FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hills Performing Arts Festival
Congratulations to all the students and staff who took part in the festival at new venue this year. Once again the performances by students from our school were a stand-out on the night. Congratulations to Miss Claire Downton and Mr Ian Short for their fine organisation of the evening. Thank you so much to all our dance and choir teachers for their dedication and hard work. Finally, I would like to thank all the parents who support the students by making costumes and transporting children.

Father’s Day – Thank You…
- Fiona West, Donna Plummer, Rhonda Lyn Urkanci, Lisa Hassell, Belinda Schuster and Jennifer Harrison who helped with the purchasing.
- To the teachers and staff who helped to serve all the dads at our Father’s Day Breakfast. Thanks particularly to Mr MacSporran for his wonderful organisation of the event.
- We hope that all our dads had a great Father’s Day.

Minor Uniform Changes – Compulsory in 2015
A reminder to parents that the minor uniform changes listed below are being phased in over a 12 month period.
- The hat will change from yellow to green
- The boys’ shirt will change from white to green & gold and match the grey pants
- The boys’ and girls’ sports shirt will change from a yellow polo to a green & gold microfibre polo shirt
- A black multipurpose / hybrid shoe will be the uniform shoe to be worn every day

Parents are asked to purchase new uniform items in readiness for 2015, when the new items will be compulsory. A reminder, that both school shoes and sport shoes must be BLACK in 2015.

Summary of Dates for Minor Uniform Changes
- 2014 – Transition year - both current and new uniform items are accepted as official school uniform.
- 2015 – Only new uniform items will be accepted as official school uniform.

Long Service Leave / Staff News
I started long service leave yesterday and will return on the 27th October in Term 4. Thank you to Ian Short who is relieving as Principal, and David MacSporran who is relieving as Deputy Principal during my absence. Mrs Wendy Kayello will be teaching 5/6M and will relieve as Assistant Principal for Stage 3.

Maxelle Matthews

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CALENDAR
Week 9
Wed 10th - Fri 12th Sept Stage 3 Canberra/Snowy Excursion

Week 10
Monday, 15th Sept Principal’s Morning Tea
Thursday, 18th Sept Footy Fever Mufti Day
Friday, 19th Sept Last day of Term 3

TERM 4
Week 1
Tuesday, 7th Oct Staff and students return to school

Week 2
Monday, 13th Oct Life Education starts

WHAT’S DUE?
Wednesday, 17th Sept P & C slice Drive orders
Wednesday, 17th Sept Bargain Buyers Shopping Tour ticket
Friday 10th October Signed Permission notes for:
- ‘Life Education’
- End of Year Party Day Activities

Friday 10th October Term 4 School Accounts

ACCOMPANYING NOTES
- Life Education Permission Note
- Kindergarten - Party Day Permission Note
- Stage 1 - Party Day Permission Note
- Stage 2 & 3 Party Day Permission Note
- Term 4 School Calendar
- Year 2 – ‘Year 2 to 3 Transition Program’ Pamphlet
- Term 4 Accounts – being sent home in the next week
- School Holiday Programs – Parramatta Council
- School Holiday programs – Hills Council
- Community Notices (email only)
- Hills Sports High – Golf Program
- Book Fair
- Nippers Newsletter
- Audition - Matilda
FROM THE DEPUTY

PBL- Focus Area- We are respectful when we put our rubbish in the bin and recycle

Visitors to our school over the last few months would have noticed a remarkable change to the school’s gardens.

Our Green team, ably led by Mr MacSporran and Mrs Barnett, have been steadily giving several gardens in the school a facelift. Gardens adjacent to Junction Road, the front office and the primary COLA have been pruned, freshly planted and mulched and have in turn boosted the kids’ pride in the school. It therefore seemed logical that our next PBL focus area would involve keeping our playgrounds free of rubbish.

So over the next few weeks our famous “Winnie” points will be handed out to students placing their rubbish in the appropriate bins, tidying their classroom and keeping walkways clean.

Hills Performing Arts Festival

Congratulations to all our performers and item coordinators for once again producing some truly inspirational performances.

Our dancers and choir members entertained the sell-out crowd at Evan Theatre Penrith. More details are in the HPAF articles later in the newsletter.

Hills Sports Group

With Summer approaching, The Hills Sports Group are now taking registrations for their summer competitions, including basketball, Futsal and netball. Please contact Daniel Smith on 0439228557 for further enquiries.

