Harrington Public School Newsletter

Moving Forward Together

With RESPECT and RESPONSIBILITY we strive to achieve our PERSONAL BEST

Issue 1 – Term 1 – Week 2

Wednesday, 3 February

PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

Welcome back everyone; we hope you had a safe holiday, wonderful New Year and that this year brings you everything you hope for. All staff had a restful holiday and are ready and raring to go, we all came in over the holidays preparing classrooms and setting everything up for the beginning of the school year, ready to inspire another year of learning. A big hug sent out from staff to our returning families and a huge welcome to our new families. We’d like to say you’ve enrolled in a really wonderful, warm and welcoming school. Ask anyone for support, advice or care and we’re sure you’ll receive it!

This year we will continue our focus on improving across all areas and providing our students and families with the highest quality education possible. Our schools strategic directions are: Expert Teaching Team, Culture that promotes Excellence and Positive School Community. We are continually involving ourselves in activities and learning that increases our knowledge and enhances the opportunities for our school. I look forward to keeping you updated on everything we achieve.

We will also like to see a huge effort in uniform this year, we are lucky to have a really attractive and bright uniform that stands out wherever we are so let’s keep it up. Remember that uniform requirements meet the Work Health and Safety expectation which is why we ask for black leather shoes or sneakers to be worn, a school hat is required every day and minimal jewellery. We have the daily uniform which is worn Monday to Thursday and the sports & representative uniform which is worn on Friday or on an excursion or sporting event outside of school.

Again I’d love to say welcome back, it’s going to be another exciting year and I’m so very glad you are all part of this Harrington Public School family.

MORNING ROUTINES & CATCHING YOUR CHILD’S CLASS TEACHER.

Just a reminder, that your child’s class teacher is often busy setting up and organising materials for their day in the mornings. If you need to see them, try and make an appointment so that you won’t be disappointed if they can’t stop. Obviously our new little Kinder’s will have their parents walking with them to the classroom and touching base with Mrs Burrows but we ask all of our other parents to drop their kids off and not enter the classrooms as it can be disruptive to class preparation. We want the children from years 1-6 taking on the responsibilities of emptying their bags, remembering home readers and homework etc. This is part of them maturing and becoming independent. Thanks for your support in this area.

WELCOME KINDERS 2016

![Image of Kinder class]
2016 EVENTS OUTLINE

We have included with this newsletter an outline of events for each term of 2016 and approximate costing as well as class requirements. Please have a look and start to add these dates and activities to your calendars. We are hoping this assists our families to plan costs and payments for the larger events.

2016 CLASS AND TEACHER OUTLINE

The staff at Harrington Public School this year will be Mrs Andrea Burrows on Kindergarten, Mrs Courtney O’Bryan on 1/2, Mrs Jenna King on 2/3/4, Mrs Renai Woodward (AP) on 4/5 and Mr Jason Taylor on 5/6. Mrs Monica Eggins will be doing Learning Support and Library in Term 1 whilst Mrs Amy Moore is on maternity leave, she will be re-joining us in Term 2. I will be supporting Years 3-6 with Learning Support, Mr Will Mander is back with us for Music and some class support, and Mr Thys Byrt is also be back with us for class support.

PARENT TEACHER INFORMATION NIGHT AND CLASSROOM MEETINGS

With the co-operation of our parents we would like to try something different for Parent Teacher Interviews this term. We would like to make the sessions a little less formal by holding two sessions with a general component, which includes all parents sitting together to gain a brief outline about what the school focus is for 2016 then a classroom component where teachers can meet with the parents, go over what’s happening in class and show work books etc. to parents and answer class/child related questions. If parents then want an extra interview they can make an appointment on that evening.

Our two sessions are;

K-2 Tuesday 16 February: 5:30-6:30
Years 3-6 Wednesday 17 February: 5:30-6:30.

Light refreshments will be available for parents in the classrooms on that evening. We will be looking for feedback from families on whether they prefer this format as we look to do the same thing in Term 3.

A note with full details will be going home soon.

WELCOME BACK BACON AND EGG BREAKFAST

We will be holding our first get together for 2016 at our Welcome Back Breakfast. We invite all our families to attend for bacon and egg roll and some casual chat from 7:30am on Wednesday 17 February. A note has been sent home today to help with catering with more details and a return slip that will indicate how many attending.

HEALTHY LUNCHES AND SNACKS

We all know it’s hard to encourage students to eat well and drink enough water throughout the day but we want to encourage lunch boxes to be nutritious and appropriate. Work on the ration of 1-2 snacks per week not per day. It’s easy to put biscuits and treats in the lunch because we know they’ll eat them but a sandwich, fruit, yoghurt, muesli bar, sultanas, water, poppers and frozen fruit slushies are all great things that are fun as well as better for them. We also have our awesome canteen that is offering some healthy options for our kids (and staff©).

Every day we have Crunch N Sip, where all students K-6 can snack on cut up fruit, veggies, a small tub of yoghurt, fruit puree tubes or cheese. They are also allowed water in their classrooms though juice and cordials are kept for breaks.

