Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to Week 10. What an exciting term we have had at Harrington Park Public School. Last weekend our Tournament of the Minds team competed in the State Finals at the University of NSW. Their teachers were very proud of their efforts, and whilst they didn’t win I’m told that they were very competitive and did an excellent job. Congratulations on a great effort and thank you to all of the teachers who supported the children in this year’s competition.

Last Friday several parents from our school attended a conference for parents on Children’s Wellbeing. This was an excellent day with 150 parents from across the Campbelltown/Macarthur region in attendance. The speakers were very interesting and parents were provided with a wealth of information and knowledge of good sources of support in the region. Thank you to the parents who attended.

On Friday night teachers from Stage 3 presented at a professional learning activity for teachers in Macarthur. Project EPIC was a new initiative designed to explore action research in the area of student engagement, and our Stage 3 team were looking at Bring Your Own Device programs as a tool in this area. Our teachers gave an excellent presentation which was very well received and the film that they produced has been requested as a learning tool for other teachers in NSW schools. The data gathered demonstrated a great level of improvement in engagement of the children and as a result further work in this area will continue at the school. Congratulations to all involved.

Today is a Mufti Day to aid families who are fleeing war torn Syria. Our children requested that we support refugees in whatever way possible and this was the quickest way that we could respond. Thank you to everyone who made donations. The money has not been tallied as yet, but we will let you know the total raised as soon as possible.

My thought for the week comes from Albert Schweitzer, who said, ‘The only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve.’

I hope that you have a wonderful holiday over the next two weeks and I look forwards to catching up with some of you in the first week back. Our P&C meeting will be on the first day of term, which is Tuesday, 6th October. Week 1 of the term will be my final week at this school as I commence long service leave pending retirement at the end of that week. I will say more about that in my final newsletter.

Yours faithfully,
Andrew Best

Student Banking

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

September

18th: Gala Day #3
Last Day of Term 3

October

5th: Public Holiday
6th: Staff & Students return for Term 4
8th: Crazy Tie Day (P&C Fundraiser) Gold Coin Donation
9th: CBS Assembly
13th: Kindergarten Transition
20th: Kindergarten Transition
27th: Kindergarten Transition
28-29th: Sports Photos
30th: CBS Assembly

November

5-6th: Year 6 Canberra Excursion
13th: Year 6 Mini Fair
16-27th: Year 6 In-School High School Transition
27th: CBS Assembly

December

3rd: Year 6 High School Orientation Day
8th: EMHS Elements Tour 2-3pm in hall (Stage 3)
14th: Year 6 Formal
16th: Last day of Term 4 for Students
17-18th: Staff Development Day
HEAT
Sowing the Seeds

No this is not a hold-up. It’s just your friendly HEAT members wearing their safety masks while working with potting mix. The students are propagating seed in preparation for the arrival of Spring. A variety of heirloom seeds, some over 100 years old were carefully planted into seed raising punnets by the students who were amazed at the different shapes, colours and sizes. When the seeds germinate they will be planted in our vegetable beds. Some of the plants will not be harvested, instead they will be allowed to ‘go to seed’ so that the students can collect the seed and store it for next year. Sustainability in action!!

TOURNAMENT OF THE MINDS
STATE FINALS

On Sunday, 13th September, the Language Literature Tournament of Minds team competed in the T.O.M State Competition for 2015 at the University of New South Wales. The team was made up of: Erin C, Emily M, Sebastian W, Joshua C, Kiera M, Zayne L and Jessie H.

In this competition we got put in a room for 3 hours and were given a challenge to solve. The way we needed to solve the challenge was by acting out the solution. The challenge we got was called, “Four Steps to Shine.”

To complete this challenge, our team had to use 4 different words that morphed into the word ‘Shine’. We could only change 1 letter each time to get a different word. Eg, Cat to dog: Cat, Can, Con, Don, Dog.

After the three hours were over, our team had a lunch break then went into the lecture theatre to perform our solution. Harrington Park PS were the first to perform so we set the bar very high. We found it very nerve racking but had lots and lots of fun.

