

Hill Top Public School

Honour 1884 Trust



Term 1—Week 2

Monday 30 January, 2012



From the Principal's Desk

Welcome back to Hill Top Public School 2012!

Students

I would like to welcome all Year 1 - Year 6 students back to school at Hill Top P.S. today. I would also like to warmly welcome all new students and their parents to our school. We wish you all the best for settling in quickly and making new friends in our school community.

We are looking forward to our new Kindergarten students beginning their school life on Thursday. In the meantime, they will each be coming in for a timetabled hour to do their Best Start Assessment. By Thursday, we hope to have the rest of the school (years 1-6) organised into classes. The students will return for the next few days to holding classes. We really appreciate the students and parents' patience and support with this. It is regrettably an extremely necessary part of our school organisation at the beginning of the year as we need to firmly establish enrolment numbers before forming classes. It is probably of no surprise to the school community for me to inform you that our perceived numbers are sitting precariously between 8-9 classes. We are confident in forming the latter but want to avoid confusion for the students in placing them in a particular class with peers with a particular teacher and then having to change the structure and cause unnecessary angst for students, parents and teachers. We are hoping this holding process will only last a few days while we confirm our existing and new enrolments. Thank you again for your patience.

Holding classes are organised randomly with teachers and classroom settings for a few days. They are based on last year's classes. This will be explained to your child / children. They are as follows:

2011 KR – in old KR classroom with Miss Packer
KL in old KL classroom with Mrs Van Der Meer
1K in 6 Magpie's old classroom with Mrs Griffiths
1/2C in 2 Wren's old room with Mrs Hofman
2W in 3K's old room with Mrs Wakeling
3K in 1K's old room with Mrs Doust
3/4/5 H in old 3/4/5 Honeyeaters room with Mrs Gee
4/5KP in 4/5 KP's old room with Ms Hill

The new Kindergarten students coming in for their timetabled Best Start Assessments will go to either Ms Hofman's Reading Recovery room or Mrs Van Der Meer's STLA room. They can alternatively come to the front office if they are unsure of where these rooms are.

New Kindergarten students starting on Thursday

We will meet our new Kindergarten students on Thursday at 9.15am in the school hall.

We will follow similar processes as we did at Kindergarten Orientation and they will meet their new teachers. We will then have a parent and student photo opportunity outside in the play ground (weather permitting). They will then be escorted to their classrooms by their teachers to embark on their school journey. We ask all parents to farewell their children at this point of the morning.

Tissues will be supplied (for the parents!!!).

Book packs

As I mentioned late last year, each student will be required to purchase a book pack for use in the classroom. Each book pack will contain preferred exercise books already purchased by the school, a Maths textbook and some stationery pertinent to your child/ children's level of learning. A note will come home about this as soon as new classes are formed.

Diary Dates - Term 1

Tuesday, January 31	Tigers NFL visit
Thursday, February 2	Kindergarten start 9.15am
Monday, February 5	AASC
Tuesday, February 6	Scripture Commences
Wednesday, February 7	AASC
Friday, February 17	School Swimming Carnival



Education
& Communities

Linda Street, Hill Top NSW 2575
Tel: 0248 898227 Fax: 0248 898224
Email: hilltop-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au



Staffing

We would like to warmly welcome back Mrs Cindy Wakeling at Hill Top P.S. after a completion of a one year exchange with Mrs Bronwen Scott from Glenquarry P.S. We would also like to welcome Mrs Luisa Gurner back to a five day a week role at Hill Top P.S. Mrs Gurner will be our new Reading Recovery teacher as well as our RFF teacher. We wish Miss Amber Hall all the best as she embarks on her year on Groote Island in the Northern Territory. She has promised to update us regularly on her adventures and experiences teaching in a remote Aboriginal community. Hopefully our new Connected Classroom may assist us here. I would also like to welcome myself back unexpectedly in the relieving Principal role for the term as Mr Reakes continues to enjoy some extra long service leave.

(No! He has not been playing with chainsaws again!) I would therefore, like to welcome back Miss Erin Packer into my classroom teaching position for the term. Ms Natalie Hill will continue in her role as Assistant Principal and will be supervising stages 2 & 3. Mrs Rebecca Gee will fulfil my role as relieving Assistant Principal supervising ES1 & Stage One. We will send a letter home announcing teacher to class placements once the classes are formed.

Newsletters

It is important for us to communicate effectively with you on all matters regarding school information, events, policies and procedures. We currently provide a weekly newsletter. This is sent home as a paper copy with eldest or only students in a family. Alternatively, it can also be emailed to you so that you not only help us to save paper but you receive a full colour copy. A current email address simply needs to be provided to the front office. The newsletter is also uploaded weekly onto the Hill Top P.S. school web site. It can be accessed easily from the web site's home page.

This year we are changing the day of distribution for the newsletter back from a Monday to a Wednesday, commencing next week, Week 3.

This allows us more time to more fully gather information for a particular week as we have staff meetings on Monday and Tuesday mornings and also allows the office staff more time to publish the newsletter. We are going to endeavour this year to include more photos, pictures and samples of student work in our newsletters. Each class will have an allocated week in each term to provide interesting detail to the newsletter. We also hope to collate all of these samples of work, photos and or events at the end of the year in the publication of a School Magazine.

When the new classes are formed, each class will also have an allocated section on the school web site to upload class information and photos. The school web site address is:- <http://www.hilltop-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au>.

Can you please ensure that you fill out, sign and return the class Privacy Issue form as soon as possible.

Uniforms

Our school uniform shop will be open every morning this week (8.30am-9.30am).

West Tigers visit

I am thrilled to announce that we have been offered a free visit from the West Tigers NRL team at Hill Top P.S. this Tuesday, 31 January. I believe that this will be between 12:30-1:15 in our school hall. All Year 1-6 students will attend. All interested parents and community members are also welcomed to attend. Our Country Rugby League Officer, Scott Borg has also asked me to inform you that there will be a free clinic this afternoon, Monday 30 at 4pm at Loseby Park, Bowral. I apologise for the constraints in communicating this to you earlier as school obviously only commences today. I have placed an information sheet on the front window of our office area.

Canteen

I have been informed that our school canteen will commence operating this Wednesday, 1 February. Our Canteen Co-ordinator, Mrs Therese Bird is keen to hear from any parents who are able to assist in our canteen.

SRC

We would like to congratulate Chelsea Alcorn, Matthew Bates, Zoe Bird and Brittany Kelly on becoming our new SRC (Student Representative Council) executives. We wish them all of the very best in fulfilling their leadership roles this year. When new classes are formed, we will commence an in class student voting process to elect two student representatives from each class to form a whole school SRC. These students attend regular meetings to help make student based decisions for our school, organise special events and run our regular assemblies.

Tristan Neate

The Neate family experienced an unfortunate event during the holidays. Sadly, a house fire meant that they lost everything. Tristan has returned to Hill Top P. S. and has started to get belongings organised, but this will take some time. If anyone has any school uniforms, etc that they no longer need, it would be greatly appreciated if you could send them to school for Tristan.

Active After School Activities

This commences back next week on Monday 6 February and 8 February between 3pm-4.15pm. Please come to the front office to fill out a enrolment form as there is limited spots.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions. I may even distribute another brief newsletter home later this week with further information as progress in organisational matters is made. I will distribute a term planner early next week.

Kind regards,
Mrs Sarah Leicester
Relieving Principal