



# Hill Top Public School

Achieving a quality education for  
all students in a caring environment

Telephone: 4889 8227

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Term 2 - Week 2

Security Phone: 1300 880 021

Monday 6th May 2013

## From the Principal's desk



I would like to warmly welcome back all of our students, staff and parents to Hill Top P. S. for term two. It promises to be a busy and engaging term for our students and staff. Semester one reports will be written for each student this term and sent home late in week 8. The students will be completing assessment tasks in class in the first half of this term to provide information on their learning in each curriculum learning area. Parents will be invited to request an individual parent teacher interview in week 9 to further discuss areas of individual student strength and for further development.

## Whole School Approach to Developing Positive School Culture

We have high expectations of student behaviour and welfare both as staff and parents at Hill Top P. S. We are continuously evaluating, monitoring, gaining information and seeking new improved developments in this area. It is essential we work together as a school community ie students, staff and parents working together to address this complex issue and all have ownership on planning for improvements and intended outcomes. We would like to hold an **IMPORTANT** meeting with ALL parents and staff in Week 4 on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 4.00pm** in our school Year 1 double classroom to engage in important collegial and necessary discussion to further develop our student welfare policy together to achieve the greatest impact. We strongly urge and recommend that there be at least one parent representative from each family in attendance.

Earlier this week on Monday, our staff attended a whole day training session as part of our two day School Development days run by two behaviour consultants specifically on behaviour strategies that we can implement here at Hill Top P. S. We are also continuing our professional development and implementing new ideas and strategies for Positive Behaviour for Success (PBS). This focuses on explicating teaching and reinforcing our expected core values for students at Hill Top P. S. of **respect, responsibility** and **cooperation** in all areas of our school at all times. Our students are currently gaining a greater understanding of what these values mean and look like in our school setting. We have begun with a focus on lining up and using walkways in an expected manner.

## TERM 2 CALENDAR

### WEEK 2

Wednesday, May 8

Mother's Day Stall

Peer Support Lessons 12.30pm

AASA

Thursday, May 9

District Cross Country @ Robertson

Friday, May 10

TENS Parent Meeting 2.00pm

Tri-Skills \$4.00

### WEEK 3

Monday, May 13

AASA

This will continue with an explicit focus on what expected behaviour looks like in different settings of our school including classrooms, the hall, playgrounds, the library, the office, the computer room and at the canteen. We will provide more information about PBS at our school at the important parent meeting on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**. Bullying is an issue for students, parents and staff alike.

This term we start our successful Peer Support leadership program involving our senior students working with our younger students each week in addressing this issue. We are also hoping that Lindsey Grenet a senior representative from the Peer Support Foundation will be able to attend our meeting on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** to provide us with further information on bullying in schools and answer any questions we may have in this crucial area to be addressed.

## Morning Assemblies

As part of our staff discussions on implementing more positive and successful school routines earlier this week, staff identified the need for a quieter, calmer and more productive morning assembly to start the students school day. We have implemented this strategy this week and have already noted a pleasing improvement in student discipline in listening more effectively to important school information, in lining up appropriately and in creating a calmer atmosphere for starting a school day in the classrooms. Our morning bell rings at 8.55am. We ask all students who have arrived at school before this time and to place their school bags up at their classrooms. When the morning bell rings they are to conclude play, to walk calmly down to their class assembly lines **in our school hall** and to sit quietly to wait for the assembly to start. We ask for **silence** from all students, staff and parents throughout this assembly as we reinforce effective listening and appropriate assembly behaviours throughout its duration.

We invite all parents to watch this assembly from **the COLA** (we will open the back metal door each morning) and ask for support in parents demonstrating silence, effective listening and appropriate assembly behaviour to the children. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

.In less than a week we have already noted success in achieving a calmer school environment and a more productive morning assembly by implementing this new routine.

If students arrive late to morning assembly, we ask them to remain in a 'late zone' at the back of the hall **until the conclusion** of the assembly as this alleviates continued disturbance to the calm environment during the morning assembly. We discourage regular use of this late zone as we would like to encourage all students to be at school on time and to be in attendance at our important morning assembly. On a practical note, we also ask all parents watching the assembly to move on from the COLA area towards the grass area promptly at the conclusion of each morning assembly as this allows the traffic of students to leave the hall in a calm and organised manner.

## Tri-Skills This Term

Our Tri-skills program commenced successfully at Hill Top P. S. last Friday. We have included some photos in this newsletter.

### Tri-Skills Athletics Term 2

Athletics involves the skills that form the foundation of many sports. If children are good at athletics, it will set them up to be able to tackle many other sports. Often people don't realise that children need to be taught how to run safely, which develops an awareness of themselves in a space and interaction with others and their physical environment such as parks and playgrounds. This is also true of jumping, leaping and throwing. This year we have decided to provide the students with expert athletics training lessons from the Tri-Skills group in Term 2. There will be 8 athletics lessons and the 9<sup>th</sup> and final session will be the athletics carnival. The lessons will be held each Friday for a half hour session.

Students will focus on how to participate in structured athletics events and associated sports rather than on whether they win or lose. This approach allows students to achieve success in their athletic endeavours, thus building confidence.

Tri-Skills provide the skilled athletics staff and age appropriate equipment. A structured approach teaches students from the fundamentals during their kindergarten years through to skills used for athletics event participation in the upper primary school year.

The cost of each of these valuable sessions is, \$4.00 per students per session. Please do not hesitate to come and see me if you have any questions or concerns.