Gifted and Talented Programs

2014 has seen the introduction of several Gifted and Talented programs with Mrs Kayello leading groups in Science and Maths. The science group has been investigating ways to explore space, while the maths club has worked hard on computer programming. Both groups have also enlisted the support of mentors, who will visit the school over the next week to provide some expert advice on past projects and future directions.

The NSW Talent Centre is an organisation that provides advice and programs related to Gifted and talented education. Part of the service they provide is the organisation of the Mindquest Enrichment Weekend. This program provides an enriching weekend program for gifted and talented students. Courses include chemistry, drama, robotics and many more. For more information, please collect a brochure from the front office or call Shelagh on 4232 2494.

Stage 3 Camp

One sleep to go!

Tomorrow, Stage 3 will be travelling to Canberra and the Snowy Mountains for the traditional Stage 3 camp. It will be an experience, they will remember forever. Have fun kids!

Our New Three Year Plan

The teachers are busily devising the directions the school will travel in over the next three years, as part of writing the school’s new Management Plan. The three general strategic directions will be based on teacher quality, student learning and welfare and whole school culture.

A parent forum to gain a community perspective of the needs of the school in relation to the above areas will be planned for early next term. More information will be posted in the next newsletter.

Ian Short

NAPPLAN RESULTS

On Thursday last week we sent home the individual NAPLAN reports for each of our Year 3 and Year 5 students. Each child took home their report in a sealed envelope, prepared by the testing centre. We are very proud of each child and their work at school. Taking home a report can be a stressful event for the children, so it is a good idea to find some time to talk about the positive things they are doing and how much they are learning each day at school.

Please remember that these tests were done in May this year, and there have been many achievements since then.

At school, we do not look at these results in isolation because they provide only a snapshot of performance on the day the children sat the test. Combined with school assessments, student report information, and classroom assessments we gain an accurate picture of performance that allows us to confidently cater for your child’s learning.

Please contact your child’s teacher or stage executive if you have any questions about your child’s NAPLAN report. The Department of Education and Communities publishes information for parents on NAPLAN at http://www.naplanforparents.nsw.com.au/ and the Federal government, who organises and administers NAPLAN, publishes information for parents at the following website: http://www.naplan.edu.au/

Maxelle Matthews

NATIONAL RECOGNITION WEEK FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT STAFF

‘Stepping up to the Challenge’

Last week was National Recognition Week for School Administrative and Support Staff. These valuable people play a crucial role in our school in the provision of quality education in government schools. Thank you to Mrs Judy Jones, Mrs Lyn Booth, Mrs Tere Griffin, Mrs Kim Moy and Mrs Kirsten Farrugia who work in the office and library, and to our School Learning Support Officers, Mrs Mary Castle, Mrs Caitlin Lam, Mrs Meryn White, Mrs Mel D’Anastasi, Mrs Katherine Herrera, Ms Mia Sheppard and Mrs Sabah Nahlous. Thank you also to those who regularly relieve in SLSO positions. A big thank you to our General Assistant, Mr Ivan Fidanza. Thank you for the enormous contributions you make to our school!

SCHOOL NEWS

CHPSSA ZONE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

The Zone Athletics Carnival Track events were held at Blacktown Olympic Park, Rooty Hill and the Field events were at Gooden reserve Baulkham Hills. This year we had 32 students compete at the carnival under the most horrendous weather conditions. I was extremely pleased with their sportsmanship and behaviour.

There were some outstanding performances on the day:

- 2nd 9yrs 100m: Zac Porter
- 3rd 9yrs 100m: Jy Windle
- 3rd 11yrs 800m: Ben MacSporran
- 4th 9yrs 100m: Milla Elaro
- 4th Snr 200m: Nick Capman
- 4th 11yrs 800m: Jack Maguire
- 4th Jnr High Jump: Zac Porter
- 5th 11yrs Discus: Tiana Milovanovic
- 5th Shot Put: Adam Ruddy
- 6th Jnr 200m: Zac Porter
- 6th Snr High Jump: Elliot Robson
- 6th Jnr Discus: Jordan Cock
- 7th 12yrs 100m: Nick Capman
- 7th Junior Relay: Zac Porter, Jy Windle, Lachlan Wood, Rylan Kuo

There were 70 children selected and they finally had their opportunity to participate in the Ball Games Carnival at Gooden Reserve. Their teamwork and spirit made them compete in the games as one united front.

