

Holland Park State School

NEWSLETTER



12 February 2016

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents & Carers

Our Improvement Priority

Last week in this newsletter and again at our parent information nights I briefly explained the Gradual Release of Responsibility (GRR) which is our approach to teaching at Holland Park State School. In this week's newsletter I would like to explain the key curriculum area in which we apply the GRR. The ability to read with a high level of comprehension is the single biggest predictor of success in each other curriculum area. In explaining what we do with this priority area at school, it is my hope that we can create a link to reading at home. There are eight tiers of comprehension skills in our explicit teaching framework.

1. **Main Idea:** The main idea is the main point the writer is trying to convey. It can be stated explicitly or implied in the text. The first sentence of a passage and repeated words and phrases are good clues to what the main idea might be.
2. **Author's Purpose:** Why did the author go to the trouble of writing a piece. If the writing is fictional then the author's purpose could simply be to entertain. If the writing contains facts or true information, the most likely purpose would be to inform or to teach the reader something. If the writing tries to get you to do something then the author's purpose is most likely to be persuasive or convincing.
3. **Making Connections:** Readers make meaning by establishing connections with their own lives, with books they have already read and with their own knowledge of events in the world.
4. **Accessing prior knowledge:** This is very similar to the above where readers can gain more understanding by asking themselves what they already know about the topic being written about.
5. **Inferring:** For students, this can be a difficult thing to do. What the author is really saying may not be stated explicitly but rather hidden in the text. A reader then needs to be able to use the text as well as their prior knowledge to determine a text's meaning.
6. **Predicting:** The ability to make a thoughtful guess as to what will happen in the text is a very useful comprehension strategy. It is also fun to test predictions against what actually does happen.



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FROM THE PRINCIPAL Cont'd

7. Questioning: Good readers are able to ask themselves questions about the text in which they are engaged. These could be the beginnings of great questions. Who is...? What is...? How did...? Where is....? Why did....?

8. Summarising: This can also be quite tricky for students to do effectively. In summarising, we are asking students to present the main ideas of a text in their own words. To be able to do this they do need to be able to identify the key characters and their interactions and what the author was trying to achieve.

When you are sharing some reading at home the above can be very useful in checking the level of comprehension your child has. Of course, I also know that reading, especially as children become more independent in their reading choices, can be best enjoyed without interruption.

As I explained, at our parent information nights, as a school we are reviewing homework strategies because there are some that work and some that do not. In doing so, I have been encouraging teachers to look for ways to better incorporate expectations around reading into the homework for our students.

Regards,
Anthony Gribbin.

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPALS

Dear Parents & Carers

SCHOOL LEADERS 2016

Our School Captains were selected this week through a process which had all candidates speak to their fellow students, students casting their votes, the shortlisting of interview candidates and interviews being undertaken.

Special congratulations to Holly E and Arlyn C on becoming School Captains for 2016. They will be ably supported by the School Vice-Captains, Olivia D and Jean-Jacques H.

Every year we witness a large group of students nominate for these positions; a group of aspiring leaders who set high standards for themselves as they seek to undertake leadership roles. The speeches given by all candidates were of a very high standard, well prepared, well-structured and well presented.

Calendar

25 Feb	Year 5 Nexus Art Incursion "Kia Toa"
2 Mar	Year 5 Raw Art Incursion Clay Landscapes
3 Mar	School Leaders Induction & Morning Tea
10 Mar	PJC and PTS Lone Pine
16 Mar	PGY, PDY, PAF to Lone Pine
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

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL Cont'd

Clearly I do not envisage Holland Park having a shortage of public speakers. Congratulations to all the candidates; they will all continue to be student leaders with influence in the school.



Students from our three sports houses met on Friday and in a similar process listened to the candidates for house captain positions. Voting is completed and interviews will take place early next week. It was great to see a range of speeches that were personalised and innovative in their presentations.

PARENT TEACHER INFORMATION NIGHTS

Thank you to all who were able to attend our three information nights this week. There was a strong attendance each night; this first opportunity to meet your teachers provided us with the platform to present key whole school, year level and individual class messages.

Reading, Teaching Pedagogies, Homework, High-Order Thinking are four foci for 2016. These have been and will be the topics in our newsletters this year. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Kumar Thaivarayan, our P and C President, and Ms Kittson, our teacher librarian, for their support over the three nights and acknowledge the professional commitment of our teachers, even teachers currently on leave, in meeting with you this week.

