Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the new school year. I hope you have all enjoyed the summer break and that your children are off to a good start in their new classes.

In particular, I would like to offer a warm welcome to those who are new to our school community. It was certainly wonderful to see the bright looks of anticipation on the faces of all our new prep enrolments.

Our newly appointed teachers include:
Chelsea Murray (Prep)
Katherine Pentland (Year 4)

Also new to our school and filling contracts for vacancies and for those on leave are:
Emma Polities (Year 1)
Tegan Jones (Year 2)
Julie Carlson (Year 3)
Sarah Kelly (Year 4)

Our Head of Curriculum, Leigh Harrod has returned and will share that role with Julia Whittaker.

IMPROVEMENT AGENDA

I would like to remind you all that this school takes its improvement agenda seriously. We have seen very significant improvements in the school’s academic performance over the last 6 years in particular, with last year being the best yet. This has been evidenced in our Naplan results for Years 3, 5 and 7 as well as well as in many other sources of data supporting student learning. Much good work has been done in ensuring that intervention, where needed, is done early and that the differentiated learning needs of all our students are met.
Our improvement agenda focuses on Reading, Writing, Spelling and Mathematics. Our goals are:

- To have 100% of our students above National Minimum Standards in the above areas
- To decrease to single digits, the percentage of our students in the bottom 20% of achievers nationally.
- To increase the percentage of our students in the top 20% of achievers nationally

Fundamental to our improvement agenda is good teaching and the main vehicle for improvement in this will be the furthering of our coaching and mentoring programs using the rich sources of talent that we are lucky to have in this school.

While detail is still a little sketchy, you may have read in the local media that the school will receive from federal funding approximately $230,000 for the enhancement of literacy and numeracy outcomes. This is a very exciting development indeed.

**ATTENDANCE**

Every day counts for every student from Prep to Year 7. Learning is sequential, so missing class time does have consequences. Of course, if children are sick, they need to be at home and cared for but otherwise they should be at school.

Looking at our attendance data, it might be assumed that learning in Prep and Year 1 is not so importantly regarded because we have higher absenteeism in those year levels. In addition, right through the school it is possible to identify students who have days away from school on a regular basis. I want to stress that those days away come at a serious cost to learning.

Protracted family holidays during school also break the sequence of learning for students and can breach the compulsory attendance provisions of the Education Act. Plans for such holidays need to be notified to the school. I would like to point out that the provision of an educational program by your child’s teacher while children are on holiday is usually not very practical.

**CURRICULUM NEWS**

The most significant change in our curriculum this year will be the teaching of Geography as part of the Australian Curriculum. This discipline now joins English, Mathematics, Science and History as subjects taught as part of the Australian Curriculum.

**SOME OTHER IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS**

- It is important that contact details are current so that the school is able to contact you as needed. If any of your contact details, including emergency contacts have changed recently, please advise the office in writing via email or contact details update form (collected from office).

- The safety & wellbeing of our students is very important, the school needs to be aware of any formal & informal custody arrangements for our students. If any details have changed or new arrangements are in place, please advise the office in writing along with any legal documentation as soon as possible.

- If your child has any severe health concern necessitating an action plans eg. Anaphylaxis or Asthma, please ensure that both the office and classroom teacher have a copy. These action plans are posted in First Aid Rooms and in the

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**Calendar**

- **8 Feb**  P&C Election Day cake stall
- **26 Feb**  P&C Meeting, 7.30pm
- **11 Mar**  School Photos
- **12 Mar**  School Photos
- **21 Mar**  Year 4 – 7 Disco

**DATE CLAIMERS**

- P&C Easter Event
- HPSS Fete – Saturday 14 June

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**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: 3421 6263
Open Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs and Fri

The P&C meets at 7:30pm on the 4th Wednesday each month.
playground duty folders. Some of these action plans we have are now quite old. Next time you are in the school you might want to check that we have the most recent version.

