Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to Week 6. Firstly I have a safety issue to discuss with you. Yesterday one of our students was approached after school near a park by a man wearing a balaclava. He offered her lollies and had a white van. The child was sensible and didn’t approach the man. Police were informed and a good description of the person was given to them. Teachers are speaking with students today reminding them of ‘Stranger Danger’ and we ask that you reinforce this message.

Police visited our school yesterday and reminded us that they will be returning soon to monitor traffic, particularly people stopping illegally in the shared zone opposite the school to drop off and pick up children. Please play it safe and don’t risk a fine.

Thanks to everyone who attended the P&C meeting on Tuesday night. Not all positions were filled at the AGM. Alyssa is continuing in the role of President, until she moves in the near future. There are also positions for Fundraising Coordinator, and Vice-President and Canteen Coordinator. Ross Zuber is happy to fill either of the latter two positions but isn’t able to do both. If you are able to help please let us know.

Congratulations to all swimmers who represented our school last week at the Razorback Carnival. You can be very proud of your efforts. I was very impressed by your good sporting attitude and wonderful behaviour. Well done!

Our Hot Dog Day was a great success. The Canteen Manager has asked me to pass on her thanks to the parents and teachers who assisted on the day. Your help was greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to all swimmers who represented our school last week at the Razorback Carnival. You can be very proud of your efforts. I was very impressed by your good sporting attitude and wonderful behaviour. Well done!

We have had several inquiries about the canteen menu in the last couple of weeks regarding food allergies, medical conditions and religious considerations. If you have any concerns or ideas I need your support in meeting those requests.

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My thought for the week comes from Stephen Covey, ‘Make small commitments and keep them. Be a light, not a judge. Be a model, not a critic. Be part of the solution, not part of the problem.’

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.

**DIARY**

**March**
- 9th: Girls Cricket State KO vs Camden Sth - 9:30-1:30pm
- 11th: Mufti Day - Sports Theme (Gold Coin Donation)
- 12th: Selective High School Placement Test
- 13th: National Ride 2 School Day
- 17th: School Disco
- 19th: Razorback Boys Touch Football Trials
- 20th: School Cross Country (Years 2-6)
- 23-27th: Sausage Sizzle
- 23-26th: Razorback Hockey Trials @ Narellan (1-3pm)

**April**
- 1-2nd: State Swimming
- 2nd: K-2 Easter Hat Parade - 12pm
- 3rd: Public Holiday
- 6th: Public Holiday
- 9-10th: Easter Kids Holiday Program 9-3pm (Anglican Church)
- 20th: Staff Development Day
- 21st: Students return for Term 2
- 24th: ANZAC Day Ceremony
- 25th: ANZAC Day

**May**
- 7th: Mother’s Day Stall
- 12-14th: NAPLAN (Yrs 3 & 5)
- 19th: ICAS Digital Technologies (Yrs 3-6)
- 19-20th: School Photos
- 26th: Year 3 Excursion to Minnamurra Rainforest

**June**
- 3rd: ICAS Science (Yrs 2-6)
- 8th: Public Holiday
- 15th: ICAS Writing (Yrs 3-6) (during this week / date to be advised)

**ICAS Writing**

On Wednesday, 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
Congratulations to the following students who were recognised at their stage assemblies for their recent efforts.