I would like to thank the following teachers who assisted in running events on these days – Ian Short, David MacSporran, Stephanie Russell, Rebekah Stewart and Rachael Frame.

The school would also like to wish Zac and Jy well in their qualifying events at the Sydney West Carnival on Wednesday 10th September.

Melissa Johnston

ARE YOU MOVING IN 2015?

If you are intending to leave the school this year, could you please notify the office on 9639 8518, as soon as possible (excluding year 6 of course). Accurate numbers are important for our class planning and staffing for 2015.

FOOTY FEVER THURSDAY MUFTI – YEAR 6 FUNDRAISER

Thursday, 18th September

For a gold coin donation, the students are allowed to wear their favourite sports jersey or colours. Help support Year 6 by supporting your favourite football, soccer, AFL or netball teams.
ROAR AND SNORE AND THRILLS GALORE AT THE STAGE 2 CAMP!

Last week, Stage 2 students spent two days on an exciting adventure. A day at Luna Park, allowed the students to conquer their fears of heights and vertigo while riding on the Rotor, Hair Raiser and the big slides at Coney Island and experience thrills and shrills on all the other rides. Much scientific discussion on the workings of the rides, was had by all!

Taronga Zoo provided the students with the opportunity to experience Zoo life at night. Armed with our infrared torches, the night safari didn't disappoint. Watching Bongo from the Congo, a lion standoff and zebras playing around, made us all tired for a 'good' night sleep in the conference centre while monkeys and crocodiles watched on through the glass windows.

After a rather large breakfast, our zoo tour continued as we then had a behind the scenes look at the animal food preparation kitchens and the feeding of the Tasmanian Devils.

A wandering from animal exhibit to animal exhibit, while the seal and bird shows were a highlight, made up the rest of our day. The Gondola ride gave everyone a great view from above. And to end a perfect camp, the busses arrived back to school on time!

Mrs Shelton and The Stage 2 Team
HILLS PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL

Well what a journey and what a night!
It was 18 months in the planning and involved shifting a music
festival from the Hills to the foot of the Mountains, but it was
worth it in the end.
22 schools were involved with this year’s festival and the
quality of the performances continue to improve from year to
year.
Our dance groups and mass choir members represented their
school with pride and were proud to finish the festival with
some memorable and entertaining performances.
Special thanks needs to go to Mrs Russell for her professional
stage management, Mrs Russell, Mrs Luther and Ms Frank for
their coordination of the choir and Mrs Shelton, Ms Kazmierski,
Mrs Johnstone, Ms Downton, Ms Frank and Mrs Spink for their
choreography of our now famous dance groups.
Thanks is also extended to Mrs Stewart, Mel D’Anastasi and
Mrs White for their tireless support of the students back stage.
But the biggest commendation goes to Ms Downton for her
coordination of the whole festival. It was a daunting task, but
she has managed to resurrect the festival from the ruins of the
demolished Hills Centre and has now set a new and exciting
direction for a festival that has been running for 26 years and
looks set to be running for many more.
Ian Short

THE MAGIC MOVERS
The Magic Movers had another successful performance at this
year’s festival and brought the house down with their hip-hop
inspired dance. We were all very proud of their efforts on the
night and the way they conducted themselves backstage. A
huge thank you to Mrs Bevitt who once again provided us with
our fantastic costumes!
Sarah Spink and Lana Frank

STAGE 1 DANCE GROUP
After a whole year of lunch time rehearsals, the time finally came
for the Stage 1 Dance group to show their efforts. And boy did
they shine on stage! With costumes on and music pumping, the
students did us proud and enjoyed themselves to boot! Well
done to all the dancers and the parents for their support and
assistance.
Mrs Shelton and Miss Kazmierski

CONGRATULATIONS YEARS 3-6
DANCE GROUP!

Congratulations to our Senior Dance Group who performed in
the Hills Performing Arts Festival night concert on Friday 5th
September at Evans Theatre.
All of the dedicated dancers in the group have worked extremely
hard this year, and their efforts and skills shone on stage in a
show stopping, magnificent display of dance abilities.
Our school students also demonstrated exceptional behaviour
whilst at the venue and many parents and staff from other school
commented on the behaviour and positive attitude of all our
students.
Well done to all involved. It is hoped that you had an enjoyable
and worthwhile experience.
Claire Downton
P & C NEWS

BAND NEWS
Band Raffle-
Many thanks to those that supported our band raffle. A total of $900.00 was raised with 23 prizes on offer. Many thanks to Karen Seamons and Mischelle McBriary for organizing the raffle.