Anthony Gribbin
Principal

P&C News

WELCOME TO THE 2014 SCHOOL YEAR

We’d like to welcome you all to our school this year. Whether a familiar face, or a new one, we hope you have a great year. We have some great plans for this year which we hope you’ll all be a part of. On top of the businesses we manage (Tuckshop, Uniform Shop and Swim School and Swim Club) we do lots of fundraising activities throughout the year, to give us more to spend! Put the Easter Event (30 March) and the Fete (14 June) in your diary now!

We’re always looking for those of you who want to truly get involved to help all our students. We meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Our first meeting this year is at 7:30pm, Wednesday 26 February in the library. Come along, keep up-to-date on what’s happening around the school, make new friends, and help define where we’re heading and what we buy.

HPSS ELECTION DAY CAKE STALL!

We will be running a cake stall outside the hall during the Griffith By-election (8am – 1pm, Saturday 8 February). We typically raise over $1,000 from our cake stall. Can you help beat this?

Can you do any of the following? We need:
• Bakers - cakes, biscuits or slices.
• Stall sellers - sparing an hour to help out on the day.
• Setup crew - help setup the stall in the morning 7 - 8am.

If you can help in any way or want more information, email me via pandc@hollparkss.eq.edu.au or call Lisa (O’Donnell - Vice President) on 0418 542 875.

Catch you soon,
Kumar Thaivarayan
P&C President
pandc@hollparkss.eq.edu.au
www.facebook.com/hollandparkstateschool

Musical Notes

STRINGS LESSONS

All lessons start Tuesday 4th Feb Yr 3-7. Orchestra for Yr 5-7 before school start Tuesday 4th Feb Yr 3-7.

School Banking resumes weekly from Thursday 13 February 2014

For every deposit made at school, no matter how big or small, students will receive a cool Dollarmites token. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can be redeemed for a range of great reward items. A list of these rewards will be available shortly.

MARK YOUR DIARY NOW

SATURDAY
14 JUNE 2014

The next HPSS fete will be in June 2014!

If you are interested in being part of the organising committee, or have some ideas to add to the mix, there will be an informal meeting in the Staff Room after drop off on Wednesday, 11 December 2013.

Please come along and be part of the school’s largest event.

If you can’t make it, but are interested in being involved please email or call Louise Hope on lhope@bigpond.net.au or 0407 369 061 for more details.

Nihongo Club 2014

Communicate in Japanese while making craft, singing songs and playing games and quizzes. Friendly, fun environment!

When: Tuesdays 3:10-4:00pm
Who: Grades 1 – 7
Where: Holland Park State School
Starts from 4th February 2014
$120 per Term

To Register your interest email to: takstutoring@gmail.com
Taking part in School Banking is easy
If your child has an existing Commonwealth Bank Youthsaver account they can start banking straight away. They just need to bring their deposit in every week using their Dollarmites deposit wallet. If your child has misplaced their Dollarmites deposit book or deposit wallet, they can request a new one from either the local branch or contact the School Banking Co-ordinator.

If your child does not have a Youthsaver account, you can either attend the “new account” opening day session at school in the resource room which is under the office on Tuesday 25 February from 8am – 9am, alternatively you can open an account at any Commonwealth Bank branch, no forms to fill in! If you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer with access to NetBank you can apply online. Another option is to download a paper-based application form from commbank.com.au/schoolbanking. Please note this option may take up to 2 weeks before a Dollarmites wallet and deposit book is sent to your home address.

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program at Holland Park State School. Any enquiries contact the Student Banking Coordinator Virginia Kelly on 0422 217 760.

Volunteers needed to help with the processing of students’ banking each Thursday morning for approximately an hour from 9am in the Staff Room. All volunteers gratefully accepted – no experience necessary! Happy to welcome prep parents and grandparents! Come along and join the friendly team of volunteers!

Kind regards,
Virginia Kelly
School Banking Coordinator

KIDS KARATE - NEW BEGINNER’S CLASSES
Children 4yrs & up, also Parents at Clairvaux Mackillop College Hall, Klump Rd, Mt Gravatt. Sing on any Mon & Wed 5:15-6:00pm, plus other locations. Call Sensei Andy 0403 358397 or web: www.afmaclub.com.au. Australian Fitness & Martial Arts Club.