Healthy and nutritious lunch and snacks keep our students nourished and alert all day, too much sugar or fats only bog them down, make them tired and hinder learning focus and co-ordination. Please be conscious of this when shopping for packing lunches.

SKOOLBAG

Our school now has a Skoolbag account which allows us another way of communicating and feeding information to our families. We will be developing the capabilities and uses for Skoolbag so that it is a streamlined and easy relay of information to our families. Please download the free App to your smartphone so you can join the innovation. If you are unsure of how to do it or have lost your letter with the download details please contact the office or another parent who has already gone through the process. It is as simple as going to the App store, on your phone and searching Skoolbag Harrington Public.
SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM FOR 2016

2016 Captains:  
Bridie Stone and Bradley Brincat

2016 Vice Captains:  
Ella Rowe and Mathew Pieschel

2016 Sports Captains Seagulls:  
Rosa Gibson and Logan Williams

2016 Sports Captains Pelicans:  
Tynesha Fernance and Brayden Stone

ENROLMENTS FOR 2016

We are looking to encourage all our local students to attend Harrington Public School, if we can assist anyone, provide a tour of the school and facilities please let us know. Don’t forget we will have access to Before and after School Care this year which will make it easier for some of our families, EOI applications can be collected from front office.

Please remember that our school will do everything we can to make it a welcoming and family oriented environment for your children if you have any concerns please see us so we can work together to improve whatever we need to.

NITS

This is just a reminder with everyone back at school and the humid weather that nit outbreaks are common. Please regularly check your child’s hair and treat for nits if present. Remember treatment means hair, bed linen, towels, hair brushes etc. We already have a few cases popping up.

PHONES, HAND HELD DEVICES AND SOCIAL MEDIA

This is just a reminder that all phones and hand held devices (iPods, mp3’s etc.) are to be kept at the office throughout the school day. They can be handed to the office in the mornings and collected as the students leave. We would also like to make it very clear, due to many ongoing issues with senior students and social media, that the school does not support primary school students on social media. We have clear policies and procedures regarding cyber-safety and if need be will follow them up with students bullying or inappropriately involving other students on social media sites if they cross over into the school domain.

P & C EVENTS.

P & C AGM AND MEETING

The P & C will be holding their annual AGM at 6:30pm on Monday 15 February, 2016. All positions will be declared vacant and interested people will be asked to nominate. The AGM will be followed by our first P & C meeting for 2016. All families are welcome to come and join us.

Thought for the Week

“And now we welcome the new year. Full of things that have never been”. ~ Rainer Maria Rilke

CALENDAR -

TERM 1, COMING EVENTS

Week 2

Friday, Feb 5  
School Assembly 2pm  
5/6 Class Item

Week 4

Monday, Feb 15  
P&C AGM, Meeting

Wednesday, Feb 17  
Welcome Back Brekkie  
Small Schools Swimming Carnival

Thursday, Feb 18  
Basket Ball Trials

Friday, Feb 19  
School Assembly 2pm  
4/5 Class Item

EVENTS, EXCURSION AND PERFORMANCE OUTLINE FOR 2016

Listed below are events, excursions and visiting performances already booked for 2016. Please take note of any costs that may be relevant for your child. We are hoping this payment outline will assist families to plan and save for the events so that all children can attend.

Term One

Welcome Breakfast - Bacon & Egg Rolls, 17 February, 7:30am
Swimming Carnival - 1 February
School Annual Contributions - $20 per student
Leadership Camp & Young Leaders Conference in Sydney - 8 selected students $120.00
Dance Group Costumes - $10/$20
School Fundraiser Easter Chocolate Drive - Family chocolate + Easter egg boxes
Easter Hat Parade - 24 March, Open Classrooms
Dance Group & Band ongoing rehearsal
Cross Country - 11 March
Dinosaur Visiting Show - 5 April $6.00
Application for students to participate in ICAS English, Maths or Science Assessment - $8.00 per exam
Parent Teacher Interviews
Year 6 Shirt - $30.00 approx.

**Term Two**
ANZAC Day - ceremony at School and Town March
Taree Eisteddfod - Dance, Music & Drama
School Athletics Carnival - 9 June
Small School Athletics Carnival
District Cross Country and Athletics
Dance Group & Band ongoing rehearsal
NAPLAN – Week 4: 17 - 19 May
Go for Fun Sports and Health Program - free
Grip Leadership Day - Year 5/6 $20.00
Chatham HS WOW Day and Careers into Reading Sessions - Year 5-6
Southern Network Dance Festival - 16 or 17 June (approx. date)
Life Education Van - $10.00
School Public Speaking Competition + Small Schools Competition
School Photos - $25.00
Visiting Performance ‘Swag of Tales’ – 28 June, $6.00
Principals Privilege Pancake Breakfast
Reports
Multicultural/Harmony Feast Day - 29 June
School/Community Trip to Disney on Ice?