ASBESTOS

You may have noticed the use of orange barrier mesh and fencing around the area between the two junior adventure play areas on the oval as well as the pathway connecting the entrance close to the Victor Street Scout Hall and the Prep building.

The school always responds to discoveries of material suspected of containing asbestos; areas are isolated, barriers erected, our building services group is contacted and a process put into place resulting in a clearance for future use of that area. Materials discovered are sent away for analysis. Outside agencies have been organised for a clean this weekend and community groups which utilise our facilities have had to make other arrangements and source other venues; this impacts on a significant number of our community and our apologies for the inconvenience.

Asbestos does raise concerns so I have attached a link to our department's site that provides a background briefing about asbestos and its potential effect on health. The background description of Dr Keith Adams is taken directly from the website.

Dr Keith Adam - Chief Health Advisor on Asbestos

Dr Keith Adam has been practising as a specialist in occupational medicine for over 20 years. He has been a consultant to a number of organisations regarding asbestos-related matters, including the Queensland Electricity Commission, the Queensland Department of Housing and Public Works and organisations in the chemical industry. Dr Adam continues to advise the department in relation to asbestos-related matters for department-owned facilities and when required liaises with personnel regarding asbestos health concerns. Dr Adam has developed a series of 'Asbestos' vodcasts, designed to provide viewers with factual information about contemporary asbestos-related matters in Queensland state schools.

Vodcasts available to provide employees and community members with detailed information on key asbestos topics include;

- [Part 1 - Asbestos: Asbestos in Schools](#)
- [Part 2 - Asbestos: What is Asbestos?](#)
- [Part 3 - Asbestos: What are the Health Effects?](#)
- [Part 4 - Asbestos: What can we do following exposure?](#)

<http://education.qld.gov.au/asbestos/expertise/keith-adam.html>

With our school grounds being as they are and the degree of water flow over our slopes, whenever it rains, washing away topsoil, there is the ongoing probability further material containing suspect asbestos will be exposed. When that occurs the school will commence processes to protect the health and wellbeing of our children, parents/carers, school staff and community members. In the meantime the school is looking at ways to restore and protect eroded areas.

Regards

Edward Danielewski
Deputy Principal

Curriculum

At Holland Park we have introduced a 'Philosophy Program in years prep and six.

Below are some rules for doing 'Philosophy' with students.

1. There is no such thing as a silly question.

- Some of the most interesting theories are found in strange places, and if no one asks, no one will ever find out. Applaud curiosity, and leave no stone unturned!

2. Keep your questions open.

- Simple "Yes" and "No" questions don't make for very interesting discussions. Try to find real, open-ended problems with a variety of possible answers. Begin your questions with "Tell me about this" or "What do you think about..."

3. Everyone should have a chance to speak.

- In order for arguments to be balanced and valid, they need to include as many different perspectives as possible. Create an environment where everyone feels comfortable putting in their two cents worth.

Regards,

Leigh Harrod,
A/Deputy Principal

SCHOOL RULES

STAYING SAFE ON HARD SURFACES

- Walk, not run on hard surfaces
- Use seats for sitting on, not standing on or jumping over
- Use big balls on the oval only, not on hard surfaces
- Use courts at playtime for tennis, netball or handball only

5C TIP OF THE WEEK

CONSIDERATION

Keep our school tidy:

- Place rubbish in bins (even if it is not yours)
- Place all your belongings in your school bag, rather than on the ground beside it.

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.

FROM THE CLO

A warm welcome to all our school community for 2016.

As I mentioned at our Enrolment Information and Orientation Sessions last year I will again be co-ordinating the valued **Class Parent Representatives** Program this year. I am sure it has been mentioned at our Parent Teacher Evenings that were held recently.

Rather than sending the usual forms home via each student, if you would like to volunteer for the role of Class Parent Rep for your child/ren's class, please send me an email (koliv33@eq.edu.au) and I will email you the relevant documentation.

Thank you to the Mums who have already emailed me their contact details, I will have the documentation to you shortly.

On behalf of the school community, thank you for volunteering to take on this role, your time and effort is very much appreciated.

