Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to Week 7. Thank you to those people who have already voted on the school hat question. Voting closes tomorrow, so please get your vote into the school office by then if you wish to have your say.

Some parental responses in the recent survey made comments about the curriculum. Some parents liked the choices on offer at our school, and some preferred a narrowing of the subjects. Schools in NSW are bound by the Board of Studies which dictates the curriculum that is to be taught. We are currently moving to a national curriculum which will be phased in over the next few years. This is going to involve a considerable amount of training by the staff of our school. The school leadership team in particular is currently involved in training which will then be delivered to all staff members. This is an exciting time as we learn of new ways to deliver learning for our children, which will equip them with the skills necessary in a rapidly changing world. There will still be a strong emphasis on Literacy and Numeracy, particularly in primary schools, and these two areas will be the first to be looked at by our school. We are also beginning to look at Science and have already been involved in a little bit of development work on the upcoming History syllabus.

I have recently negotiated with Sydney University to introduce a new robotics program for our school and a trial day will be held with three classes in Week 10 of this term. If this day goes well we are hoping to build upon the program.

My thought for the week comes from my father, Francis Best, who once wrote, “In my opinion, a good linguist is someone who can listen well in seven languages.”

Have a great week.

Yours faithfully,
Andrew Best

DIARY

TERM 1

March
15-16th: Camden Show
19th: SSW Swimming at Bradbury Pools
22nd: National Ride to School Day

Cross Country
26th: Minnamurra Falls Excursion - Yr 3 & 3/4B
Interrelate - 6pm & 7:15pm
27th: Minnamurra Falls Excursion - Yr 4 & 4/5O
28th: K-2 Easter Hat Parade - 12pm
29th: Good Friday

April
1st: Easter Monday
2nd: P&C Meeting - 7pm
2nd-4th: Yr 6 Jervis Bay (1st day at pool)
4th: Yr 6 Wooglemai camp
5th: Yr 1 Thirlmere Trainworks Excursion

CBS Assembly
Family Bush Dance - P&C
12th: ANZAC Day Ceremony
25th: ANZAC Day

TERM 2

29th-30th: Staff Development Day
Congratulations to the following students who were recognised at their stage assemblies for their recent efforts.

**Week 7**

3D Tyson A  Being a positive role model to his peers  
3D Jack B  Always doing his best and displaying lovely manners  
3D Bayley S  Working productively in reading groups  
3/4B Travis F  Excellent effort in tables  
3/4B Oliver B  Excellent effort in maths  
4C Kirstie W  Improving her ability to subtract when trading is involved  
4C Lachlan J  Trying hard during maths lessons involving perimeter  
4EW Damara M  Splendid poetry recital  
4EW Clayton E  Splendid poetry recital  
4EW Barbara P  Great effort in mathematics  
4EW Keira M  Great effort in mathematics  
4/5O Hayley F  Developing persuasive language in her expositions  
4/5O Morgan W  Thinking deeply about the characters in the novel  
4/5O Jessica M  Deep thinking about the novel in literature circles  
4/5O Stephanie W  Writing convincing arguments in her exposition  
5B Joanne P  Working consistently in all KLA's  
5B Owen F  Great work during all maths lessons  
5M Jackson J  His enthusiasm during our work on Natural Disasters  
5M Sara S  Excellent attitude to learning  
5NT Georgia F  Settling in well to her new class  
5NT Tyanne D  Beautiful work in handwriting lessons  
5S Saif J  Being a conscientious and hard working student  
5S Kayla F  Outstanding work during computers and in homework  
6W Aurora T  Consistently completing all tasks  
6W Andrew S  Always focussing on his work  
6W Lachlan S  Excellent concentration during writing on text types  
6O Madison N  Continuing to display high levels of application  

**National Ride2School Day**

Preparations are well under way for the National Ride2School Day on Friday 22nd March. Last year we had a tremendous response. This year we would like to go even further and have more students and parents celebrate riding, scooting and walking as fun ways to travel to school. Imagine one day with no cars around the school!