COME JOIN THE FUN!
Are you a girl aged five or above? Would you like to try some fun outdoor activities, like cooking, canoeing, abseiling and camp cooking? Or are you interested in some less adventurous activities such as craft, ice skating and community events? Then Mt Gravatt Girl Guides would like to welcome you.

BROWNIE GUIDES (aged 5-9 years) meet MONDAYS from 5pm to 7pm
GIRL GUIDES (aged 10 and up) meet MONDAYS from 6pm to 8pm
Where: Mt Gravatt Guide Huts, inside Mt Gravatt Showgrounds, Broadwater Rd entrance.
For more information call KILLI on 0458 784 665

PUREENERGYTRAINING.COM
Term 1 Bootcamps start soon! Register early as these popular fitness training programs fill early. We cater for ALL fitness levels. We use metabolic conditioning programs that will melt off your body, turn your metabolism into a furnace and condition your muscles. We use an incredible array of equipment and creative sessions planned each week where your trainers take you through different fun workouts that challenge and deliver, (ie obstacle course, tabata, ropes, sandbags, team challenge, boxing, fitness training etc). We also run pure Boxing fitness classes with specialist experienced boxing coaches. Details of days and times online at www.pureenergytraining.com Early morning, after school drop off, evenings and Saturdays. World class trainers. Catch the Pure Energy Fire and you’ll be addicted!

WELLERS HILL GIRL GUIDES
If you are a girl aged from five years to adult would you like to share in some fun outdoor activities, camping, canoeing, abseiling, and camp cooking? Or are you interested in some less adventurous activities such as craft, ice skating and community activities? Then Wellers Girl Guides (at Tarragindi) and Yeronga Girl Guides would like to welcome you. Wellers Hill Guides meet SATURDAYS from 1.30 pm to 4.00 pm at the Guide Hut off Weller Road. Yeronga Guides meet Tuesday from 6pm to 8pm at Guide Hut on Villa St. For more information for Wellers Hill phone LOUISE on 3345 9082 or 0404 878 424 and Yeronga phone Glenys 0402 201429.

LEARN TO PLAY HANDBELLS!
Brisbane Bells, a community handbell group, is forming a new handbell ensemble for primary students in Years 5, 6 or 7. Rehearsals are at Coorparoo Secondary College on Tuesday afternoons, 4.45 – 5.45pm. Enrolments due 14th February. Classes begin 25th February. Cost is $150 for the semester. Maximum of 15 places. Email Samantha Cook – handbellsbrisbane@gmail.com or visit www.brisbanebells.com.au
SAINTS NETBALL
MacGregor
SIGN ON DAYS
2014 DAY SEASON

Saturday 1st February
8.00am – 10.00am
MacGregor Club House
Granadilla Street

Thursday 6th February
3.00pm – 4.00pm
Our Lady of Lourdes School
Shearwin Street

- Saints Netball Club is a local family oriented club emphasising the importance of teaching children to play team sports for fun and fitness;
- Saints focuses on skill development and good sportsmanship as part of learning to play netball;
- We offer friendly and experienced coaches who assist players to develop netball skills, strength, agility, co-ordination and confidence

For further information email: saintsnetballsbank@hotmail.com
www.saints.macgregor.netball.asn.au

JOIN SAINTS NETBALL – SEE YOU AT SIGN-ON !!

A fusion of dance and sport
For fun, friendship and fitness
Classes at Holland Park State School
Also Salisbury, Annerley and Acacia Ridge

Contact Merrelyn 0409 043 452
Email: sunnybankphysie@hotmail.com
Web: www.sunnybankphysie.com.au
facebook.com/SunnybankPhysie

ADVERTISING IN THE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
All advertising is to be at school NO LATER than 9am on Monday. Advertisements cost $4 for the first 4 lines and $2 for each additional line or part thereof.
Sanja Popovic, Business Services Manager,
Holland Park State School, 3421 6222