

Moving Forward Together

With RESPECT and RESPONSIBILITY we strive to achieve our  
PERSONAL BEST

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Issue 1 – Term 1 – Week 7

Wednesday, 8 March 2017



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### Principal's Report

We just love the sense of wellbeing and support that our school community generates whenever they enter our school grounds. We are organising a 'Dot Survey' for the Parent Information Night to gain some more information from our families on what we are doing well, what areas need further development and information on workshops parents and carers may like to participate in. This will be an informal way of collecting some feedback to so we stay connected to what our families feel and think.

Can I also take the opportunity to thank the fantastic teaching and support team we have at Harrington Public School for their efforts over the past weeks. I have had some ongoing health issues and they have been the greatest support, very capably and skilfully keeping things going while I've been out. In particular thanks to Renai for stepping into my shoes – it certainly made me feel better knowing she had the reins.

## SCHOOL VALUES & EXPECTATIONS

Focus for this two week period: *Each week classes explore what these look like and what behaviour is expected of them to meet these goals.*

**Week 7- Personal Best- Setting> Canteen: using the canteen correctly**

**Week 8- Personal Best- Setting> leaving & entering the school: walk to the COLA or gate with a teacher.**

## SCHOOL BANKING

Our School Banking Day is Tuesday. We would like to remind all our families that parents need to fill in the tab in their child's bank book with the details of their deposit so it can be stamped each week.

We now have Banking Bags for each class where students can put their bank books on Tuesdays. We would like to encourage as many of our students as possible to bank as saving is a great skill to learn.

## QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

"Leaders are made, they are not born. They are made by hard effort, which is the price which all of us must pay to achieve any goal that is worthwhile."

VINCE LOMBARDI

## FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS - ANAPHYLAXIS



At Harrington Public School we have a nut free canteen and a process of very careful management for food intolerances and allergies of our students.

**We ask our families to refrain from packing nuts or using nut products such as peanut butter to protect those students in our community with allergies.**

## ASSEMBLY

Don't forget if you have tallied 10 awards please bring them in so we organise your Gold Awards. Every 10 awards your child is eligible for a Gold Award, once they have received 50 Awards (5 Gold) they will become an Honour Student.

We have now finalised a classification for a student to become a **Diamond Student**. Once a student has received their 5 Gold Awards, Honour Student certificate and badge they need to collect and submit another 25 awards to receive Diamond Status. Can't wait to be able to give our first one out as I know we have a few students that will come very close over the next 6 to 12 months.

There will be a change of date for the final assembly this term from **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March to Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April**. This is so all staff can be present (mainly me as I hate missing them). Time will be the same 2.00pm – 3.00pm.

## STORM MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

This is just a brief reminder of our Storm Management Procedures. These procedures are put in place to protect everyone and our beautiful heritage listed Norfolk Pines at the front of the school.

If there are events of high wind or storms we will be asking families to collect their students and enter school grounds from the Coode Street gate on the western side of the school to avoid walking under the pine trees. We post notification of this process on Facebook and Skoolbag so parents are aware that we are in a Storm Management Procedure. It worked really well in 2016 and we thank our families for their support.

## TERM 1, CALENDAR

### Week 8

Friday, March 17	Girl's Night Out!
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### Week 9

Monday, March 20	P&C Meeting 6.00pm
Tuesday, March 21	Harmony Day
Friday, March 24	Peer Clubs

## TERM 1 EVENTS

### HALOGEN LEADERS CONFERENCE – THANK YOU!

A huge THANKYOU to both Jason and Teresa for their supervision and support of our young leaders last week at the Halogen Leaders Conference! Due some ongoing health issues I'm experiencing I was unable to attend but was really proud to hear from the students and see the videos and pictures and know they got as much out of the experience as they possible could. In the next edition of our newsletter we will include some feedback from students on what they gained from the trip. This is a great opportunity for our students to participate in leadership bonding and to set some goals for the year.

### PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS – POSTPONED FROM LAST WEEK

We are holding our Parent/Carer Information Sessions during Week 7 of this term:

**Year 4-6 Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 5.30-7.00pm**

**K-3 on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 5.30 – 7.00pm**

We have worked hard to put together an evening we hope will be relevant for all of you with lots of new information and an outline of the projects and directions we have planned for 2017. We look forward to you all coming along, light refreshments will be provided – no alcohol unfortunately☺

### VISITING AUTHOR TALKS AND WORKSHOP

Aleesah Darlison, inspiring author of children's books and short novels such as Puggle's Problem, Our Class Tiger, the Unicorn Riders and Totally Twins series will be our guest at the school on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March.. Aleesah will be running two sessions with K-2 and 3-6 and a group of students will be invited to attend a writer's workshop with her also.

To cover costs for Aleesah's visit and presentation there is a small cost of \$4.00 per student. A note has been sent home with further details of how it supports our curriculum and how it particularly supports our target of improving students writing across K-6.

### SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

We are holding our School Cross Country on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March. More details are included later in this newsletter. The sessions normally run during sport with races starting at approx. 9.30am.

### GIRLS NIGHT OUT – SAVE THE DATE!!!



We would really love to see as many of our mums, nannas, female carers and female volunteers come along and have a fun night out together. This year's event will be at Harrigan's Irish Pub on Friday Evening 17<sup>th</sup> March. We will start gathering from 6.00pm. For a bit of fun this year's theme is....**Masquerade!**. We look forward to you coming along – please return your slip as soon as possible.

### LIFE EDUCATION VAN

This year Healthy Harold will be visiting us in the Life Education Van during Week 10 from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March through to Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March. Each grade is allocated either an hour or hour and a half session. A note for Life Education has been sent home; the cost is \$10 per student. Please return your notes asap as this is a really entertaining and very important part of your child's annual learning.

## EASTER HAT PARADE – SAVE THE DATE



Our Easter Hat Parade is on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2017. We will be holding the parade from 10.30am under the COLA. We would

like to invite all of our families to attend Open Classrooms from 10.00 then spend lunch with students after the parade.

The School Leaders will be selling Hot Cross Buns for \$2.00 and there will be complementary tea and coffee available during recess.

## CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER – IN FULL SWING!



As you are aware we are currently in full swing of our annual Chocolate Drive for this year. This is one of our main fundraising events

which we rely on to raise money to subsidise our school excursions so they are more affordable for our families. Over time we hope to build up this account to subsidise more opportunities for students.

This year we have ordered variety boxes of assorted chocolate bars plus the Freddo Variety box (my personal favourite). Boxes went out last week and have been selling very quickly. Mrs Woodward is currently ordering another 10 boxes for those students who would like to sell more. We will let you know when they arrive. Once you have sold your boxes please send the money packet back to the office.

## CHECK SKOOLBAG FOR:

- Sporting Schools details
- Friday Sport Organisation
- Event details for each week
- Newsletters and copies of letters/flyers that have been sent home.

## SCHOOL FEES ARE NOW DUE

Families please note that school fees are as follows:

1 student	\$20.00
2 students	\$25.00
3 students	\$30.00

Invoices will be sent home to families next week. Fees can be paid in the morning on any day.

## CAMP PERMISSION NOTES & PAYMENTS – DEPOSITS DUE NOW!

Students in Years 3&4 and 5&6 will have received their major excursion notes and payment passports in recent weeks.

**Please note that deposits and expression of interest forms are due now!**

## STUDENT INFORMATION & EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Last week we sent out forms to each student to update their details in our system. If you have not done so already please send these forms back to the school as soon as possible. Even if there are no changes they form an important part of our records management.