We support our students to walk or wheel to school because:

- Students feel fresh and alert at the beginning of a school day.
- There are fewer cars around the school which eases ‘drop off congestion’.
- Students are more likely to reach the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity they need each school day.
- Students feel happier, healthier and perform better in the classroom.

**School Cross Country Carnival**

The school cross country carnival will be held next Friday, 22nd March, at school. The carnival for Years 2-6 will commence at approximately 9:15am and should conclude by 11am. The top 4 students in each age group from 8 years to 13 years will go on to represent the school at the zone competition. There will also be a special race for all the children in Year 2 who turn 7 this year. All parents are welcome to attend and cheer on their children. A sausage sizzle will also be held at the carnival to raise funds for the Year 6 Farewell.

Students must wear their sports uniform or a uniform consisting predominantly of the colours of their sports house (Fairfax=Red; Macarthur=Green; Bradman=Blue; Freeman=Yellow), and must also remember to bring a large cold drink, something to eat (preferably energy food eg. banana etc), and protection from the sun including a hat and sun-screen.

We also still require parents to assist on the day by acting as track officials. Please see Miss Carter in the morning if you are able to help.

**Sporting Achievements**

Congratulations to the following children for their selection in Razorback Teams:

- AFL: Andrew S, Emerson D, Hayden C
- Basketball: Blake M, Briannan E
- 11’s Rugby League: Bradley F, Tane M
- Open’s Rugby League: Reuben W

Congratulations to Blake M for being chosen in the SSW Boys Basketball team. Good luck at the NSW trials.

**Book Club**

**IMPORTANT Book Club Information**

As you are aware Harrington Park Public School is a large school and many steps are involved in the Book Club process. Occasionally an error occurs that needs to be sorted out. We would appreciate your support in checking the following carefully:

1. When you fill in the order form, place your child’s full name and correct class recording the number of items and the correct money total.
2. When the order comes home, please check that you have received only the items you ordered.
3. If there is a problem, please keep the order form and items and bring to the library to Mrs Creasey so that it can be resolved.

Your support in this would be greatly appreciated.

**The Book Club Team**

**Book Club Issue 2 Ordering**

Issue 1 was very well supported with lots of great books purchased. Issue 2 orders are due Monday 18th March. Please complete the order form and place with payment into the office by 3pm on this day for your order to be included.

Think about a book gift for Easter instead of chocolates - a gift that lasts! Happy browsing.
Student Banking

Student bank books should be sent to the office each Wednesday morning and will be returned to the classroom the following day.

Where: Harrington Park PS
When: Tuesday 26th March 2013 6pm & 7:15pm

Thanks to everyone who attended our AGM last Tuesday night. Great to see some new faces. Thanks to our outgoing committee for all of their hard work and congratulations to the new committee for 2013.

President—Raelene B, Vice President (Canteen) - Ross Z, Vice President (Uniform) - Stephanie J, Treasurer—Lydia Y Secretary—Jo B, Fundraising Coordinator—Kim E

Bush Dance
Organisation is well underway for this exciting family event. We have already received many fantastic donations to give away on the night. There will be a chocolate wheel as well as lucky door prizes. A note was sent home this week with the payment slip attached. The canteen will be open selling drinks and running the BBQ. A coffee van has also been organised for the night. Bring your family and friends for a great night.

Easter Raffle
We are holding an Easter Raffle again this year. We are asking for donations of eggs, baskets, gift bags, cellophane. These items can be dropped off at the canteen. A book of 10 tickets will be sent home today. These will sell for 50c each or 5 for $2. We would appreciate tickets being returned by Wednesday 27th March. The raffle will be drawn on Thursday 28th March at The K-2 Easter Hat Parade.

If you are able to spare some time on Friday 22nd March we would love some to help put the Easter Raffle prizes together. We will meet at 9:00am outside the library.

