

Hill Top Public School

Honour 1884 Trust



Term 3—Week 5

Security Phone: 1300 88 0021

Wednesday 15 August , 2012



From the Principal's Desk

Bruce Whatley—Author Visit

On Monday August 13 we were delighted to have a very well known author, Bruce Whatley visit our school. Our students really enjoyed his informative and interesting talk. I am extremely pleased to report that Bruce Whatley commented on the outstanding behaviour of all of our students during his talks and their sensible, inquisitive questions that they asked.

Bowral's Got Talent

On Saturday evening August 11 my family and I attended 'Bowral's Got Talent' at Bowral High School. It was a talent quest held at Bowral High School to showcase the talent of some of our former students and of many primary and high school students in our local community of schools. Each and every performance was outstanding! I would like to congratulate Chelsea Alcorn who represented our school and performed a highly skilled and entertaining dance to the audience and the Hon Peter Garrett, Minister for School Education and Minister for Early Childhood and Youth, who was a special guest judge at this event.

Multicultural Food Fair and Book Fair

Wednesday August 22

Next Wednesday August 22 we will be holding our combined Multicultural Food and Book Fair. A detailed timetable will come home with students on Monday August 20 outlining this day. The day will commence with a morning assembly at 9:00am when Mrs Prattis will announce the winners of this years shortlisted books. There will then be class parades. All students are asked to dress up for the day in either culturally themed costumes aligned to their class study of a particular country, in Olympic themed costumes eg: as an athlete or in the colours of the flag from their country of study.

We warmly welcome and encourage all parents to attend this special day. At the conclusion of this assembly we will commence setting up our food stalls in the school hall. **We still urgently need expressions of interest from parents who are able to assist us on Wednesday** by preparing and providing food, equipment and also by running this food stalls in the hall. Please see your child/children's class teachers if you are able to help in anyway as soon as possible.

K/1 will be having a brief parent meeting about this in their classroom at 3:00pm on Monday August 20 to inform Kindergarten parents about this special day in case they have not been involved in one previously. All parents regardless of class teacher may attend this meeting as I will make myself available in the K/1 classroom to answer any questions and help clarify ideas. The students and parents will be invited to rotate in class groups around both the Multicultural Food Fair in the hall and the Book Fair in the library at set times on Wednesday. A timetable will come home with your child/children about this on Monday. We will also start selling food tokens for the day on Tuesday August 21 from the classrooms. **These food token sheets are \$5:00 for ten food tokens.** Food token sheets will also be sold from a table outside of the hall on the day. **N.B. The school canteen will be closed for ordering food on Wednesday August 22 due to the Multicultural Food Fair. Mrs Bird will be selling cold drinks and tea and coffee from the canteen on the day instead.**

Book Fair

All students will be previewing the books available for sale at the Book Fair on Wednesday on Monday August 20 and Tuesday August 21 in set class times. They will be coming home on these days with a written slip to inform you as parents of their interest in particular books.

Diary Dates—Term 3 Week 6

Monday	20	3:00—4:15pm AASC
Wednesday	22	3:00—4:15pm AASC Book Fair Multicultural Food Fair
Friday	24	Brainstorm Visiting Artist \$5:00 12:45pm Assembly SRC

Term 3— Week 7

Monday	27	3:00—4:15pm AASC
Wednesday	29	3:00—4:15pm AASC
Thursday	30	Fathers' Day Stall

Play at the Powerhouse

The Powerhouse Museum's Play at Powerhouse website has a range of fun and interactive activities and games for primary school children. Activities range from how to make your own musical instrument to easy science experiments. Kids can also choose to play a number of interactive games designed to develop fine motor skills and problem-solving.

Go to: <http://play.powerhousemuseum.com/>

Athletics

Ribbons from the athletics carnival will be awarded at the next SRC assembly on August 24.

Bowral HS Science Fair

Bowral HS will hold their annual science fair on Thursday in the high school hall 4:30pm—6:00pm. Years 5 & 6 entered their science projects. We wish them well. All are welcome to attend this evening.

