Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to Week 5. Today I was at the Zone Swimming Carnival which will continue into tomorrow. Good luck to all of those children representing our school. We are very proud of you and will report on your efforts next week.

The P&C AGM is next Tuesday 4th March. All positions will be open for election. I look forward to working closely with the P&C again this year.

Our school grounds are improving every day. Mr Quirk, our GA, has been working feverishly over the Summer in the peace garden which is looking fantastic. The pavers which people have bought will be placed around the perimeter. There will be more information about this soon.

I had a very interesting conversation with our captains and vice-captains on Tuesday, after announcing the parliamentary members for this year on Monday. We were discussing tasks that lay ahead for the school parliament for 2014, and our school leaders raised some insightful and intelligent points in our conversation. We were discussing the possible ministries for our parliament and how people might be assigned to those roles. We also discussed how elections for captains and prefects might be conducted in future. I have worked in eight schools in my thirty-six years of teaching and the process has been different in every school and I haven’t discovered a system yet that satisfies all members of the school community.

The main aim of our school parliament is to empower our students and to teach them about systems of government. During my conversation with the captains and vice-captains we all came to the conclusion that the students will decide on the process for the future elections, and this process will be determined by this year’s parliament. I was very impressed with their mature attitude and by the amount of thought that they put into the conversation, and I’m sure that they will lead our school parliament to a very good process for future elections.

My thought for the week is from Sir Winston Churchill, who said, ‘Many forms of government have been tried and will be tried in this world of sin and woe. No one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed it has been said that democracy is the worst form of government except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time.’

Congratulations to everyone who has been elected to our school parliament for this year. You will be invested into parliament at this week’s Care Believe Succeed assembly. The Sport House Captains will also receive their badge.

Have a great week.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew Best

**Note:** The dates of the ICAS tests listed on the note sent home should be 2014 not 2013. Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

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**CANTENE HELPERS**

**Week Beginning 3rd March**

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**AASC Diary Dates**

- **Martial Arts Years 1-2**
  - Mondays Weeks 4 to 10
  - 3pm - 4:20pm

- **Touch Football Years 3-6**
  - Thursdays Week 4 to 10
  - 3pm - 4:20pm

**ICAS Dates**

The dates of the ICAS tests listed on the note sent home should be 2014 not 2013. Sorry for any inconvenience caused.
Congratulations to the following students who were recognised at their stage assemblies for their recent efforts.

KA Amelia L Being a fantastic listener KA Cooper S Always doing his best KA Natasha J Beautiful neat writing and drawing KL Tayla S Being a lovely neat worker KL Abby Z Being a keen and enthusiastic student KL Harley W Trying his best in all his work KT Nathaniel Being a fantastic listener and always working hard KT Alessandra Z Using finger spaces between words when writing KT Ava M Including beautifully coloured drawings with her work KV Aiden Always illustrating his work beautifully KV Charli S Always behaving beautifully KV Tayla L Completing a wonderful self portrait 1K/M Kavish S Having excellent manners in the classroom 1K/M Sienna B Being a kind friend and trying her best at all times 1E Katie B Participating very well in literacy lessons 1E Alyssa W Writing great sentences 1G Tallen J Making excellent contributions to discussions 1G Alexis W Working well in groups 1J Georgia W Being a helpful class member 1J Alec C Excellent participation and effort in maths 1S Ethan M Being a kind and helpful student to the teacher 1S Shelby M Contributing to class discussions 1K/M Jessica S Trying her best to work well in reading groups 1K/M Annabelle F Writing a great “classification” sentence 1K/M William M Excellent behaviour and lovely manners 2C Imogen S Excellence in all CAPA areas 2K Benjiman O Excellent work in maths 2K Ruby P Always giving 100% to every activity 2MC Summer M Excellent classroom manners 2MC Jonathan N Being a great classroom helper 2S Jackson D For a fantastic effort in writing and spelling lessons 2S Rhianna L A fantastic effort during all class activities. Well done 2T Takara F For a well structured recount 2T Kieran P Thinking creatively in Tens groups

Swimming Carnival 2014

Harrington Park PS held their annual swimming carnival on Tuesday, 18th February, 2014. We were very lucky and had beautiful weather.