Our team would like to thank Mrs O’Gorman and Miss Camenzuli who gave up their afternoons, lunch and recesses to let us practice and the parents who encouraged us all the way through and who came to watch and support us. A big thank you also goes to Mrs Hooper who has supported us throughout the tournament and came to watch us perform at the Regional and State Final. We really appreciate it!

Unfortunately, we didn’t go through to the next round or get honours, but we had a great time and enjoyed it lots. We are very proud of our efforts in making it to the State Final.

By Erin C and Jessie H
Youth Works
At the year 5 camp we went on an 88m waterslide, abseiling, sailing, rock climbing, fishing and we cooked damper on a fire. The food was delicious and the leaders were great. The teachers checked the rooms and gave out points. One night we had a talent quest, on the 2nd night we played a Trivia game. I didn’t want to leave because I had so much fun!

Portia 5B

Youth Works
At the year 5 camp to Port Hacking there were many activities like the waterslide, rock climbing, abseiling, bush cooking, low ropes, initiatives and sailing. They were all so much fun. I wish we could have stayed longer so we could do all of the activities again. I can’t wait for the year 6 camp!

Charlize 5B

Youth Works
We went on the year 5 camp for 3 days and 2 nights. On the first day we were split into 5 groups. Our first meal was lasagne, then on the second night we had spicy chicken with rice. We did lots of fun activities on camp like abseiling from 4m or 8m, rock climbing with a belay team, cookout where you cooked damper on an open fire, at the end you got to eat it! We also went on an 88m waterslide and we slept in cabins.

Breanna 5H

Youth Works
On Wednesday 2nd September we went to Youth Works. On the first day we went on the waterslide, it was really cold but lots of fun. We went on the rock climbing wall, I made it all the way to the top. My favourite camp meal was the chocolate mouse for dessert!

Charli 5B

Youth Works
On Wednesday 2nd September, year 5 left for camp at Port Hacking in the Royal National Park. It was a short 45min drive. When we arrived at camp we were introduced to the group leaders. We then went to our rooms and the cool thing was the rooms had codes to get in. After that we got into our groups and got ready for our first activity.

Each group rotated through different activities. On the first night we had a talent quest. Kiera, Abi and Lili won, Rafael came second and J5 came third. The next day we did 3 other activities, we were meant to do the waterslide as our night activity but due to the weather we played a Trivia game instead. My group won! It was an awesome camp, I came home with plenty of memories.

Kiera 5B

Youth Works
On 2nd September year 5 left for camp. The first thing we did was play a game in the hall, then we found out our room numbers, my friends and I were all in a room together. We had lasagne that night, personally I didn’t like it, but I liked the dessert, it was chocolate mouse! The next night we had chicken curry with rice. We had a talent quest, I sung in a group called KHL, we won!

Abigail 5H
Youth Works
Congratulations to our NSW Premier’s Spelling Bee Regional Finalists

Last Wednesday our Spelling Bee Stage Finalists went to Thomas Acres Public School to participate in the Regional Finals. Stage 2 finalists Isabella W and Erin S (2/3T) did an amazing job in the junior competition. Both girls placed in the top 15 and spelt lots of tricky words correctly. Well done girls!

Our Stage 3 finalists Beau M (6C) and Phillip S (6O) also did our school proud. Phillip placed in the top 15 and Beau in the top 10. Congratulations to our spelling champions who have worked hard throughout all stages of the competition!

Mrs B.Hooper
Spelling Bee coordinator

Zone and Regional Athletics

Both carnivals were held at Campbelltown Athletics Stadium with fine weather. Over 50 students represented our school at the Razorback Zone with 34 different events having an improved time or distance from that achieved at school. Fantastic!

Eleven students earned the opportunity to attend the Regional Carnival which was held last Wednesday. They included: Bianca C, Hayden F, Brayden H, Ben L, Sienna S, and the Senior Boys Relay team - Jack K, Hayden F, Ryley K, Lachlan J, and the Girls Senior Relay-Bianca C, Emily-Rose B, Alyssa B and Shae E.