Year 6 Fair

The year 6 Fair will be held on Friday September 7, 11:15am—2:00pm. This is a whole school event that offers a variety of fun activities and treats for students and their families. All monies raised from this event goes towards purchasing a gift to the school of valuable resources from the Year 6 students. The first fundraising event is a raffle. This raffle will be drawn on Wednesday September 12. There are six fabulous prizes to be won and a lucky door prize for the students who sell their tickets and return the front slip to school for the draw. Ticket booklets have been sent home today with the newsletter person. More booklets are available from the year 5/6 classroom if required. All details are included with the booklets.

Touch Gala Day

There will be a Touch Football Gala Day held at Eridge Park Bowral on Friday September 14 for students in years 3—6. These games are non competitive, encouraging fun, fitness and social interaction with other schools in the Wingecarribee district. A note is being sent home with an expression of interest. Please return notes by Friday August 24. This allows time for the draw to be made etc. Hill Top PS is responsible for the organisation of this day and will also be running the canteen. This is a great fundraising opportunity for the school. We need as many parents as possible to help out on the day, even just a few hours is helpful. Please see Therese in the canteen if you are able to assist in this way.

Class Open Day and Walk Around

We would like to invite all parents and grandparents to come along to our school and to have a walk around all of the classrooms to see their Multicultural / Olympic themed displays. This will be held on **Thursday September 6 between 9:00am and 11:30am.**

Expo Open Day Afternoon

On Thursday September 6 we will be holding an Expo Open Day afternoon at 1:00pm in our school hall. This afternoon is for any new parents and children considering enrolling at Hill Top PS in the future. Stalls will be set up in the hall for new parents and students to access information about our uniforms, our canteen, our School Counsellor, After school and vacation programs and general information about our school. There will be performances from students at our school as well as previous students from Bowral High School. There will be fun activities for the children to participate in as well as free show bags to be given to each child attending. Guided tours of Hill Top PS and its wonderful facilities will also be given. We ask you, as existing parents to spread the word about this fun and informative afternoon to all community members who may be considering Hill Top PS as a place to enrol their child/children.

Visiting Artist—Brainstorm productions 'Saving Lil and Archie'

Next week Brainstorm productions will be presenting their show 'Saving Lil and Archie' on Friday August 24. This fun play will focus on how students can demonstrate emotions and how to deal with anger and fear. It promotes kindness and forgiveness. The performance also highlights some of the issues children face when they are using technology like the internet and mobile phones. The cost of this show is \$5:00 per student. A permission note will be coming home with your child / children today.

Communication

At times, you may as parents have concerns, questions or queries about particular issues regarding your child/children at school. I strongly urge all parents to communicate directly with the school at any time by making an appointment at the front office to see your child's class teacher and / or myself in the role of school principal. Once we have that opportunity to gain important information from direct, effective communication we are in a more powerful position to address any issues or concerns that you may have. We appreciate this link as we believe the partnership between school and the parents and community is vital and important to be able to best provide for the educational needs and welfare of your child/children. I would like to thank the parents who regularly do this. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or questions.

I am also happy to be contacted via email on sarah.leicester@det.nsw.edu.au at any time.

Kind regards—Mrs S Leicester



MERIT AWARDS

August 10, 2012

Congratulations and well done to the following students who received merit awards

K / 1	Finn Campion Jade Greenfield Shaylee Martin Georgia Simpson
1 / 2	Ethan Shobrook Gracie-Lee Egner Bradley Malcolm Emma Johnson
2 / 3	Emily Crawford Rebekah Bates
3 / 4	Tanish Gounder Aurey Neuman
4	Riley McKeown Mackinley Coffey
5 / 6	Lauren Beasley Samuel Johnson Elizabeth Lacava Jordan Unwin
Scripture	Brooke McKeown Nicholas Waddell Thye Hamilton Blaise Morris

BRONZE AWARD WINNERS TERM 3 WEEK 5

Congratulations and well done to the following students who received their Bronze Certificate recently.

Lachlan Davis
Katie Maddock
Zoe Cole-Gee
Luca Squires
Makayla Irwin
Kayla Little
Akaisha Zagoridis x 2
Zac Finch x 10
Angela Greenfield x 5




SILVER AWARD WINNERS TERM 3 WEEK 5

Congratulations and well done to the following students who have received their Silver Certificate.