## Mother's Day Stall

This Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May our P & C will be holding a Mother's Day Stall where our students can purchase gifts ready for Mother's Day on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May.

Each class will be given a set time to attend this Mother's Day stall in our school hall.

We invite all students to bring money to school on Wednesday preferably in a named, sealed envelope or plastic snap lock bag. Prices range from 50c to \$10.00.

We still need extra parental help in setting up and running the Mother's Day Stall. Please see Mrs Barbara Van Eck, our P & C President if you are available to assist.

## P & C Fundraising and P & C Meeting

Our P & C would like to have a brief 'mini' P & C Meeting this Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May in our school library. There will not be a full agenda including such items as a principals report. The main purpose of this meeting is to make a decision on Fundraising activities for this year and before the year gets away from us. This meeting will be held in our school library at 3.00pm. Free childcare will be provided if a P & C childcare registration form included in this newsletter is returned to our school office no later the 3.00pm on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May. All children attending this childcare session are asked to bring their own afternoon tea and drinks.

## Opportunity Class Placements for Year 5 students in 2014

Last Friday I sent a note home to all Year 4 students and their parents regarding applying for 'opportunity class placements for Year 5 students in 2014'. Application for this may be **either**

completed online or on a paper application form which will be available soon from our front office.

Parents are able to access the online application now at [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement)

The closing date for both online and paper applications is **17<sup>th</sup> May 2013**.

Please do not hesitate to come and see me if you require more information about this.

## NAPLAN

Next week, in week 3, our Year 3 and Year 5 students will sit their NAPLAN assessments.

Students across all schools in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 sit for the National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) IN May each year. The assessments are an opportunity for students to demonstrate what they have learned in class. Parents or carers of students who sit for the NAPLAN tests will each receive a written report of their child's achievements in September 2013.

### NAPLAN 2013 timetable

Year 3	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> May 2013	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2013	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2013
	Language Conventions (40 minutes)	Reading (45 minutes)	Numeracy (45 minutes)
	Writing (40 minutes)		
Year 5	Language Conventions (40 minutes)	Reading (50 minutes)	Numeracy (50 minutes)
	Writing (40 minutes)		

## Parent Information Session for TENS

Last Friday we sent a note home to all of the K-2 classrooms inviting parents to come along this Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 2.00pm to an information session about 'Targeting Early Numeracy Strategies' (TENS). This will be run by Sarah Steele, our TENS consultant who has been providing all K-2 teachers with training and development on how to implement effective early numeracy strategies and resources.

We would like to invite all K-2 parents to attend this meeting in the cooking room. It is important to RSVP using the note sent home before Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May, as Sarah Steele will be providing afternoon tea and parent notes on the day and would like to know how many parents will be attending on the day.

## A New Principal

The merit selection process to gain a new principal for our school is currently happening however, it is not yet completed. Our merit selection panel met last week and will meet again next Friday to continue this process. I will obviously inform all students, staff and parents as soon as the entire process has been completed and we have an outcome.

Thank you for your patience in this important matter.

## Woolworths Earn & Learn 2013

This year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to receive new educational resources for our school – and all we need to do is shop for our groceries at Woolworths.

From Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April to Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Points. You will given one Woolworths Earn & Learn point for every \$10.00 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Points onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sheet and when it is completed, the Point Sheet can be dropped into the collection box here at school or at Mittagong or Bowral Woolworths Stores. Point Sheets can be collected from the Front Office or from any Woolworths Store.

At the end of the promotion, we'll be able to choose some great new equipment. The range is extensive and offers lots of items ideal for our students – including resources for Maths, English Science and some fantastic supplies for Arts & Craft, Sport and for our Library. If you would like to know more visit [woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn](http://woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn)

Kind regards  
Mrs S Leicester

## Canteen News

### Winter Warmer

#### Term 2 Extra Menu

Week 1	Spaghetti Bolognaise	\$3.00
Week 2	Hot Chicken & Mayo Roll	\$2.50
Week 3	Potato Bake & Vege Bake	\$3.00
Week 4	Cheeseburger	\$2.80
Week 5	Beef & Gravy Roll	\$2.50
Week 6	Spaghetti & Meatballs or Meatball Sub	\$3.00
Week 7	Fried Rice	\$3.00
Week 8	Baked Potatoes Hawaiian or Mexican	\$3.00
Week 9	Soup – served with a small roll Pumpkin, Chicken and Corn and Tomato	\$2.50

The existing menu will still remain

Every student that orders a Winter Warmers lunch will go into a draw to win a prize at the end of term.

## Community News

### Bunnings

**Mother's Day colouring in competition entries are available from the school office if you would like to participate.**

Prizes: 3 prizes each of \$50.00 worth of product or a \$50.00 Bunnings gift card.

### Mother's Day Family Night

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May - 6.00pm - 8.00pm  
Join us for a free night of fun and gift making.

### Girl Guides Australia

Where: Thirlmere RSL Hall, Mason Street, THIRLMERE  
When: Wednesdays 5.30pm - 7.30pm  
Please contact Julie Weeks on 0487 785 7654 or [julieweeks9967@hotmail.com](mailto:julieweeks9967@hotmail.com)

## P & C Meeting

### Childcare Registration Form

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2013 @ 3:00pm

Yes I will require child care to attend the P & C Meeting. I have \_\_\_\_\_ child/ children.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_



# Students participating in the Tri-Skills

