Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to Week 5. I’m not sure of your television viewing habits but I wonder if any of you watched Q&A on Monday night on the ABC. The topic discussed was Family Violence. Australian of the Year, Rosie Batty was on the panel and it made for some very interesting and thought provoking viewing.

There was agreement on the panel that education and schools had a part to play in overcoming this challenge to produce ‘violence free’ family homes.

My mind took me back to an incident last year when a child in our infants section told his teacher that when he grew up he wanted to commit a very violent and illegal act against a woman. Upon further investigation it was discovered that he had been playing a computer game at home and to get to the next level he needed to commit this act. He obviously wasn’t old enough to understand the gravity of his statement. How many times are our children desensitised through what they see on television, films or in computer games?

We all need to work together to create safer, happier futures for our families and our communities in general. It starts at home and can be reinforced at school. We need to be vigilant in making sure that our children are not subjected to experiences that are not age-appropriate or may give them a distorted view of what is right. If you are interested in watching the program you can catch it on iview.

Our next P&C meeting will be the AGM. Thank you to the outgoing committee for their hard work over the past twelve months. Please come along to the next meeting if you can. New members are always welcome.

Today I am at the Zone Swimming Carnival and we will be competing again tomorrow. Congratulations to everyone who has represented our school. We look forward to sharing their results with you next week.

My thought for the week is a Chinese proverb. If there is light in the soul, there will be beauty in the person. If there is beauty in the person, there will be harmony in the house. If there is harmony in the house, there will be order in the nation. If there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world.

Have a great week.

Yours faithfully,
Andrew Best

ICAS Testing

Harrington Park Public School aims to offer its students a range of curricular, extra-curricular activities and opportunities. The International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) testing administered by the University of New South Wales offers students the opportunity to complete assessments that determine a skill level across different key learning areas and in comparison to other students across the state and country.

Attached to this newsletter is an information sheet and payment form for the ICAS testing for 2015. If you would like your child to participate in this testing, please return the form and payment by Friday, 13th March 2015. This will also assist us in ordering the correct amount of test booklets.
Congratulations to the following students who were recognised at their stage assemblies for their recent efforts.

KA Alyssa S Her beautifully presented work
KA Lachlan S Displaying fantastic listening skills
KA Hayley R Always trying her best in all areas
KL Isabelle W Being a keen and enthusiastic student
KL Rhys P Trying his best in all his work
KL Andrew W Being a lovely neat worker
KS Georgie O Always striving to do her best
KS Sebastian C Great discussion work
KS Jayden M An excellent improvement in his handwriting
KL Isabelle W Being a keen and enthusiastic student
KL Rhys P Trying his best in all his work
KL Andrew W Being a lovely neat worker
KS Georgie O Always striving to do her best
KS Sebastian C Great discussion work
KS Jayden M An excellent improvement in his handwriting
KV Ruby M Being a lovely neat worker
KV Lauren C Excellent work during maths lessons
KV Falcon C Making a wonderful monster
2/3T Lucas B A fantastic work ethic continually doing his best
2/3T Charlize J Great ideas after reading showing deeper understanding
3D Michaela P Lovely manners & always doing her best
3D Imogen S Beautiful bookwork
3E Olivia B Very neat bookwork
3E Sidney F Excellent spelling
3J Chloe B Being a kind and generous friend
3J Aaron F Always working to the best of his ability
3M Kai B His enthusiasm when reading ‘The Spiderwick Chronicles’
3M Rhianna L Her wonderful effort during spelling activities
4G Mikaela M Excellent work in writing
4G Elisha M Excellent work in writing
4M Marcus R Excellent work in class
4M Bree B Excellent book presentation
4N Amber E For a brilliant, concise summary in reading groups
4N Ryan W Great results in our times table challenge
4S/O Emily G Great thinking and participation in Literature Circles
4S/O Seth L Making great contributions to his Literature Circles
4S/O Declan B Initiating great discussion in literature circles
5B Orlando F Working well independently
5B Bethany F Being a hardworking student who is a great role model to others
5J Sarah R Consistent effort in all areas of learning
5J Bailey C Consistent effort in all areas of learning
5J Maddison C Consistent effort in all areas of learning
5S Xavier D Working consistently in all areas
5S Natalie N Approaching all learning tasks enthusiastically
5S Patrick F Improving his independent work habits
6C Adam S Working well in different teams during SOLE sessions
6C Talon G Making thoughtful contributions to class discussions
6J Hayden F His excellent contribution to class discussions
6J Lana G Her excellent application to all tasks
6J Phillip S For being a great helper to younger children in the playground
6O Monique G Always displaying high application and concentration

