MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Carers

The Gradual Release of Responsibility Instructional Framework at Holland Park State School

Over the last few years those who have read our newsletter will know that the school has responded to the academic data we collect by implementing various curriculum strategies. These have included:

- Holland Park’s Reading Comprehension Strategies
- Seven Steps to Writing Success
- Holland Park’s Mathematics Problem Solving Strategies
- Holland Park’s Spelling Program

However, I would like to spend a little time in explaining what underlies the pedagogical practice of the school because good practice is supported by evidence.

Our pedagogical framework is The Gradual Release of Responsibility (GRR) articulated perhaps best by Douglas Fisher and Nancy Frey in Better Learning Through Structured Teaching. Every teacher in this school has a copy of this framework. You might like to have a look at their website, fisherandfrey.com

For those interested, the GRR is based originally on the work of:

- Piaget (1952) – cognitive schemata
- Vygotsky (1962, 1978) – zones of proximal development
- Bandura (1965) – the roles of attention, retention, reproduction and motivation

FROM THE PRINCIPAL Cont’d

Put simply, the four stages of the Gradual Release of Responsibility are as follows:

1. “I do it.” (Explicit Instruction with all students listening to the teacher.)
2. “We do it.” (Teacher guides students through doing what the teacher wants them to learn.)
3. “You do it together.” (Students work together to demonstrate the skill or concept.)
4. “You do it alone.” Students demonstrate their ability to demonstrate the skill or concept on their own.

The GRR is represented diagrammatically below.

A structure for successful instruction (Fisher & Frey, 2008)

Regards,
Anthony Gribbin.

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Reading at home

At Holland Park SS we value reading as a critical skill to future success. Parents have a vital role in helping their children to be great readers and we encourage parents to read to, or with, their children daily. You can help your child improve their reading by focussing on how they read out loud (fluency is one element of this) and how well they understand the text that they are reading (comprehension).

There are a range of skills that readers need to be successful—one of these is fluency.

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL Cont’d

Students who are fluent readers…

- Read individual words correctly (need knowledge of phonics and vocabulary)
- Read at an appropriate pace
- Vary their expression and tone of voice
- Follow rules for punctuation.

Helping with fluency

Next time your child reads to you try to help them improve their fluency by focussing on some of these skills:

- Pausing at full stops, commas and other punctuation
- Voice going down at end of sentence
- Voice rising for a question
- Varying volume to suit context
- Maintaining an even pace

Helping with comprehension

When reading, discuss the text with your child you may ask simple questions about what you have heard or read. This will aid their comprehension. You may also challenge your child with some questions that really makes them think!!


Example 2: How would you describe…in your own words? What does … mean? Why is …. important? Why did ….? How did ….?

Example 3: How are … and …. alike? What is the difference between … and ….? How does …….make a difference ….? What causes….? What would happen if ……..?

The main goal when reading with your child is that it is a positive and enjoyable experience.

Calendar

3 Mar  School Leaders Induction & Morning Tea
14 Mar  Year 6 Students to Young Leaders
22 Mar  HPSS Cross Country
24 Mar  Last day of Term 1

SCHOOL WATCH – 13 17 88
Philosophy in the Classroom

The word “Philosophy” comes from the Greek words Philos (love) and Sophia (wisdom). In other words, philosophy is the love of wisdom. It’s the practice of asking very big questions, ones that often have more than one possible answer. For example, What does it mean to have a good life? Does wealth bring happiness? How do you know when something exists? Are some things beautiful to everyone? Can someone’s opinion change another person’s life? What does it take to learn? Is it always good to be fair? How can I figure out the right thing to do? Should right and wrong be the same for everyone, or should each person get their own set of rules?

Questions presented in philosophy may not have clear answers, but that just means there’s more opportunity for exploration and discussion.

A weekly philosophy lesson for children has been shown to develop thinking, reasoning and conceptual skills, provide intellectual challenges, encourage respect for people and their ideas, and help children make connections to the world beyond the classroom. The program supports and includes all students.

There are four rules of engagement that are taught and followed during philosophy lessons:
1. We listen to each other
2. We think about and build on each other’s ideas
3. We respect each other: everyone’s ideas are valued
4. There may be no single correct answer

Leigh Harrod,
A/Deputy Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL Cont’d

FROM THE OFFICE

Don’t forget to complete and hand in your Volunteer’s Confidentiality Agreement to Karen Oliver before you volunteer in the classrooms, available on the School Website or at the Admin Office.

In the very near future you will receive a form to update ALL your contact details. Please complete and return to the office ASAP. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU PRINT YOUR DETAILS SO IT CAN BE EASILY READ. It is imperative that we have the most up to date contact details. If you have custody agreements that have been updated, please remember to give the office a copy to keep on our confidential files.