Return To Band Notes-
Thank you to all who have returned their 2015 band notes. We have had an extremely positive outcome with a large number of children returning in 2015.

Practice Card Draw-
The time is fast approaching again as we will draw a winner in week 10. Keep practicing bandies and get those cards in by week 10. One winner per band.

Save the dates—more details to come closer to the event.

Training band-
Sunday 12th October—local community event
Sunday 26th October—festival/competition

School band-
Sunday 12th October—local community event
Sunday 26th October—festival/competition

Performance band-
Thursday 25th September—TBC via email, local community event.
Sunday 12th October—local community event

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF OUR BAND IN 2015?
To those students in Years 2 and beyond who may wish to become part of our school band in 2015, we have an upcoming compulsory Band information evening for you to attend on Wednesday 15th October 6.30pm in the new school hall.

More details to follow in upcoming newsletters.
Band committee
bandwhps@gmail.com

P & C
UNIFORM SHOP
Opening Hours
Open during School term every Thursday morning’s 8.40-9.30am. 1st Thursday night of each month 6.00-7.00pm

New Uniforms
Raincoats $17, Scarfs $10

Rosters 18th Sept: Fiona West, Donelle Tamin
9th Oct: Libby Davis, Karen Carpenter, Lucy Chin
9th Oct Evening: Jen Barclay, Jackie Mardling.

Alterations
For all alterations to school uniforms, please drop your clothes off at Uniform Shop on Thursdays. Finished alterations will be available for pick up the following Thursday. Thanks to Bernice Harker for this service who is also donating 10% of sales back to the school.

Uniform Shop Contact Details
Please email Kellie Bramble/Irish Lewis at kellie_irish@live.com to place an order or for any enquiries.

Email orders can be delivered to your child’s class on Thursdays only.

Uniform Shop will be open on Wednesday 29th Oct:
For all New Kindergarten children.
Open times will be 10.45-12pm

We look forward to helping you get your child ready for School.

FUNDRAISING

P & C Slice Drive
Don’t forget to send in your P & C Slice Drive orders by Wednesday 17th September. Orders will be delivered on 16th & 17th October – Sorry – late orders cannot be accepted.

Bargain Buyers Shopping Tour
Hurry to insure a place on the bus for our Shopping Tour on Saturday, 25th October. Forms and payment must be sent in by Wednesday, 17th September.

Father’s Day Stall
Thank you to our team of Mums who helped make this stall a success.
SCHOOL ACCOUNTS

I can’t believe that I am actually writing this. Term 4 accounts will be going home next week! Stage 3 children will receive their accounts the following Monday when they return to school from their 3 day Excursion to Canberra/Snowy Mountains.

Payments for all activities will need to be finalised by Friday, 10th October (end of the first week back). We encourage parents to pay using the Parent Online Payment (POP) system. It is fast, immediate and you know that your payment has been made.

Parents, we thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter. Early payment will not only assist our reporting for the Department of Education’s end of financial year rollover, it will also assist in booking buses, tickets, venue sessions and catering where applicable.

Judy Jones – School Administrative Manager

PARENT TIPS

Cyberbullying - prevention tips for parents The statistics around cyberbullying are sketchy, mainly because it often goes unreported. What we do know is that the likelihood of children being bullied online or over the phone increases as they get older and use technology more frequently.

Find out more: http://bit.ly/xHLLDH

How much screen time?

‘Screen time’ used to mean how many hours you spent watching TV and playing on the computer. However, with the growing number of digital devices on offer today, the question of what screen time means now is far more complex.


FATHER AND SON CAMP OUT

Don't forget this wonderful father and son experience will take place on Friday 7th November.

If you are able to donate prizes for our raffle or food and drink for dinner and breakfast, please see me at school or email me at david.macsporran@det.nsw.edu.au

A permission note will be sent home in Week 1 Term 4.

David MacSporran
CLASSES OF THE WEEK 2R & 1/2M

1/2 M with Mrs McDonald and 2R with Mrs Rooke have had a lot of fun this year at the K-2 Athletics Carnival, Drumbeats, Book Character Day, making cooked spaghetti pictures, dramatizing fairytales and attending the induction ceremony for our SRC representatives.