Jakob Simpson
Zac Finch x 3

**Uniform Shop
Open Wednesday
mornings in the
Meeting Room**



Plasterer
No job to small

Chris packer
4 Emily st Hill Top NSW 2575
Ph:48898434
Mob:0425122145
Email:chwapa@hotmail.com
Free quote

Hill Top Cricket Club

Registration: 10:00–12:00pm

Date:
Every Saturday and Sunday from
August 18–September 2

Contact:
Simon Reid 0429 373 496

Looking to fill Junior teams from
u10–u16.

Visit our Hill Top Public School website

www.hilltop-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS 2013

Student Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Parent s Name: _____ Religion: _____

Address: _____ Contact No: _____

Names of other siblings presently at school: _____

Members of the P & C have received the following information supporting the Gonski petition, which we feel parent and caregivers should be aware of.

gonski factsheet



● Questions and Answers

Q. What is so important about the Gonski Review?

- A.** *Set up by the Federal Government in 2010, the Gonski Review was the most comprehensive review of the way schools are funded in Australia in almost 40 years. It was conducted by an expert panel headed by senior businessman David Gonski. The final report was released in February 2012. The review examined the adequacy of the way schools are funded and what was required to ensure Australia has a school system which is among the best in the world for quality and equity. Its recommendations give us a once in a generation opportunity to ensure all students are receiving a high quality education.*

Q. What are the key findings and recommendations of Gonski?

- A.** *The Gonski Review found Australia is investing far too little in education and, in particular, in public schools. As a consequence, too many students are missing out on the resources they need and there are growing gaps in the performance of students from different backgrounds. It recommended an urgent shift to a funding system that better targets funding to meet the needs of students and a substantial increase in the total amount spent on schools.*

Q. What would implementing the recommendations of Gonski mean for local public schools?

- A.** *Local public schools across Australia would benefit from more resources. Increases in funding would vary based on a school's location, size and the needs of the students. The average increase would be around \$1,500 a student a year. That money would be invested in ways that we know help students learn such as:*
- *Smaller class sizes;*
 - *Extra specialist teachers in areas such as literacy and numeracy;*
 - *Greater support for students with higher needs such as those with disabilities;*
 - *Additional training and classroom support for teachers.*

gonski *factsheet*



● Five things you need to know

The Gonski Review was the most comprehensive review of schools funding in almost 40 years. Its recommendations give us a way to ensure real equality of opportunity for our children in education. Here are five key findings:

- 1. There is an urgent need for change.** The Gonski Review found that Australia is investing far too little in schools and the way the money is distributed is not efficient, effective or fair. The system is failing too many students who are missing out on the resources they need.
- 2. There are growing gaps in student achievement.** While Australia remains a high achieving nation in education, our overall performance has fallen in the last decade. Students in disadvantaged areas are up to three years behind those of the same age who live in wealthy areas. One in seven 15 year old students does not have basic reading skills.
- 3. We must invest for success.** The review recommends a major increase in funding to schools. The way it is distributed would also change to better meet the needs of students. It says public schools should get the greatest increases in funding for additional staff, learning programs and upgraded facilities. Funding would vary according to the needs of students, but the average increase would be almost \$1,500 a student per year. That is enough for seven extra teachers in a public school with 500 students.
- 4. The Federal Government needs to lead the way.** Gonski recommends a much greater funding commitment to public schools from the Federal Government. Currently it is only providing 15 per cent of the money that public schools receive, despite having access to greater revenue sources than state and territory governments
- 5. Our children's future is at stake.** The report's recommendations are aimed at ensuring every child has the same chance to receive a high quality education. But Gonski warns a failure to act will cost not only our children but our country: "*Australia will only slip further behind unless, as a nation, we act and act now.*"

SAYING "NO"

**Cool people can say "no"
if they don't want to do it.**

Do's

Look in their eyes.

Tell them you don't want to do it.

Briefly say why (e.g. "No, I want to do something else after school").