LITERACY PROGRAM

Year 1 students are off to a flying start with reading in 2016. As part of our early years focus at Holland Park we are extending the Prep Literacy Program which commenced in 2015 into all Year 1 classes. A consistent approach in all classes is being implemented that uses the school’s pedagogical framework, the Gradual Release of Responsibility (Fisher & Frey, 2008). In this model of there are four distinct instructional stages including focused instruction (I do it), guided instruction (We do it), collaborative learning (You do it together), and independent learning (You do it alone).
The five key literacy elements of the program are:

**Phonemic Awareness:** The ability to notice, think about, and work with the individual sounds in spoken words (phonemes).

**Synthetic Phonics:** The set of rules that specify the relationship between the sounds (phonemes) of spoken language and the letters (graphemes) and spelling of words. Using magnetic letters children are taught to understand how sounds (phonemes) are blended together to pronounce the words. In Year 1 the synthetic phonics sequence will be extended beyond the basic set of phonemes taught in Prep. Some examples include: split vowels a-e, e-e, i-e, o-e, u-e and long vowel sounds ai, ee, oa, ea.

**Fluency:** The ability to read a text accurately and quickly using phrasing and emphasis.

**Vocabulary Development:** Teaching new words directly through clear definitions and examples and indirectly using word learning strategies.

**Reading Comprehension:** Connecting what has been read to what the reader already knows in order to understand the information.

A team of four teacher aides and the Year 1 class teachers explicitly teach these skills to five groups of students in each class for half an hour per day. This occurs on Monday to Thursday of each week. A range of reading materials at the appropriate level of difficulty provide a differentiated approach to cater for all students. Students are learning to listen to speech sounds (phonemes) represented by letters (graphemes). They are explicitly taught blending (pushing sounds together), segmenting (separating sounds), reading, sorting and writing words. New reading books and other phonics resources have been purchased that match the sounds being taught.

All the Year 1 teachers and teacher aides have been involved in professional development facilitated by Julia Whittaker (Master teacher) and Mimi Fites (Learning support teacher). This has included leaning about current research that supports the program as well as hands-on practical experiences teaching students.

Julia Whittaker (Master Teacher)
**PREP GY WENT WALKING**

On Monday, February 1, Prep GY students went for a walk up to Holland Park administration. PGY wore their sun safe hats and carried their water bottles. PGY had read the book “I Went Walking” written by Sue Machin and illustrated by Julie Vivas. At Admin PGY met Admin Officers Mrs Foster and Mrs Oliver. They both said “Good Morning” to PGY.

PGY visited Mr Gribbin, our School Principal, Mrs Harrod and Mr Danielewski, our Deputy Principals working in their offices. Mrs Popovic, our Business Service Manager asked us all about the sports we play and did PGY watch the Australian Open Tennis. She asked us if we liked prep and we said it was great starting school at Holland Park State School. PGY liked visiting the admin office and on the way back to prep we went to visit our Prep buddy class 6NA to say hello.

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**SWIMMING CLUB**

Welcome back for the second half of the 2015-2016 Swim Club season. On Friday, we had 134 swimmers competing, which was a great turnout. The storms held off and it was an extremely humid night, very conducive to swimming.

Due to Easter being a bit earlier this year there are only 4 more club nights before the Age Championships, so make sure you attend as many Friday nights as you can. The club’s handbook is on the website and this should answer most questions regarding the Championships.

Well done to Jack C as he greatly improved his times in 3 of the 4 strokes last Friday night.

The order of events this week are:- 13m/25m/50m Backstroke, Freestyle, Breaststroke, Butterfly, and the 100m IM being the special race for the night. The order of the strokes for the IM is: Butterfly, Backstroke, Breaststroke and Freestyle. Nominations for club night need to be in prior to 5.00pm Thursday.

Results from club night are on the website.

**MOST IMPROVED AT CLUB NIGHT**

The club wishes to acknowledge the great improvements in times achieved by swimmers throughout the season. Each week we shall list the swimmer who took the most time off their previous best swim for the season. The following children will be presented with a “Treat Voucher” for the canteen. (only 1 voucher per child per week) Friday night’s most improved were:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STROKE</th>
<th>Swimmer’s Name</th>
<th>SECONDS IMPROVED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25m Freestyle</td>
<td>Jack C</td>
<td>9.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25m Backstroke</td>
<td>Jack C</td>
<td>10.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25m Breaststroke</td>
<td>Lucy H</td>
<td>7.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25m Butterfly</td>
<td>Jack C</td>
<td>12.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50m Freestyle</td>
<td>Archie M</td>
<td>3.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50m Backstroke</td>
<td>Max S</td>
<td>3.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50m Breaststroke</td>
<td>Joshua S</td>
<td>4.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50m Butterfly</td>
<td>Jackson M</td>
<td>9.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100m Butterfly</td>
<td>Ethan C</td>
<td>13.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SWIMMING CLUB Cont’d

BRISBANE RELAY

Holland Park had 28 competitors at the 2016 Brisbane Metropolitan Relay Championships last Sunday. We had a very vocal group cheering on all our teams. Holland Park did well finishing 2nd in their Brisbane Swimming Division. All teams gained valuable points for our club.