All students represented our school and Razorback Zone with pride and great sportsmanship. Congratulations to Bianca C (800m), Hayden F (High Jump) who will be attending the State carnival at Homebush for individual events whilst our two Senior Relay teams will also be running for the Region following some very exciting finishes last Wednesday.

Well done to each of these athletes, we wish you all the best at the State Carnival on Wednesday, 14th October and Thursday, 15th October.

School Website Survey

Dear parents,

We are always looking at ways to enhance the quality of communication between our school and our parents. One of the key communication channels is our school website www.harringtnp-p.schools.nsw.edu.au. The department is looking at enhancing the quality of our school website and would really like to get your feedback as a parent about the type of functionality on the website that would help improve the communication between the school and you.

We would really appreciate if you could take a couple of minutes to complete the following online survey.

The survey is located at: -
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WSVSCXG

Thank you for taking the time to give us your feedback and help us make our school website even better.
You can now make payments online via a secure link on our website.

Log onto our school site at:
http://www.harringtnp-schools.nsw.edu.au

Click on “Make a Payment” and follow the prompts to make a payment via Visa or Mastercard.

Permission notes must still be returned to school. Please record the receipt number on your permission note.

Last week three boys teams and three girls teams represented our school in the Razorback Milo Cup competition at Onslow Park in Camden. It was a day filled with fun, music, dancing and also plenty of cricket. Our teams all played some great cricket and were excellent representatives of their school. A special thank you to all the parents who helped with transport and came along and supported the teams.

Boys - It was great to see so many boys getting the chance to play Milo Cup cricket, some for the first time. The three teams played well with one team winning their pool and playing Camden South in the final. Camden South bowled very tightly and made us fight for every run we could get, keeping us to our lowest score of the day. While the boys were always in with a chance some uncharacteristic way-bowling took the pressure off Camden South who ended up cruising to a comfortable win. Well done to all the boys who were part of a great day of cricket.

Girls – many of the girls who played in our two teams were playing in the Milo Cup for the first time so it was a great achievement to play so well and win as many games as they did. With many players missing due to illness, injury and of course the hockey finals it was terrific to see other girls step up and perform so well. A big thank you to Miss Perrin for her help in training the girls teams leading up to the competition and to Miss Davis and Miss Perrin for coaching the “Scorchers” and the “Renegades” on the day.

Harrington Park “Clarke” – We won our first two games very convincingly against Narellan Vale and Mount Annan Christian College, and were unlucky to go down very narrowly in the third game. The girls saved their best performance for the playoff for third place against Curran’s Hill and went on to win 97 to 64. Finishing 3rd out of 10 teams was a great effort!

Harrington Park “Renegades” (Miss Perrin)

Last Tuesday the Harrington Park Renegades Girls Milo Cricket Team had a day full of fun and everything cricket at Onslow Reserve in Camden at the Milo Cricket Cup. The girls worked together as a team and were always so encouraging. They had a great day full of laughs, great bowling, batting and lots of dancing as well. This team was made up entirely of Year 5 students so we are already looking good for next year!
Round 1: HPPS vs Mt Annan  
Lost