KA Isla J Always trying her very best
KA Piper K Being a keen and enthusiastic student
KA Harry R Always showing his 5 L’s
KL Maja T Being a lovely neat worker
KL Liam L Being a keen and enthusiastic student
KL Noah P Trying his best in all his work
KS Cameron F Excellent word building
KS Jamie A Wonderful reading during group time
KL Alicia P Great sentence writing
KV Olivia R Always showing her 5 L’s
KV Oliver D Being a quiet hard working student
KV Izaac W Trying hard at everything he does
1E Leilani EU For excellent effort during all activities, especially spelling
1E James H For excellent effort during maths activities
1G Jasmine L Always trying her best in class
1G Jake B Always being fair and kind in class
1J Lauren K Producing beautiful artwork
1J Jay C Excellent effort in all areas
1S Ray O Excellent writing
1S Tayla S A super effort in writing
2A Alyssa S Making positive contributions during class discussions
2A Bailey J Creative ideas during art lessons
2C Ruby C Always contributing sensibly during class discussions
2C Lachlan S Excellent work during ‘TEN time’
2M Tilly M Excellent work during computers
2M Georgia C Being a wonderful role model in all areas of school
2W Katarina M A wonderful summary of ‘The Bike Race’
2W Oscar L A well thought out prediction on ‘The Bike Race’
2/3T Cooper E Fantastic answers after reading to show his understanding
2/3T Jasmine S Beautiful neat handwriting
4/5O Rafael Z Great work in maths
5B Emily Rose B Maintaining a high standard of neatness in all areas
5B Jack B Great participation in Literacy Circles
5J Tamzyn H Consistent effort
5J Dursi S Working consistently in all areas
5S Mikayla C Great contributions during maths lessons
5S William F Working hard during writing and mathematics lessons
6C Aahana S A great improvement in his independent work habits
6D Lochi K Working hard in all areas
6D Claudia B Accuracy and speed in mathematics
6J Matthew L Excellent fluency and accuracy when reading aloud
6J Jaden G Improved effort, attitude and application in all his work
6O Georgia F Displaying excellent listening skills
6O Jason L An excellent information report

SCHOOL CAPTAINS & VICE CAPTAINS FOR 2015:

HANNAH T & ZAYNE L
PARIS B & NICHOLAS W
# Swimming Carnival Results 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 Years Girls</td>
<td>50m Freestyle</td>
<td>Alexis W</td>
<td>Jasmine S</td>
<td>Kiarna B</td>
<td>Lola P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Years Boys</td>
<td>50m Freestyle</td>
<td>Connor C</td>
<td>Ryan S</td>
<td>Xavier G</td>
<td>Ryan H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Years Girls</td>
<td>50m Freestyle</td>
<td>Maddison L</td>
<td>Amanda C</td>
<td>Isabella T</td>
<td>Abby H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Years Boys</td>
<td>50m Freestyle</td>
<td>Max K</td>
<td>Jack D</td>
<td>Aaron H</td>
<td>Lucas R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Years Girls</td>
<td>50m Freestyle</td>
<td>Caitlin C</td>
<td>Kaitlin F</td>
<td>Erin C</td>
<td>Audrey A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Years Boys</td>
<td>50m Freestyle</td>
<td>Kobi E</td>
<td>Sebastian W</td>
<td>Brayden H</td>
<td>Liam S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Years Girls</td>
<td>50m Freestyle</td>
<td>Hannah T</td>
<td>Durshi S</td>
<td>Emily C</td>
<td>Bianca C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Years Boys</td>
<td>50m Freestyle</td>
<td>Luke L</td>
<td>Owen G</td>
<td>Liam S</td>
<td>Lucas R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Years Girls</td>
<td>50m Breaststroke</td>
<td>Hannah T</td>
<td>Isabella T</td>
<td>Emily C</td>
<td>Savanna D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Years Boys</td>
<td>50m Breaststroke</td>
<td>Luke L</td>
<td>Owen G</td>
<td>Emily C</td>
<td>Savanna D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Years Girls</td>
<td>50m Freestyle</td>
<td>Stephanie W</td>
<td>Brodie H</td>
<td>Shae E</td>
<td>Tara M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Years Boys</td>
<td>50m Freestyle</td>
<td>Luke T</td>
<td>Liam S</td>
<td>Lochie K</td>
<td>Dylan R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Girls</td>
<td>100m Freestyle</td>
<td>Stephanie W</td>
<td>Brodie H</td>
<td>Shae E</td>
<td>Caitlin C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Boys</td>
<td>100m Freestyle</td>
<td>Luke T</td>
<td>Liam S</td>
<td>Lochie K</td>
<td>Dylan R</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
On Thursday 26th and Friday 27th February, many of our students represented Harrington Park Public School at the Razorback Zone Swimming Carnival at Wollondilly Leisure Centre in Picton. Thank you to all of the parents who helped transport students to the venue. Mr Best and Mrs Tidyman attended on Thursday, and Mr Green and Mrs Trevena attended on Friday. We want to commend all students on their efforts and behaviour. Congratulations to all students who competed over these two days and a special congratulations to the following students for their achievements and qualifying for the Regional Carnival:

