are very welcome to set up a system that works for you.
You would be responsible for packing the brochures into class folders ready for distribution. Scholastic also pack the completed orders so they will also need to be double checked and the cash orders need to be packed.
The role is a lot easier now as parents can now order online for credit cards so we only enter in cash, cheques and library/school orders. You would also be responsible for ordering books for the 3/4 Reading Box and the Library using the reward points we earn through student orders.
If you are interested in learning more about the role, please contact me at katmullen@bigpond.com

- Katherine Mullen (Book Club Co-ordinator)
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<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan 26 Public Holiday</td>
<td>Jan 27 Staff Development Day - no students</td>
<td>Jan 28 Years 1-6 return Best Start Day</td>
<td>Jan 29 Best Start Day</td>
<td>Jan 30 Best Start Day</td>
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<td>EAL/D - student assessment and timetabling Yr 1-6</td>
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<td>Feb 2 Kindergarten start</td>
<td>Feb 3</td>
<td>Feb 4 Band Rehearsal &amp; Tuition Commences</td>
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<td>EAL/D - student assessment Kindergarten + timetabling</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Feb 9 EAL/D program starts</td>
<td>Feb 10 Expenses collection 8-10.30</td>
<td>Feb 11 Expenses collection 8-10.30</td>
<td>Feb 12 Expenses collection 8-10am and 2.30pm SRC Mtg 8.30am in 6L room</td>
<td>Feb 13</td>
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<td>7pm Tim McCallum mtg P&amp;C meeting 7.30pm</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Feb 16 Life Education</td>
<td>Feb 17 Life Education K-2 Parent Information session - 6-7pm</td>
<td>Feb 18 Life Education 3-6 +3/2S Parent Information Sessions 6-7pm</td>
<td>Feb 19 Life Education School Tour - 10am</td>
<td>Feb 20 Life Education P&amp;C welcome BBQ - Sunday 22 Feb</td>
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<td>Feb 23 Life Education</td>
<td>Feb 24 Life Education Year 6 Open day @ CHHS 9.30-1pm</td>
<td>Feb 25 Life Education Rescheduled 3G - Parent /teacher 4.30-5.30pm</td>
<td>Feb 26 Life Education SRC Mtg 8.30am in 6L room</td>
<td>Feb 27 Life Education SRC Disco</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Feb 16 Life Education</td>
<td>Feb 17 Life Education 3to6 Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>Feb 18 Life Education</td>
<td>Feb 19 Life Education K-6 SiSA - free</td>
<td>Feb 20 Life Education</td>
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<td>Feb 27 Life Education SRC Disco</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Mar 2 Life Education</td>
<td>Mar 3 Life Education 3to6 Swimming Carnival</td>
<td>Mar 4 Life Education</td>
<td>Mar 5 Life Education K-6 SiSA - free</td>
<td>Mar 6</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Mar 9 Yr 2 environmentors</td>
<td>Mar 10 Yr 2 environmentors Year 5 Planetarium incursion</td>
<td>Mar 11 P&amp;C meeting 7.30pm</td>
<td>Mar 12 K-6 SiSA - free SRC Mtg 8.30am in 6L room Selective High School Yr 7 2016 placement test</td>
<td>Mar 13 Year 2-3 Castle Hill Show</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Mar 30 Kinder 50 days celebration</td>
<td>Mar 31 Stage 3 - Teams Challenge</td>
<td>Apr 1</td>
<td>Apr 2 Last day of term</td>
<td>Apr 3 Good Friday</td>
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2015 ANNUAL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Our 2015 Swimming Carnival will be held on Tuesday March 3 (Week 6) at Waves Swimming Pool, Mileham Ave, Baulkham Hills, commencing at 9:15am and ending at 2:15pm.

All parents are welcome to attend the carnival however there will be an entry fee to be paid at the pool.

We are in need of some parent helpers to act as officials (timekeepers, place judges) during the carnival. If you are available on the day, we would appreciate your help as a volunteer. The reply slip is on the permission note as well as in the newsletter.

Students in Years 3-6 are expected to attend as it is a regular school day. There will be novelty events for children to participate in as well as the competition races.

Students need to bring their morning tea, lunch and water. Clothing and possessions need to be clearly labeled.

Students will receive ribbons for final events only.

We are all hoping that we have a fun day.

Year 3 Swimming Carnival Organisers

CHPS SWIMMING CARNIVAL PARENT HELPERS RETURN SLIP

I am able to assist at the swimming Carnival on Tuesday March 3, 2015.
My preference is: [ ] First Aid [ ] Official Timekeeper/place judge
Please supply your WWC number___________________ (from RMS).
D.O.B.______________________ for volunteer checking authorisation.

Contact phone number.................................

Name: ________________________  Child’s Name: ________________________  Class: __________

Please return this slip to Mrs Plant.
Kids Play Mini Footy

Mini Footy
Focussed on involvement and encouraging learning through play without the pressure of sticking to the strict laws of the game
Ages 4-8

Mod League
When Mini Footy is not challenging enough and they are ready for a more structured game
Ages 9-12

Rugby League
The full game played to international rules in various age-appropriate grades
Ages 13+

Hills Hawks JRLC
Dural Park
Quarry Rd, Dural NSW 2158

A family-oriented club
Free Come & Try events at Dural Park
5pm Monday 9th February
5.30pm Wednesday 25th February

Email: HawksRugbyLeague@gmail.com
Web: www.HillsHawks.com.au
Facebook: HawksRugbyLeague

PLAYNRL.COM
FUN, FITNESS & FRIENDSHIPS

Join a unique Australian sport which teaches a combination of dancing, aerobics, gymnastics and ballet all rolled in to one! Develop strength, good posture, flexibility & fitness through movement, rhythm, co-ordination, balance and musical interpretation. It’s twice the fun and half the price of other dance schools! The choreography is age appropriately designed, is performed to modern music and comprises marching, standing and floor exercises.

Classes held at Cherrybrook Cultural & Community Centre on Tuesdays and Thursdays and John Purchase Public School on Saturdays.

For more information contact Michele or Steph Cole:
Mobile: 0452 478 004 E: info@oakhillpcc.com.au www.oakhillpcc.com.au