On Tuesday, 17th February 2015, Harrington Park Public School held their annual swimming carnival. Just over 150 students attended on the day and it was great to see so many enthusiastic participants who tried their best in all races. The day ran smoothly and there was even enough time left at the end of the day to have a few ‘fun’ relay races.

Well done to Mrs Trevena who bravely participated in a relay race, although there was a bit of cheating when she was seen swapping lanes to make sure she was in the faster team.

Ribbons and house winners will be awarded at a special Year 2-6 assembly on Tuesday 3rd March at approximately 12:20pm. Those students who were successful in qualifying for the Zone Carnival were given their notes last Friday.

The Razorback Zone Swimming Carnival will take place on Thursday, 26th February and Friday, 27th February. Good luck to all those selected.

Results to follow in next week’s newsletter.

Mrs A Tidyman
Carnival Organiser

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Mrs A Tidyman
Carnival Organiser

In two weeks time on 11th March 2015, we will be having a Mufti Day, raising money for the charity called Kids of Macarthur.

Come dressed in your ‘Sports Mufti’ clothes and bring along a GOLD COIN DONATION to help support this charity.

Thank you.

School Parliament

The Uniform Shop will be CLOSED on Friday, 27th February 2015. Normal opening hours will resume on Tuesday, 3rd March 2015.

The Uniform Shop are currently out of stock of Short Sleeve Polo Shirts in sizes 4, 6 and 14. Delivery is expected within the next week or two.

Thank you.

Stephanie
Should you let your reluctant teen reader choose magazines over books? If your child is still struggling to read and write, and they’re heading into high school, there are ways to get them on the right page. Find out more at: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/english/english-tips/when-older-kids-struggle-with-reading

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

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

The Canteen is holding a ‘Hot Dog Day’ on Tuesday, 3rd March 2015. All money raised will be donated to the school.

There will be no other lunch orders on this day.

If you have not yet completed an order form, please collect one from the school office and return the completed order form with the correct money to the Canteen by Friday, 27th February 2015.

Proud Sponsor of our
Care, Believe, Succeed Assembly
Our Library is becoming Plastic Bag free!

As we all know, plastic bags are not environmentally friendly, they create visual pollution and have harmful effects on aquatic and terrestrial animals. They are made from a gas that is a by product of oil, gas and coal production which takes many years to break down in the environment.

We have been using plastic shopping bags to allow students to borrow when they forget their Library bag, however, we are not going to keep using them as they rarely survive the week.

In 2015 our Library is going plastic bag free ....

....cloth bags will be the bag of choice!

We are seeking your support for donations of cloth bags that many businesses give out as promotional items, just like the green shopping bags. Can you have a look at home and send any unused cloth bags to our Library? They will be greatly appreciated by the students to keep their books safe and the best part is we can use them over and over again.

Did you know ....? 

Reuseable shopping bags have a lower environmental toll than the single use bag BUT ONLY when used 104 times or once a week for over two years. So any unused cloth bags can be sent to the Library and we’ll make sure they get good use!!

Harrington Park P.S. Newsletter

February, 2015
2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

Dear Parent,

The University of New South Wales is offering your child an opportunity to participate in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS).