Cheers from
Karen Oliver
Community Liaison Officer

FROM THE LIBRARY

FREE VOLUNTARY READING

Stephen Krashen (professor emeritus at the University of Southern California) is a passionate advocate of free voluntary reading.

What follows is a summary of some key points in his writings (many of which are available online).

Evidence continues to accumulate that those who do more recreational reading show better development in reading, writing, grammar, and vocabulary. This is the case for first and second language acquisition, and is true for adults as well as children. We acquire language by using it.

ACCESS IS KEY

- More reading takes place in those classes in which more books are available, and where teachers read at the same time as their students. A proven way is for teachers to schedule time for sustained silent reading (SSR) – a little each day.
- The role of the school library is to provide students with access to 'sheltered popular literature'.

WHAT WORKS

- Teacher / student conferencing (*something which can be done by parents as well*)
- Direct encouragement from teachers and librarians results in more reading and more challenging reading
- Good evidence that rewards and incentives play no role in increasing the amount of reading done nor impact on gains in comprehension

Reading is the most common 'flow' activity.

In positive psychology, flow, also known as the zone, is the mental state of operation in which a person performing an activity is fully immersed in a feeling of energized focus, full involvement, and enjoyment in the process of the activity. In essence, flow is characterized by complete absorption in what one does. (Source: Wikipedia)

While there is evidence to show that homework does little or nothing to improve student outcomes, reading is the exception.

Margaret Kittson (teacher-librarian)

SWIMMING CLUB



FRIDAY NIGHT CLUB

A slightly quieter Friday night as high school competitions have commenced and a few were resting up before the Brisbane Sprint.

Remember that swimmers must compete at 50% of club nights to be eligible to compete at the Age Championships. The club's handbook is on the website and this should answer most questions.

The order of events this week are:- 13m/25m/50m Freestyle, Backstroke, Butterfly and Breaststroke, and the 100m Freestyle being the special race for the night.

Results from club night will be uploaded tomorrow (Monday).

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:-

5th February 2016 – Club Night 11

STROKE	Swimmer's Name	SECONDS IMPROVED
25m Freestyle	Grace S	2.70
25m Backstroke	Lachlan D	5.51
25m Breaststroke	Harvey G	4.07
25m Butterfly	Ben H	.72
50m Freestyle	Lachlan D	7.91
50m Backstroke	Max S	3.68
50m Breaststroke	Eliza P	2.25
50m Butterfly	Emilee P	.91
100m IM	Jack W	12.52

SWIMMING CLUB Cont'd

BRISBANE SPRINT

We had our largest team ever qualify to compete at the 2016 Vorgee Brisbane Sprint Championships at Chandler over the weekend. Most of the swimmers achieved PB's.

A couple of our swimmers made finals. Congratulation to Taliyah S who made the final of the girls 11years, 50m Freestyle and Breaststroke, placing 5th in both finals and to Nick E who came 2rd in the 13years 50m Breaststroke and 3rd in the 50m Freestyle finals.



Some of our team members at the Brisbane Sprint

RON HALL SHIELD

The Ron Hall Shield is on this Saturday. There have been no changes to the team list, so it is expected all selected swimmers will attend.

Remember to wear your Club Cap and Shirt and your team coloured zinc,(if you have some). The venue is : Wishart State School, Morella Street, Wishart. Warm-Up at 4.00pm with racing from 4.30pm. Our club will be expected to Time Keep 2 lanes for this event – so hopefully there will be lots of volunteers.

We still need 1 more parent to swim in the parent's 4x25m freestyle relay.

The club wishes all swimmers the very best for a great meet against Wishart and Camp Hill.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Age Championships – 4th and 11th March; Trophy Night – 18th March; Wet'N'Wild – 20th March;

HPE REPORT from Mr. Walker

Mt Gravatt District Swim Trials

HPSS was represented by 42 students at the recent Mt Gravatt District Swimming Trials. Not only was it fantastic to have a large number of swimmers, it was also a great day for many of our students with some great results throughout the day. I was very impressed with their commitment and positive behaviour during the event. An awesome effort from Hannah A, Nicholas B, Madeline C, Oliver D, Margot D, Lilly F, Isabelle F, Amelie H, Abbey H, Amanda H, Zoe H, Josephine H, Reece H, Harry H, Joel H, Daria K, Ella M, Finn M, Charlotte M, Christopher M, Parker M, Ryan M, Madison M, Ambryn P, Eliza P, Alexander P, Grace R, Emma R, Clayton S, Emily S, Annie S, Connor S, Max S, Joshua S, Emily S, Olivia T, Siena T, Priya T, Finn W, Phoebe W, Jessica W and Jack W.