## ICAS – INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION & ASSESSMENT FOR SCHOOLS

### COMPETITION DATES FOR 2017

Years 3 – 6 students are invited to sit these independent tests each year in the areas of English, Maths and Science. The cost to participate in these tests is \$8.00 per exam entered. Students do not have to enter all tests. These tests are not compulsory but they are an excellent opportunity for your child to participate in a more formalised test and gains skills and confidence in this area

The dates for each exam are listed below but we need to have an indication of how many students would like to participate well ahead of time so we can enter them electronically. Please fill in the slip and return to school no later than Friday 7th April, 2017.

**Science – 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2017**

**English – 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2017**

**Mathematics – 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2017**

*( ✂ Please cut out and return to school with your fee)*

### ICAS 2017

My child \_\_\_\_\_ in Year \_\_\_\_\_

would like to sit for the following ICAS papers in 2017:

Science       English       Mathematics

I enclose \$8.00 per paper

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## PHONES, HAND HELD DEVICES & SOCIAL MEDIA

This is just a reminder that all phones and hand held devices (iPods, mp3's etc.) are to be kept at the office throughout the school day. They can be handed to the office in the mornings and collected as the students leave.



### think

**t**= is it TRUE?

**H**= is it HELPFUL?

**i**= is it INSPIRING?

**n**= is it NECESSARY?

**K**= is it KIND?

We would also like to make it very clear, due to many ongoing issues with senior students and social media, that the school does not support Primary School students on Social Media.

We have clear policies and procedures regarding cyber-safety and if need be will follow them up with students bullying or inappropriately involving other students on social media sites if they cross over into the school domain.

## PBL – POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

Our Peer Club sessions for Term One are Dance with Chelsea and Gemma, Drama with Kirrah and Indi, Art with Jake and Sabella, Sport with Mitch and Hayden, Construction with Jennah and Alice, Gardening with Makayla and Nick, Technology with Max and Darcy and finally Science with Catherine and Cooper T.

Peer Clubs are run on alternate (odd) weeks from Assemblies. These are an opportunity to not only work on curriculum based activities but to develop a variety of social and emotional skills that benefit our entire student body. These lessons have been designed and developed by the Junior PBL Team and will be run by them also with a teacher there as supervision only. This is an exciting development in our school leadership focus and we look forward to seeing how it develops.

## JUNIOR PBL TERM 1 FUNDRAISER

The Junior PBL team are holding a Fancy Dress Day on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March. Students and STAFF are encouraged to come dressed in something related to Fairy-tales for a gold coin donation. They will also be holding an AMAZING cake stall across both breaks which will include an array of goodies to be purchased for 50c each.



## OUR LIBRARY BOOKS NEED YOUR HELP!



Our school library needs urgent help covering books. Please contact the office if you can spare some time to help us cover all of the amazing new and donated books we have waiting to go onto the library shelves.

## STEWART HOUSE DONATION DRIVE 2017

Each year over 1800 disadvantaged children attend Stewart House where they are able to take a much needed break from their circumstances and participate in educational and well being programs.



If you would like to support Stewart House please fill in your details on the envelope attached, insert your donation of \$2 or more and return the sealed envelope to school.

Everyone who makes a donation goes into the draw to win a \$4,000 family holiday!

## FOR A HEALTHY LUNCHBOX **PICK & MIX** SOMETHING FROM EACH GROUP 1-6!



## CROSS COUNTRY PROGRAM

Our cross country course is 1 kilometre around, 8, 9 and 10 year olds will do two laps and 11, 12 and 13 year olds will do three laps. If we have rain beforehand, there may be some muddy sections, so we advise students to bring a change of shoes and clothes. Infants (5, 6, 7 year olds) will have a short course on the oval.



There are plenty of opportunities for parents to observe the race so it is advisable to bring a chair or blanket to sit on. Families are more than welcome to come and cheer!

**9.15am** 8-13 year olds walk the course

**9:20am** 5-7 year olds walk the course

**9.30am** 8-13 year olds run in the following order:

1. 12/13 years girls
2. 12/13 years boys
3. 11 years girls
4. 11 years boys
5. 8/9 years girls
6. 8/9 years boys
7. 10 years girls
8. 10 years boys

**9:35am** 5-7 year olds will run in the following order:

1. 5 years girls
2. 5 years boys
3. 6 years girls
4. 6 years boys
5. 7 years girls
6. 7 years boys

Students are welcome to come to school in their house colour: **Pelicans – Green** **Seagulls – Yellow.**

The morning should conclude around 11:15am.