Jnr girls relay team - 2nd Place
Caitlin C, Amanda C, Maddison L, Kaitlin F

Snr girls relay team - 1st Place
Shae E, Brodie H, Stephanie W, Tara M

Stephanie W
3rd Place 100m Freestyle
2nd Place 50m Backstroke
1st Place 50m Breaststroke
1st Place 50m Butterfly
3rd Place 200m IM

Caitlin C
1st Place 200m IM
1st Place 50m Backstroke
1st Place 50m Butterfly
3rd Place 50m Breaststroke

Maddison L
2nd Place 50m Freestyle

Brodie H
3rd Place 50m Butterfly
3rd Place 50m Backstroke

Luke T
3rd Place 50m Breaststroke

A special congratulations to Caitlin C for receiving the Junior Girls Age Champion at the zone carnival. Well done.

Mrs A Tidyman
The Tell Them From Me student feedback survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9 March and 2 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

The survey will be completed by Years 4-6 only.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by Friday 13th March, 2015. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.

Mr B Green
Deputy Principal
Tell Them From Me
Student Feedback Survey
Frequently Asked Questions (parents and carers)

Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

What is the *Tell Them From Me* student survey?

The *Tell Them From Me* student survey asks questions about factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other outcomes. It aims to help improve the learning outcomes of students.

The survey is designed to measure, assess and report insights at the school and system levels. The focus of this NSW survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

What kind of questions will the survey ask?

The survey will ask students questions about:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participation in Sports</th>
<th>Homework Behaviour</th>
<th>Expectations for Success</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teaching Rigour</td>
<td>Participation in Clubs</td>
<td>Behaviour at School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experiences of being bullied</td>
<td>Positive Teacher-Student Relations</td>
<td>Sense of Belonging</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest and Motivation</td>
<td>Effective Learning Time</td>
<td>Positive Learning Climate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Relationships</td>
<td>Effort</td>
<td>Teaching Relevance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How have schools been selected to take part?

The survey is open for all NSW government schools to participate in at no cost to them. Your school has taken up this offer.

How will taking part in this survey benefit my child’s school?

The *Tell Them From Me* student survey will provide school principals and school leaders with insight into student engagement, wellbeing and effective teaching practices at their school, from the perspective of students. Data collected from the survey responses are quickly compiled into reports for school leaders. Principals can then use this information to help them identify emerging issues and plan for school improvement.

What does my child need to do to participate in the survey?

The survey typically takes less than 35 minutes and is conducted entirely online through a secure website operated by the survey developers, The Learning Bar. Schools will make computers or laptops available so that students can complete the survey during school hours.

Does my child have to participate?

No, participation in the survey is optional. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish to. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next one. Your child can stop the survey at any time. Parents/students have a right to apply for access to, and correction of, a student’s information.
Will the school be able to identify my child from their responses?

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will not be made available.

A small number of staff in the Department's Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE) will have access to individual student responses for the purpose of state-wide analysis. Individual students' data will be held on a secure server with access strictly limited to CESE researchers. The researchers are interested in trends only – not in individual student responses. Individual students and schools will not be identified in any CESE publication.

What sort of analysis will be done on the survey data?

Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days. School leaders may use the data to better understand the experiences and views of students at their school.

CESE will undertake state-wide analysis of the survey data in conjunction with existing student data held by the Department, including performance data. The results will help all schools better understand the relationship between wellbeing, engagement, effective teaching and student learning. Results from CESE's analysis of this data will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes. This supports the Department's continuing focus on quality teaching and leadership. The data will be retained for future analysis to help us better understand the nature of student engagement and wellbeing over time.

Can all school students participate in the survey?

The primary school survey is designed for students in Years 4 to 6. Schools are encouraged to allow as many students as possible in these Year groups to participate.

When will the Tell Them From Me survey happen?

The surveys will be conducted in all participating schools between Monday 9 March and Thursday 2 April 2015 (Weeks 7-10 of Term 1).

What is the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE)?

CESE is part of the Department of Education and Communities. It has been established to improve the effectiveness, efficiency and accountability of education in NSW.

CESE will identify and share what works, creating new opportunities to improve teaching and learning across all education sectors.