ICAS assessments have taken place annually in schools for over thirty years and in twenty countries. Educational Assessment Australia (EAA), who design and deliver the assessments, is the not-for-profit arm of the University of New South Wales.

ICAS:
- is an annual skills development assessment program in key areas of learning for students in Years 2–12.
- assessments are available in Digital Technologies, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing
- gathers performance information through a 30–60 minute supervised in-school test
- provides a continuous, independent and comprehensive record of a student’s performance, and maps their development over the full period of primary and secondary schooling
- enables the progress of each student to be mapped in each skill against their previous performance, demonstrating personal improvement no matter the starting point
- uses fellow students’ results as a reference point; results are mapped against all students sitting at the same year level in Australia
- provides an excellent preparation for national testing
- enables students at all levels of ability to participate; ICAS contains questions designed to specifically explore the abilities of students of all standards – this includes those of both lower and higher levels of achievement
- medals are awarded to the top students per state in each subject and year level (when sufficiently mentionable and the test was sat on the official sitting date)
- achievement certificates are awarded to all students at a range of levels:
  1. High Distinction to the top 1% of students
  2. Distinction to the next 10% of students
  3. Credit to the next 20% of students
  4. Merit to the next 10% of students
  5. Participation to all other students
- results are available to parents and students online; these online reports and analyses remain available indefinitely.
- ICAS reports indicate which questions were answered correctly, compare student performance to that of the other students tested and are highly suitable for inclusion in a student’s portfolio for future tertiary entrance or job opportunities
- entries are administered through the school, so teachers can also access the information

To enrol your child in ICAS, please complete the registration form overleaf and return it, with your entry fees, to your school by Friday 23rd March.

For more information about ICAS go to www.eaa.unsw.edu.au, contact Customer Service on (02) 8344 1010 or send an email to info@eaa.unsw.edu.au

Your child can also prepare for ICAS using Practice Online. Practice Online tests are available for English, Mathematics and Science. Find out more about Practice Online at www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/practice-online

Yours sincerely

Dr Sofia Kesidou
Group Executive
Educational Assessment Australia

Mr B Green
Deputy Principal
Harrington Park PS

AU-FP-1501

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Educational Assessment Australia is an education group of UNSW Global Pty Limited, a not-for-profit provider of education, training and advisory services and a wholly owned enterprise of the University of New South Wales. UNSW Global Pty Limited ABN 62 086 418 582
2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

Registration Form (Years 2-6 ONLY)

Please return this form to your child’s school.

I give permission for my child ___________________________ of ___________________________ to participate in the following 2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS):

Please select the subjects you would like your child to enter:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject/Paper</th>
<th>School Years</th>
<th>Official Sitting Date</th>
<th>Entry Fee, incl. GST</th>
<th>Fee Enclosed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital Technologies*</td>
<td>3-10</td>
<td>19 May 2015</td>
<td>$ 8.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>2-12</td>
<td>3 June 2015</td>
<td>$ 8.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>3-12</td>
<td>15-19 June 2015**</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>3-7</td>
<td>16 June 2015</td>
<td>$12.10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>2-12</td>
<td>28 July 2015</td>
<td>$ 8.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>2-12</td>
<td>11 August 2015</td>
<td>$ 8.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students should sit on the official sitting date for each subject to be eligible for UNSW medals. However, your school may choose to sit at another time to fit in with other school activities and routines.

* Previously known as Computer Skills.
** Students may sit Writing anytime in the week beginning Monday 15 June. However, all students in your school should sit on the same day.

Please find enclosed ___________________________ total entry fee. (CASH / CHEQUE / EFTPOS)

_________________________  ___________________________
Name of Parent/Guardian   Date

_________________________
Signature of Parent/Guardian

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Credit Card Details: Mastercard or Visa Credit Card Number: _______ / _______ / _______ / _______

Card Holders Name: ___________________________

Expiry Date: _______ / _______  CCV: _______

PAYMENT DUE BY FRIDAY, 13TH MARCH 2015
The Annual General Meeting of Harrington Park P&C will be held on **Tuesday 3rd March at 7:00PM** in the staffroom.