**Term Three**
NAIDOC Day Celebrations (at school) - 21 July
Community Get Together Breakfast – Bacon & Egg Rolls 14 September, 7:30am
Stage Three (Year 5-6) Excursion to Bathurst/Sydney 5 Days/4 night - $460.00
Stage Two (Year 3-4) Excursion to Coffs Beach School 3 Days/2 Nights - $240.00

Premiers Public Speaking Challenge
Premiers Spelling Bee
Early Stage one and Stage One (K-2) Excursion to Sea Acres and Beach Walk - $15.00
Education Week, Open Classrooms and Science Fair - 3 August
Book Week and Book Character Parade + Book Fair - 1 September
Gymnastics Classes, 10 classes over Term 3 - $40.00 per student
School Fete & Markets – Spring Fair
Moorland Soccer Gala Day - $3.00

**Term Four**
Swim School Years 2-3 + non-swimmers 3-6 (compulsory) - Kendall Pool - $15.00
Inter-School Chess Tournament
Grandparents and Carers High Tea - 22 October
Principals Privilege Breakfast - 23 November, 7:30am
Volunteers Thankyou Morning Tea - 8 December, 10:30am
Presentation assembly and farewell luncheon - 5 December, 12:00pm
Christmas Concert - 7 December, 6:00-7:30pm
Year 6 Farewell Dinner - 8 December, 6:00-8:30pm
School Big Day Out - 14 December, $20.00
Milo Cricket - $3/$5

Please note that some of these costs/dates are approximate the full cost and details will be sent home prior to event and put in newsletter.

**Classroom Requirements for 2016**

**Years 1-2**
Plastic A4 case or envelope (preferably zip lock) for Home Reading
A4 lined exercise book to be nicely covered & labelled for Homework Book
2 glue sticks to contribute to class collection
Drink bottle - labelled
School hat
Library bag - clearly labelled

**Years 3-6**
Pencil case
Coloured pencils
2 blue pens
2 red pens
2 HB lead pencils
30cm ruler
Sharpener, rubber
Plastic A4 case or envelope (preferably zip lock) for Home Reading
A4 lined exercise book to be nicely covered & labelled for Homework Book
2 glue sticks to contribute to class collection
Drink bottle - labelled
School hat
Library bag - clearly labelled
Extras – textas, highlighters

**SPORTING SCHOOLS PROGRAM**

The Sporting Schools Program (Active After School Sport) will commence on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 8 February 2016. Monday will be soccer with Chaplain Mark Smith, 3 to 4pm and Wednesday will be netball with Sharee Bromley, 3-4pm. Numbers are limited to 20 students so please ensure you return your child’s permission slip ASAP. It will be a First In basis. As funding has been reduced students will need to bring their own afternoon tea.

Could parent please discuss the afternoon pick up arrangements with your child.

Twice a term you will receive a Book Club catalogue.

At the front of the catalogue is the due date and in the middle of the catalogue is the order form.

Buying books from this catalogue is optional. The school receives a commission from each book sold, which helps update our school library.

If you wish to order a book please complete the order form and return to the front office with correct money.

There is an option to pay by credit card; if you do please fill out the form and don’t forget the receipt number you are given.

If you have any questions please contact me on 0439 487 723 or leave a message at the office.

Thank you and Happy Reading

Neolie Eady
Book Club Coordinator

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**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**Moorland Soccer Club**
Registration Days 2016
Saturday 6 and 20 February
1pm -3pm
Claude Unicomb Reserve
Moorland

For more info phone Steph Watts on 0408 382 057
moorlandsoccer@yahoo.com.au
ANDREA ROWSELL ACADEMY OF DANCE is currently taking new enrolments for 2016 and looks forward to finding the best class to suit your child. With a range of classes on offer including Classical Ballet R.A.D, Jazz, Tap and contemporary with venues in both Taree and Old Bar there is a class to suit everybody’s needs. Whether it’s for fun and fitness or a career in dance the staff have the knowledge and experience to bring out the best in every child.

Call Andrea on 65533122 or visit the website andrearowsellacademyofdance.com.au

What To Put In the Lunch Box

**A good helping of fruit and vegetables**

Fresh fruit is easy to pack. You can also try a tub of canned fruit or chopped fresh strawberries, pineapple or melon.

Raw vegies such as carrot sticks, cherry tomatoes, cucumber or capsicum strips are popular as a snack or in a sandwich.

**Starchy food**

like bread, rice, potatoes and pasta. Have a variety to choose from such as wholegrain, wholemeal or high fibre breads such as seeded rolls, Lebanese bread, pita, lavash, bagels; brown and white rice; or tricolour pasta.

**Lean protein**

like tuna or salmon (fresh or canned in spring water or oils such as canola, sunflower or olive oil); boiled eggs; beans; or lean meat such as beef or chicken.

**Reduced fat dairy food**

like reduced fat yoghurt, reduced fat cheese or reduced fat milk (remember to pack with a bottle of ice).

**A bottle of water**

to keep your child hydrated all day. Freeze on hot days to keep the lunch box (and your child) nice and cool.

**Healthy choices**

look at food labels to help you choose the products that are lowest in saturated fat, total fat, sugar and salt. Avoid high fat spreads and try a little avocado, low fat mayonnaise, mustard or ricotta cheese instead.

**Nutritious snacks**

such as a small box or bag of dried fruit, rice cakes or unsalted and unsweetened popcorn.

And remember: Treats like chocolate or chips should only be included occasionally, not every day.