What is The Learning Bar and what is their role?

The Learning Bar is an international education company, with offices in Australia and Canada, that specialises in school surveys and student assessments. They have been contracted by the Department to run the surveys for NSW public schools. Its survey, Tell Them From Me, is the largest national school survey in Canada, used in nine of Canada's ten provinces. More than 2,600 schools and 1.7 million Canadian students have participated in the survey over the last nine years.

The Learning Bar has conducted surveys in Australia before, with schools helping to adapt surveys, ensuring they are appropriate to an Australian context. For purely administrative purposes, The Learning Bar will also have temporary access to identifiable student responses to the survey questions. Other than The Learning Bar and CESE researchers within the Department, identifiable student responses will not be disclosed to any other person or body other than as required by law.


Contact Details

For more information about the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation, please contact us:

semble@det.nsw.edu.au

www.cese.nsw.gov.au
Harrington Park Public School
Sir Warwick Fairfax Drive, Harrington Park NSW 2567 (Box 3125 DC Narellan)
Phone: 4647 7116  Fax: 4647 6817
Email: harrington-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Web Address: http://www.harrington-p.school.nsw.edu.au

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 ___________________________ Class ___________________________

of ___________________________ Class ___________________________

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><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></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)

________________________________________
Amount

________________________________________
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
If any circumstances change at home ie: contact numbers, emergency contacts, custody, court orders or access, please notify the office in writing as soon as possible so this can be updated on our system. Any changes of address need to be supported by sufficient documentation ie: rates notice, rental agreement or electricity bill.

Mrs Bush & Miss Camenzuli

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**National Ride2School Day**

Friday 13th March 2015 is the ninth National Ride2School Day event, where over 300,000 Australian students will ride, walk, scoot or skate to school.

So once again, we’re inviting all students to re-live the fun and continue to build a happy and healthy school community by joining in the celebrations.

National Ride2School Day is a flagship event of the Ride2School Program. Active travel is a great way for students of all ages to meet their recommended daily dose of 60 minutes physical activity every day.

The purpose of National Ride2School Day is to show school communities that riding to school is an easy and fun activity. It is a chance to celebrate on a large scale and prove it can be done.

Mrs Bush & Miss Camenzuli

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**Find us on:**

facebook

Have you visited our Facebook page?

www.facebook.com/HarringtonParkPublicSchool

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**Change of Details**

If any circumstances change at home ie: contact numbers, emergency contacts, custody, court orders or access, please notify the office in writing as soon as possible so this can be updated on our system. Any changes of address need to be supported by sufficient documentation ie: rates notice, rental agreement or electricity bill.
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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**The new Gumnut Kidz Preschool is here!**

**CALL NOW**
4646 1688 or 0414 762 044
24 Willon St, Narellan
(Next to Narellan Town Centre)
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- New Owners / New Management
- Renovated and Refurbished Centre
- New resources, highly qualified staff
- Small, Nurturing, Homelike Learning Environment
- All Meals prepared by onsite chef using fresh unprocessed ingredients
- Strong focus on literacy, numeracy and big school preparation
- Small enough to care
- Preschool program with extended hours

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**TEennis**

**MACARTHUR TENNIS ACADEMY**

- Locations: Glen Alpine & Harrington Park
- When: Monday to Saturday
- Ages: 4 Years to Adult
- Times: Mornings, Afternoons & Evenings
- Levels: Beginners to Advanced
- Lessons: ½ hr & 1 hr Private, Family, Shared & Group Lessons
- Price: Starting from $10

- Improve, Enjoy, Stay Active & Have Fun!!!

- 0416 254 647
- Tennis Australia Club Professional Coach 25 Yrs Exp
- www.macarthurtennisacademy.com.au

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- All Areas

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**Creative Kitchens & Joinery (NSW) Pty Ltd**

- Ph: 4647 6992
- Fax: 4647 6755
- Unit 1/160 Hartley Road
- Smeaton Grange NSW 2567
- enquiries@creative-kitchens.com.au

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**MODE Shutters & Blinds**

- Vince Firriolo
- Ph: 1300 BLIND 1
- Ph: 1300 254 631
- E: sales@mynewblinds.com.au
- www.modeshutters.com.au