Looking forward to seeing you there! **Mrs Woodward.**



## Taree Autism Support Group for Parents & Carers

The first support group meeting will be held

Thursday 27th April 2017

at the

PCYC Taree

95 Commerce St, Taree

From 5.30pm to 6.30pm

*\*A gold coin donation is requested to cover the cost of the venue*

If you have any questions please call

Call (02) 5594 1110

Or email [melissajones@midcc.org.au](mailto:melissajones@midcc.org.au)

*Do you parent or care for someone on the Autism spectrum?*

*Do you want to talk to other people who have had similar experiences as you in an inclusive and safe environment?*

*Are you interested to learn about what supports are available in your local community?*



## Comboyne Show

### Saturday 11 March

**Young Farmers' Challenge**

**Heavy Horse and Harness**

**Active History Displays**

*(including chum and eat your own ice-cream – free)*

**Animal Nursery**

**Rides**

**Face Painting**

**Pavilion Displays**

**Champion Dog Show**

**Poultry Exhibition**

**Food and Coffee**

**Markets**

**Entry \$5 (children under 16 free)**

[www.comboyneshow.com](http://www.comboyneshow.com)



Education & Communities

Public Schools NSW

**P & C Meeting and AGM**

The P & C AGM and first meeting of 2017 was held on Monday evening 20th February in the school staffroom. Thank you so much to everyone who was able to attend. The focus this year will be on not just having active P & C Committee members but also having members via a mailing list to assist when necessary. If you are interested in becoming a mailing list member please contact the front office and leave the required details to be added on. A P & C membership is \$2.00 annually.

Our next P & C meeting is on Monday evening 20<sup>th</sup> March from 6.00pm in the staff room.

**P & C Easter Raffle – Don’t Forget!!!**

The P & C are running their annual Easter Raffle again this year. This is a huge event which has always amounted in a crazy number of hampers been raffled at the Easter Hat Parade. The hampers are created by donations from our families and carers. You can start sending in your donations now, they will be collected at the front office and a free raffle ticket will be given for each child that donates something. Tickets will be selling for 50c each of 3 for \$1.00 and will be coming home soon.



**P & C Reminders**

A friendly reminder of the proper use of the drop off zone as there has been a police presence and we would not like to see anybody fined.

**No parking area sign**

You must not stop for more than two minutes in a No Parking area. You must remain in or within three meters of the vehicle. Hours of operations may apply to some signs. This means restrictions apply for those times only. Mobility Parking Permit holders are allowed to park for up to five minutes

**Guessing Competition at Easter Hat Parade**

We will also be holding a guessing competition. A jar of treats will be held at the canteen and students can make their guesses at the canteen also. I will need to confirm prices with you a little later as I have just sent out a memo requesting a

price change and I'm waiting for the members to get back to me.

**Canteen Notices**

We are in urgent need of helpers on Mondays and Wednesdays. You don’t need to help every Monday or Wednesday – you can help as little or as much as you want – once a week, once a fortnight or once a month but to continue to open 3 days a week we need more volunteers. No prior experience required – just helping hands.

From Monday 6 March the canteen orders will be placed at the front door of the canteen where the roller door will be opened from 8.15am for children/parents/carers to place and pay for orders.

Children paying with note of \$10 or higher please bring the order straight to the canteen where one of the canteen staff can help. This we feel will minimise any misunderstandings or loss of money.

Thanks, Canteen Staff.

✂ -----

**Application for P&C membership**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to be on the mailing list for the Harrington Public school P&C

I understand that my information will be used for P&C purposes only and otherwise kept confidential

I have enclosed my membership fee of \$2

Please return completed form to the front office with membership fee.