All children performed well in the pool with some outstanding performances. After tallying up the points the winning house was Freeman closely followed by Fairfax, then Macarthur and Bradman.

Congratulations to the following students who broke records on the day:
Hayden C - 100m Freestyle, 12yr 50m Freestyle, Senior 50m Butterfly, Senior 50m Backstroke, Senior 50m Breaststroke and Senior 200m Individual Medley.
Caitlin C - 9yrs 50m Freestyle.
Stephanie W - 11yr 50m Butterfly, 11yr 50m Breaststroke
Shae E - 11yr 50m Backstroke

We would like to say a big thankyou to all the parents who helped on the day as it would not have run as smoothly without you.

Good luck to all children representing the school at the Zone this week at Picton Pools.

Karen Williams
Swimming Coordinator

When lunch comes homes uneaten

Almost nine out of 10 Australian parents say children's resistance is a major obstacle in their efforts to provide a healthy diet, and in many cases school lunches are one of the battlegrounds.
But it's a battle families can do without and there are some simple steps to help avoid it.
Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/food/

Absente 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.

Library Helpers

In the next couple of weeks the library will have books ready for covering. If you have any spare time to cover books we would appreciate it. Please see the library on Tuesday or Wednesday.

Mrs Drew

Expressions of Interest

Expressions of Interest are required for the laying of our pavers in the Peace Garden. We require a concrete base of roughly 10m2 and the individual pavers are 230 x 115 x 40mm.
Please contact Raean (P&C President) Ph: 0409 395 713

EMAILING LIST

STUDENT NAME:

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 P&C Association Membership Form

The Harrington Park Public School P&C Association is a not-for-profit organisation which is established to promote the interests of the school by bringing parents, citizens, students and teaching staff into close cooperation and to assist in providing facilities and equipment for the school and in promoting the recreation and welfare of the students at the school.

Membership of the Harrington Park Public School P&C Association is open to all parents and guardians of pupils attending the school and to all citizens within the school community. The P&C Association is always keen to welcome new members and particularly members who access or have an interest in the services provided by the P&C Association, such as our OOSH and the Canteen and Uniform Shops.

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month. The P&C Association operates sub-committees where your contribution would be greatly appreciated. Annual membership is $2.00 (two dollars) and entitles you to be involved in the decision making of the P&C Association. When you become a financial member you agree to follow the Constitution, by-laws, Code of Conduct and sub-committee rules as adopted by the Harrington Park Public School P&C Association. Copies of these materials are available from the Harrington Park Public School P&C Association Secretary at each meeting of the P&C Association. You are recognised as a financial member of the Harrington Park Public School P&C Association after the meeting closes at which you submit your payment. The Treasurer shall issue you a receipt for this payment, you should retain the receipt for the current P&C Association year as proof of your membership.

If you are interested in becoming a member please complete the form below and bring it with you to the next meeting of the Harrington Park Public School P&C Association. If you are unable to attend the next meeting but wish to become a member please submit this form and payment to the Treasurer via the school front Office.

Harrington Park Public School P&C Association thanks you for your interest.

__________________________________________________________

NAME: ____________________________ (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

SCHOOL COMMUNITY MEMBER TYPE: PARENT / CITIZEN  (CIRCLE AS APPROPRIATE)

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER: ____________________________

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR MEETING NOTICES & UPDATES ____________________________

I include a payment of $2.00 (two dollars) to become a financial member of the Harrington Park Public School P&C Association. I acknowledge that I am aware that I agree to follow the Constitution, by-laws, Code of Conduct and sub-committee rules as adopted by the Harrington Park Public School P&C Association.

__________________________________________________________

SIGNED: ____________________________ DATE: ____________________________
Local Businesses Supporting our School

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.

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Disney Film Festival

All Tickets $8

Coming Up:
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- 8 & 9 March
Snow White &
The Seven Dwarfs
- 15 & 16 March

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