Round 2: HPPS vs Camden 5th Blue  
Win

Round 3: HPPS vs Oran Park  
Lost

Round 4: HPPS vs HPPS A  
Lost

Round 1: HPPS vs Warragamba  
Lost

Round 2: HPPS vs Oran Park  
Win

Round 3: HPPS vs Camden South Blue  
Lost

Round 4: HPPS vs HPPS A  
Lost

Round 1: HPPS vs Oran Park  
DNP

Round 2: HPPS vs Warragamba  
Win 14-1

Round 3: HPPS Maroon vs Camden Sth  
Draw 1-1

Round 1: HPPS vs Mt Annan  
Loss 0-14

Round 2: HPPS Green vs Oran Park  
Draw 12-12

Round 3: HPPS Green vs Warragamba  
Win 9-4

Round 1: HPPS vs Warragamba  
Lost

Round 2: HPPS vs Oran Park  
Won

Round 3: HPPS vs Camden South Blue  
Lost

Round 4: HPPS vs HPPS A  
Lost

Round 1: HPPS vs Warragamba  
Win 14-3

Round 2: HPPS Maroon vs Camden Sth  
Win 13-1

Round 1: HPPS Green vs Mt Annan  
Loss 1-7

Round 2: HPPS Green vs Oran Park  
Loss 3-13

Round 3: HPPS Green vs Warragamba  
Loss 9-11

Round 1: HPPS Maroon vs Oran Park  
Win 14

Round 2: HPPS Maroon vs Warragamba  
Win 14-3

Round 3: HPPS Maroon vs Camden Sth  
Win 0-0

Round 1: HPPS Blue vs Camden 5th Blue  
Win 60-36

Round 2: HPPS Blue vs Mt Annan  
Win 63-39

Round 3: HPPS Blue vs Narellan Vale Blue  
Win 120-27

Round 4: HPPS Blue vs HPPS Green  
Win 60-28

Round 1: HPPS Blue vs Oran Park  
Win 181

Round 2: HPPS Blue vs Mt Annan  
Win 63-39

Round 3: HPPS Blue vs Narellan Vale Blue  
Win 92-15

Round 4: HPPS Blue vs HPPS Green  
Win 60-28

Round 1: JUNIOR OZ TAG WON 5 GAMES

Round 2: DRAW ONE GAME

Round 3: DRAW ONE GAME

Round 4:

Round 5:

Round 6:

Round 1: SENIOR OZ TAG WON ALL 6 GAMES

Round 2:

Round 3:

Round 4:

Round 5:

Round 6:

NEXT GALA DAY
FRIDAY, 18TH SEPTEMBER 2015
At Harrington Park Public School we value the home-school partnership, parent/carer engagement in student learning and the contribution the school community can make to improve our school. You’re invited to participate in the Tell Them From Me (TTFM) Partners in Learning survey designed for parents and carers. This survey complements the TTFM student and teacher surveys, which focus on student engagement, wellbeing and effective teaching practices. All Department of Education schools have the opportunity to participate if they choose.

Why should I participate?
Parents and carers are an important and valued part of the school community. Schools can use survey feedback to make practical improvements and inform school planning.

What does it involve?
This online survey takes about 15 minutes to complete. It is anonymous and voluntary. If you have more than one child at this school, and feel that your children’s experiences differ, you can complete the survey more than once. The survey results are provided to the school and assist in improving the relationship and partnerships between the school and its community.

How can I participate?
You can access the survey in your own time, between 17 August and 16 October 2015. Follow the link below on your computer or tablet. Use the login details provided at the bottom of the page to access the site.
https://www.tellthemfromme.com
If you are unable to access the internet at home but would like to complete the survey, the school will open the computer lab on the following days for your convenience:
Tuesdays: 9 – 11am
Fridays: 1 – 3pm
More information on the Partners in Learning survey can be found on the NSW Department of Educations’ TTFM website: http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/
Skoolbag is a mobile App for your school to communicate directly to both parents and students. It works through both smart phones and smart devices (such as iPads and Android Tablets). Ideal for:

- School, free push notification alerts
- School events
- School newsletters
- School documents
- School RSS feeds
- School social media (Facebook, Twitter)

How To Install Skoolbag On Your Smartphone

**iPhone & iPad Users**

1. Click the “App Store” icon on your Apple device.
2. Type your school name in the search, using suburb name will help.
3. If iPhone, you will see your school appear, click “Free” then “install”.
4. If iPad, change the drop list to “iPhone Apps”; your school will then be visible, click “Free” then “install”.
5. When installed click “Open”
6. Select “OK” to receive push notifications, when asked.
7. Click the “More” button on the bottom right of the App, then “Setup”.
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

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**Android Users**

You must first have signed up with a Google Account before installing the app.

1. Click the “Play Store” button on your Android Device.
2. Click the magnifying glass icon at the top and type in your school name, using suburb name will help.
3. Click the school name when it appears in the search.
4. Click the “Install” button.
5. Click “Accept” for various permissions (please note, we do not modify any of your personal data on your device).
6. Click “Open” when installed.
7. Click the “More” button on the bottom right of the App, then “Setup”.
8. Toggle on the Push Categories that are applicable for you.

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Find out more at www.skoolbag.com.au
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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