TUCKSHOP

If you are ordering tuckshop this year it is ONLINE ONLY.

If you have not signed up for online ordering go to www.school24.com.au and follow the instructions. Our school registration ID is 25245963.

Although it is not an option online - you can go to the tuckshop and give cash money to Mel and she will be able to put it on to your account.

If you have any trouble with signing up call in and see Mel and she will be able to help you.

Just remember there will be no paper bags over the counter, it is ONLINE ONLY.

Ice blocks, drinks and chips are still available to purchase at break times.

Mel
Active School Travel Program

HPSS is one of 18 new schools joining Brisbane City Council’s Active School Travel Program in 2016. The program aims to help families swap car trips for more active and healthier travel alternatives such as walking, cycling or scooting to school. We are currently seeking parents to assist on the committee. If you are interested or would like to find out more please contact Melanie on 0412 673 561 or melecox@yahoo.com.au.

Please make sure you see the P&C Attachments to this newsletter:

1. 2016 Fete News
2. 2016 Executive Positions
3. P&C Membership Applications

School Chess Program for Term 1 is commencing on Thursday, 11th February. Cost is $77.00 per student for term 1 only. Please see the flyer attached to this school newsletter for more details.

IMPORTANT CHANGE OF VENUE

PLEASE NOTE !!!!!!!

PARENT NIGHTS

The Parent Night for Years 5 & 6 on Wednesday, 10th February, from 6.30pm will now be held in the Library, and 7.00pm in the classrooms.
COMMUNITY NEWS

2016 Harvey Norman NRL Touch Football All Stars Super Clinic

Date: Thursday 11th February
Venue: Brisbane Metropolitian Touch Association,
White Hill Reserve, Boondall Road, Camp Hill
Time: 5:45pm to 7:30pm
Age: 6-12yrs
Cost: Free
Children will be coached through a range of skills and drills by some of Australia’s elite Touch Football players and coaching staff.

ONLY 250 SPOTS ARE AVAILABLE, CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE!

Greater Brisbane Junior Tennis (GBJT) conducts weekly Tennis Fixtures at the Queensland Tennis Centre, Tennyson and The University of Queensland for children up to 18 years of age. Grading day for new players is to be held on Sunday, 7 February at the Queensland Tennis Centre, Tennyson from 3pm to 5pm. Further information is available at www.gbjt.org.au or by phoning Mrs Peta Davis on 3374 0516.

Redbacks Netball Club originated at HPSS in 1986. We now practice at Wembley Park, Coorparoo on a Thursday afternoon and games are on Saturday. We have a committed support team of coaches, umpires and players and know how to introduce your daughter to netball. Further to this, we will help all players to grow in skills and develop a love for the awesome game of netball!

Redbacks Netball Club has started having skills sessions in preparation for games (April 16th is the first game) but we are still looking for players in some age groups:

Under 7 (born 2006): one or two more players
Under 8 (born 2005): one or two more players
Under 10 (born 2006): four more players
Under 11 (born 2005): four more players
Under 12 (born 2004): four more players
Under 13 (born 2003): five more players

Please take a look at our website: http://www.redbacksnetball.org/ or email redbacksrego@gmail.com to register. For more information please call Cathy 0411 467 751.
COMMUNITY NEWS

SAND SAFARI

Presented by Streets Ice Cream

Enter the enchanted wonderland of Sand Safari presented by Streets Ice Cream as Surfers Paradise over 3 weeks transforms into a precinct of art inspired by sand and sea.

Sand Safari will feature DreamWorks heroes from Kung Fu Panda, Madagascar, Shrek and more, carved in large sand sculptures at the Australian Sand Sculpting Championships along the foreshore and 32 mini sculptures in the Sand Trail from Tweed Heads to Loganholme, plus some exciting brand new elements including Sand and Sea themed sculptures, art murals and photography exhibitions.

Sand Safari includes:

- Sand & Sea Sculptures (5 to 28 February)
- Pop-up photographic galleries & Photography Competition (5 to 28 February)
- DreamWorks mini Sand Trail across the Gold Coast (5 to 28 February)
- Mural Art (5 to 7 February)
- DreamWorks 2016 Australian Sand Sculpting Championships (12 to 14 February)
- Sand Art Activities and Workshops (12 to 26 February)
- DreamWorks Heroes Exhibition (17 to 28 February)

Price: Free

Address: Throughout Surfers Paradise
Phone: (07) 5594 3700
Website: http://www.surfersparadise.com/whats-on/free-events/sand-safari
ADVERTISEMENTS

Australian Fitness & Martial Arts Club
Karate for Children, Mums & Dads
Christine: 0400 179 960
Sensei Andy: 0403 358 397
www.afmaclub.com.au

ADVERTISING IN THE NEWSLETTER: All advertising is to be at school NO LATER than 9am on Monday. Ads cost $15 for an 8cm X 4cm (Arial, size 10) advertisement. Approximately the size of this message. (Please call Sanja Popovic, BSM, HPSS, 3421 6222)