All of the current positions on the P&C and sub-committees will be declared vacant and with many of our current position holders leaving it’s the perfect time to join – new faces are very welcome!

Please read the following for a description of each of the positions. There is a nomination form for all the positions attached. If you have any questions, please contact the current P&C President – Alyssa Felgendorferis on 0400 22 55 11 or hpospandc@yahoo.com.au

**P&C Objectives**
- To promote the interests of the school by bringing parents, carers, students and teaching staff into close co-operation.
- To assist in providing facilities and equipment for the school.
- To promote the recreation and welfare of the students at the school.

**Positions and Roles include:**

**President** - The Presidents roles include:
- The successful functioning of the P&C Association
- The attainment of the P&C Association’s objectives
- Ensuring that the P&C Association takes part in decision-making processes in the school
- Fostering fair participation of all members and ensuring that all new members are made to feel welcome
- Supporting volunteers
- Consistent adherence to the constitution
- Acting as the P&C Association’s spokesperson when public statements or actions are needed
- Setting up lines of communication with the Principal
- Being signatory on the Association’s bank accounts
- Chairing meetings (see fact sheet: Chairing Meetings) but, in the absence of the President, one of the Vice-Presidents will chair the meeting or the meeting can elect a chairperson from the members present for that meeting.

**Vice President** - The Vice Presidents roles include:
- To assist in the overall governance of P&C Federation as requested by the President.
- To carry out such duties as the President delegates to them.
- Oversee Convencors for Canteen, Uniform Shop and Fundraising Co-Ordinator and report at P&C Meetings
- In the case of Incapacity, prolonged absence or resignation of the President, to carry out all the duties of the President until a new President is elected.

**Secretary** - The Secretaries roles include:
- Carrying out the administrative tasks relating to decisions of meetings
- Preparing meeting agendas, in consultation with the President
- Receiving and tattling correspondence
- Writing and dispatching outgoing correspondence as resolved/appropriate
• Issuing notice of meetings
• Maintaining official records
• Taking & distribution of minutes

**Treasurer** - The Treasurers roles include:
• Complying with the financial accountability requirements
• Managing and maintaining monies, records, cheques and accounts
• Presenting an Income and Expenditure statement together with a reconciled bank statement at each meeting
• Ensuring funds are properly and openly accounted for
• Being a signatory on the accounts
• Preparing financial accounts for auditing
• Assisting in budgeting

**Canteen Convenor** - The Canteen Convenor roles include:
• Oversee running of canteen,
• Management of employee
• Ensure financial reports are completed and liaise with Treasurer

**Uniform Shop Convenor** - The Uniform Shop Convenor roles include:
• Monitor/order stock
• Open shop twice a week for selling of uniforms
• Bank takings and liaise with Treasurer

**Fundraising Co-Ordinator** - The Fundraising Co-Ordinators roles include:
• To organise appropriate fundraising activities and events, in consultation with the P&C, with an aim to raise funds to equip and resource Harrington Park Public School
• Ensure it adheres to all P&C guidelines relating to duty of care, insurance, public liability and workplace health and safety.
• To provide a report of its progress to every P&C meeting

All parents and carers of students at the school are eligible to be members of the schools P&C Association and are encouraged to join.

A $2.00 annual membership fee is required in order to be able to hold a position, move motions and vote.
So, please come along and run for a position or just come and become a financial member, so that you too can have your say and input into what happens at HPPS.

(Tear off and bring to the AGM on Tuesday 3rd March with your $2 Membership Fee)

I hereby nominate, ____________________________ to serve on the HPPS P&C Executive
in the position of ______________________ or as an Executive member OR as the
_________________________ Convenor/Co-Ordinator (circle as appropriate).

Signed: ______________________________ Date: __________________

Seconded by: __________________________ Signature __________________