OR

If it's a mean thing or against the rules or dangerous point out the consequences (e.g. "No, it's too risky" or, "No that's mean").

Sometimes you may want to thank them for including you (e.g. "Thanks anyway").

Keep your tone of voice and expression friendly and calm.

Continue to calmly say no if they keep asking you. Try not to get angry.



Don'ts

Don't look away or down at the ground.

Don't say yes just so they'll like you.

Don't say yes because you're scared that they'll say bad things about you.

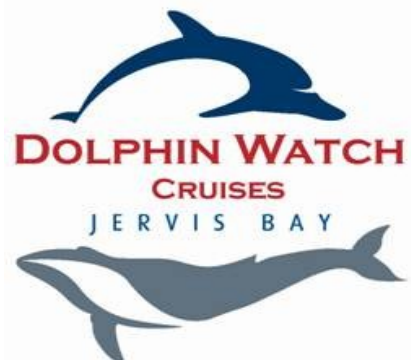
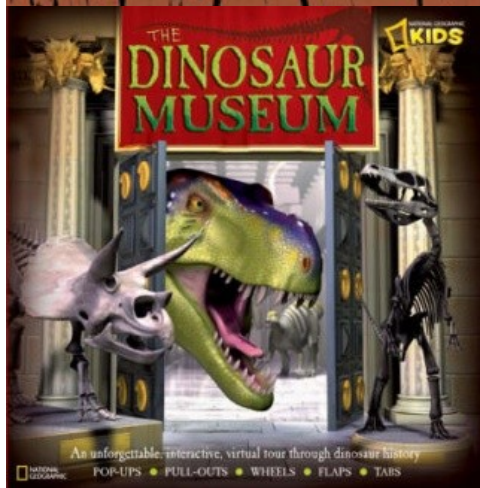
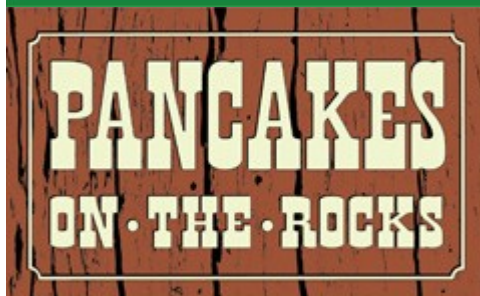
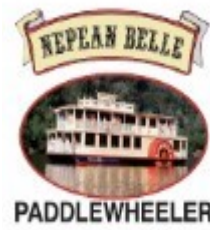
If what they asked you to do was mean, dangerous, or against the rules, don't give them a lecture about it.

Don't get angry or upset.



YR 6 Fair

Sponsors



Bowral High School Taster Day

On Thursday the 9 August 2012 Years 5 and 6 boarded the bus and drove to Bowral High School for a taster day. At 9 o'clock the bus left Hill Top for Bowral, as soon as we got there we had a little introduction, we met the peer support leaders as well as some other helpers.

After the introduction we were split in to two groups, group 1 and group 2. When Year 6 was doing a test, Year 5 had a tour of the school, then we had morning tea. Then we went to the cooking room, the science lab and the art room.

My favourite room was the science lab because we made sherbet and it was yum. In art we drew a face in portrait detail and in cooking we made a healthy snack and it was yum.

After all the fun, Years 5 and 6 sat down in the hall and saw some movies that the high school made on imovie. Then we drove back to Hill Top on the bus, we all had a great time. Thank you, Bowral for letting us come into your school.

Zoe Cole-Gee

First we did the test, it was a bit hard but I finished it. After the test we had to do some writing and then we had recess.

After we ate, we were put in to groups, I was in the blue group and we set off to science. When we got there, we sat down and tried some citric acid, bi-carb soda and icing sugar. The acid was sour, the sugar was good and the bi-carb tasted yuck. Then we mixed all the ingredients together and made sherbet – it tasted delicious.

Next we went to art and learnt to draw a portrait, it was cool. Woodwork was our next class and we made a boomerang, then we went outside to test the boomerang. Some of them flew but it was too windy.

After that we had lunch and we watched a slide show about Year 7 camp at Teen Ranch. The bus arrived and it was time to go home.

Sam Johnson