ICAS Competitions for Years 3-6
Your child is invited to participate in the 2013 International Competitions and Assessment for Schools (ICAS). ICAS provides an opportunity for all Years 3-12 students to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. It provides teachers, parents and students with comprehensive reporting of results in the areas of Computer Skills, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing.

All students receive a certificate and an individual student report indicating which questions they answered correctly and their score compared with the rest of the students tested. The tests are an excellent preparation for National tests and the student report is useful for highlighting your child’s strengths and weaknesses.

- Computer Skills (Tues 21/5/13) = $ 8.00
- Science (Wed 5/6/13) = $ 8.00
- Writing (Mon 17/6/13) = $17.00
- Spelling (Tues 18/6/13) = $11.00
- English (Wed 31/7/13) = $ 8.00
- Mathematics (Tues 13/8/13) = $ 8.00

Please return permission slip with payment by Wednesday 10th April, 2013.

Student Banking
Student bank books should be sent to the office each Wednesday morning and will be returned to the classroom the following day.

P&C News

Year 7 High School Application Forms
Year 7 High School application forms have been given to the Year 6 students. They need to be returned tomorrow, Friday 15th March 2013.

Absentee Notes
If your child/ren is absent from school for any reason, please ensure that you send in a note explaining your child/ren’s absence to the class teacher on their return.

Monday: am Stacey, Joanne, Lisa pm Joanne
Tuesday: am Kylie, Joanne, Lisa pm Kylie, Lisa
Wednesday: am Joanne, Lisa, Sam, Jo pm Lisa
Thursday: am Ross, Sally, Joanne, Lisa pm Joanne
Friday: am Simone, Sheena, Joanne, Lisa pm Joanne, Lisa

CANTEEN HELPERS
Week Beginning 18th March 2013
DISCLAIMER: Harrington Park Public School wishes all readers to be aware that the inclusion of an advertisement in this newsletter in NO WAY signifies the school’s endorsement of any particular product or service.

**Local Businesses Supporting our School**

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**First National | Michael Alexander**

Michael Alexander  
**DIRECTOR**

**Mobile:** 0413 66 1144  
**Phone:** (02) 4648 5744  
**Fax:** (02) 4648 5844  
**Email:** michael@alexanderrealestate.com.au  
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VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS

FAMILY NAME: ______________________________

Please find enclosed: (please circle)
$43 - single child / $65 - family as my voluntary 2013 school contributions for my child/ren listed below.
I request these funds be deposited into the Harrington Park PS Library Fund. Please provide me with a tax receipt.

Signed: ______________________________ (Parent / Caregiver) Date: __________

STUDENT: ______________________________ CLASS: __________

STUDENT: ______________________________ CLASS: __________

STUDENT: ______________________________ CLASS: __________

STUDENT: ______________________________ CLASS: __________

STUDENT: ______________________________ CLASS: __________

CHANGED CONTACT DETAILS

Child’s Name: ___________________________________ Class: __________

Please only update the contact details that have changed:

New Home Address: ____________________________________________

(Proof of residency is required for change of address – please attach)

Home Phone: _____________________________ Email: _____________________________

Mother Contact Details: ______________________ (Work) ______________________ (Mobile)

Father Contact Details: ______________________ (Work) ______________________ (Mobile)

Emergency Contact Details: ____________________(Phone) ______________________ (Relationship)

Emergency Contact Details: ____________________(Phone) ______________________ (Relationship)

Please delete previous contact details for: ____________________________________________

EMAILING LIST

STUDENT NAME: ______________________________ CLASS: _______

PARENT NAME: ______________________________

I would like the school newsletter emailed to the following address:

______________________________________________________________

Please change my mailing address to: ____________________________________________

Signed: ______________________________ (Parent / Caregiver) Date: __________

HARRINGTON PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL

SCHOOL HAT VOTING SLIP

I support the phasing out of ‘Baseball Caps’ and the phasing in of ‘Broad Brimmed Hats’.

YES [ ] NO [ ]

Name: __________________________ Signature: __________________________ Date: __________

Please return voting slip to the school office by Friday 15th March, 2013.