Students that have been selected into the Mt Gravatt District team will be acknowledged in next week's newsletter.

Thank you to Coach Phil who supported and ensured that all swimmers were prepared for each of their events resulting in a very positive swim meet. I would also like to acknowledge our parents and carers that supported on the day. A great start to our sporting year.



Cross Country Training

We have had a fantastic response to our Cross Country training sessions with over around 170 students attending over the three training sessions. On behalf of all students attending training I would like to thank Mrs Moore, Mr Shackcloth, Mrs Ford and Mrs Griffin for giving their time to allow the training session to go ahead. Please remember to be there on time, have a hat and bring along your water bottles. Training sessions are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8.15am.

SCHOOL BANKING

Join School Banking on an outback adventure!

School Banking started again this week. It was great to see so many children participating again this year as well as quite a few new students who started school banking for the first time!

Each year, the School Banking program launches a new savings theme and exclusive School Banking reward items. This year's program is themed the **Outback Savers**.

The 8 new reward items for 2016 from the Outback Savers range are:

- Flying Snake Tail – available now
- Wildlife Writer Set – available now
- Mud Splat Handball – available from Term 2
- Outback Pat Bag Tag – available from Term 2
- Backtrack Eraser Pen – available from Term 3
- Jump and Skip Rope – available from Term 3
- Bush Fly Fan – available from Term 4
- Wiggly Flow Worm – available from Term 4



Win a wildlife family adventure holiday to Australia Zoo!

This year School Banking is giving students the chance to win a family trip for up to two adults and three children to explore Australia Zoo and meet Bindi and Robert Irwin.

Students who make 15 or more School Banking deposits by the end of Term 3, 2016 will be automatically entered into the draw. This is another great way to motivate students to save regularly and reach their savings goals.

TUCKSHOP

NO MORE BAGS

Tuckshop is online orders only.

If you haven't done so already go to www.school24.com.au and register.
HPSS registration ID: 25245963.

Much easier than trying to find the money every day in your wallet, or having the wrong money.

There is also an app available for your phone.

Money can be put on your account online or by coming and seeing Mel in the tuckshop.

If you are unsure on how to use this system please see Mel and she will be able to help you set it up.

Ice blocks, Drinks and Chips are still available over the counter at break time.

Thanks Mel

P&C Contacts

Email: pandc@hollparkss.eq.edu.au



Swim School: 3421 6262
hollandparkpool@gmail.com
Enquiries 3 – 5pm Mon – Fri term time

Swim Club website:
www.hollandparkswimclub.com

Uniform Shop: (07) 3397 7426
Open Mon, Wed and Thurs,
7.00am – 9.30am term time

Tuckshop: 07 3421 6263
Open Monday – Friday
Order online at
www.school24.com.au (ID: 25245963)



2016 Fete – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

Convenor: Dan Cook

Mobile: 0402 626 254

Email: hpssfete@gmail.com

**The P&C meets at 7:30pm on the 4th
Wednesday each month.**

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.redbacksnetsball.org/> or email redbacksrego@gmail.com to register. For more information please call Cathy 0411 467 751.



It's delivery time!

Keep a look out, Earn & Learn will be commencing soon!!!!

GIRL GUIDES – HAVING FUN TODAY, LEADING THE WORLD TOMORROW.

WYNOLA GIRL GUIDES – MERIDIAN STREET, COORPAROO

Invites you to join us:-

Koala Guides (5 & 6 year olds) - Wednesday 4.30-6.00pm

Junior Guides (7 – 10 years) – Tuesday 5.00-7.00pm

Senior Guides (10 - 15 years) – Friday 6.30 – 8.30pm

Come and join in the fun of camping, cooking, craft, canoeing, abseiling, high and low ropes, music, dancing and drama etc.

Guiding is about making new friends, developing self-confidence and gaining skills in leadership and teamwork.

For further information please contact:

Elaine Phone: 0410 293 359



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