Vol 14 No. 1 Term 1 Week 1
29th January 2015

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to the 2015 school year. It is good to see the sunshine after yesterday’s rain. This year promises to be an exciting time as we launch into several new initiatives which I will provide details of in the coming weeks.

We hope to commence with our new classes on Monday when we are sure of Kindergarten numbers. This year Kindergarten children are completing their Best Start assessments before regular classes commence. We are also unsure of our numbers for grades 1-6 as yesterday 22 students didn’t turn up for school. We haven’t heard from parents to say that they are leaving or if they are still on holidays. 22 students is enough to alter our class organisation by at least one whole class. We are hoping to have ascertained by tomorrow whether these students will be returning so that we can commence our new classes for the start of next week.

This week all children are being taught our school anti-bullying program and also are involved in assessment tasks to help pinpoint the starting point for revision and new learning this year. All letters received last year regarding class placement have been considered in the formation of classes and where possible the requests have been given due consideration. Please remember that the staff place children in classes after lots of careful consideration of both academic and social needs. Sometimes children are anxious about new beginnings, but it is important to give them an opportunity to adapt to new situations as this helps them to build resilience. It is very difficult to change classes once they have been established, and that is why you were asked to notify us of your concerns last year. Please do not expect any changes when the new classes are announced, as lots of work has already gone into this.

I look forward to working with you again this year and wish you all well for 2015. My thought for the week is from John Heywood, ‘A hard beginning maketh a good ending.’ Let’s all work hard together this year.

Have a great week.

Yours faithfully,
Andrew Best

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

DIARY

January
30th: Kindergarten Best Start assessments

February
2nd: Kindergarten students start at allocated time
3rd: P&C Meeting at 7pm
17th: Swimming Carnival at Camden Pool
26-27th: Zone Swimming at Picton

March
12th: Selective High School Placement Test
13th: National Ride 2 School Day
17th: Regional Swimming
20th: School Cross Country
28th: Camden State Election

April
1-2nd: State Swimming
2nd: Last day of Term 1
3rd: Public Holiday
6th: Public Holiday
20th: Staff Development Day
21st: Students return for Term 2
24th: ANZAC Day Ceremony
25th: ANZAC Day
27th: ANZAC Day Public Holiday

May
12-14th: NAPLAN (Yrs 3 & 5)

June
8th: Public Holiday
26th: Last Day of Term 2

July
13th: Staff Development Day
14th: Students return for Term 3
22nd: OC Placement Test
27-31st: Education Week

August
6th: Festival of Instrumental Music (Recorder)
12-14th: Year 4 Berry Camp

September
18th: Last Day of Term 3

October
5th: Public Holiday
6th: Staff & Students return for Term 4

December
16th: Last day of Term 4 for Students
17-18th: Staff Development Day

Have you visited our Facebook page?
www.facebook.com/HarringtonParkPublicSchool

Kids' Club

When? Fridays, 4:30 - 5:45pm STARTS 6th February
Where? Harrington Park School Hall
Who? Kinder - Year 6
What? Bible Discovery, Singing, Games, Craft...
Cost? $2 / Week (Family $5 Max)
Register? www.harringtonparkanglican.org.au
The Department of Education and Communities has made changes to students taking exemptions from school for holidays during school terms from the start of this year.

Students taking holidays during the school term will not be eligible for exemption from school and will be marked as Leave on the class roll and their absence will be recorded on their report.

Student Banking commences 4th February
Student bank books should be sent to the office each Wednesday morning and will be returned to the classroom the following day.

Local police conduct regular checks in our area. Please use the Kiss and Drop Zone as per the guidelines ie; stay for only 2 minutes. Please also ensure that you respect residents by not parking in front of driveways.

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PLEASE STAND BEHIND THE YELLOW LINE
To improve the safety of your children while they are waiting to be picked up in the Kiss and Ride/No Parking bay, Council is installing a yellow ‘Pedestrian Safety Line’.

Much like the safety line on a train platform, this area will clearly show children the safe distance from the kerb to avoid conflict with vehicles.

Children should PLEASE STAND BEHIND THE YELLOW LINE until the vehicle has stopped. We would ask that you reinforce this message to your children and help keep them safe.

A road and community safety initiative brought to you by...

Kindergarten Finishing Time
Kindergarten students will commence school on Monday, 2nd February 2015.
They will finish school at 2:30pm every day until Friday, 13th February 2015.
From Monday, 16th February 2015, they will finish at normal time of 3pm.

Uniform Shop
The Uniform Shop will be open on Friday 30th January 2015, from 9am to 11am.
Uniform Shop will commence normal trading hours next week.
Tuesday’s 8:30am to 10:00am
Friday’s 9:00am to 10:00am

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Friday’s 9:00am to 10:00am

Proud Sponsor of our Care, Believe, Succeed Assembly

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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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