

# HARRINGTON PARK PUBLIC SCHOOL

Vol 12 No. 11 Term 2 Week 1  
2nd May 2013



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## OUR WEEK

*CARE for others*

*BELIEVE in yourself*

*SUCCEED through effort*

### OPPORTUNITY CLASS PLACEMENT

for Year 5 entry in 2014

Government schools use a range of strategies to meet the educational needs of gifted and talented students. One strategy is opportunity class placement which provides intellectual stimulation and an educationally enriched environment for gifted and talented students.

Offers for opportunity class placement will be made on the basis of the Opportunity Class Placement Test results and school assessment. The Opportunity Class Placement Test will be held on Wednesday 24 July 2013.

If you would like to apply for opportunity class placement in Year 5 in 2014 on behalf of your child, you need to do so soon.

1. Apply on the internet and submit your application online. You will need to have an email address (not the student's email address), access to the internet and a printer.

Detailed instructions on how to apply online will be available from 29 April 2013 at:

[www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement)

or

2. If you do not have internet access, complete a commercially printed application form (available from the 6<sup>th</sup> May at school) and return it by **17th May 2013**.

**Please return completed intention to apply note to the office by Monday 13th May 2013.**

## DIARY

TERM 1



- 3rd: CBS Assembly
- 6th: Hot Peppers Training 8-9am each Monday
- 7th: Zone Hockey Carnival  
AASC - Futsal Yrs 1-2  
P&C Meeting - 7pm
- 8th: Anglican Scripture commences for Kindy
- 9th: P&C Mother's Day Stall  
AASC - Basketball Yrs 3-6  
No gymnastics this week
- 10th: Zone Cross Country  
Stewart House envelopes due
- 14-16th: NAPLAN Testing Yrs 3 & 5
- 16th: Yr 2 Excursion to Maritime Museum & Aquarium
- 17th: Gala Day #1
- 21st: ICAS Computer Skills Test
- 22nd: Maths Olympiad #1
- 23rd: 3D Tree Planting Day
- 30th: 3/4B Nursing Home Visit  
Regional Futsal
- 31st: CBS Assembly  
**June**
- 4th: P&C Meeting
- 4-6th: SWS Dance Festival Rehearsal and Performance
- 5th: ICAS Science Test
- 7th: Gala Day #2
- 10th: Public Holiday - Queen's Birthday
- 12th: Maths Olympiad #2

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to Term 2. I hope that you enjoyed sharing some extra time together as families over the holiday period. This term is promising to be as busy as every other term with lots on the agenda. NAPLAN testing will take place this month. Preparations are well underway for these tests which are sat by Years 3 and 5. It is important to remember that these tests are a snapshot of student performance and form only a part of ongoing student assessment. The diagnostic nature of the tests provide us with valuable information for our programs at school.

It was lovely to see quite a few families on ANZAC Day at the Camden march. We had more than thirty students and we were joined by parents and grandparents also. Our captains led our group and placed a wreath at the memorial on behalf of our school. We also had an ANZAC Ceremony at school at the end of last term for all of our students. This was also well attended by members of our community. Most of us know someone who has served their country well and it is fitting that we honour their selfless contributions.

There has been a reported case of whooping cough this week. A member of staff is currently quarantined and unable to come to school. If you suspect that your child is not well with symptoms including a cough it might be an idea to seek medical advice.

You may be aware that this year we are trialling a special Boys Education initiative with a boys only class in Year 3. Whilst it is early days some of the early signs of improvement are encouraging. This term one of the practical hands on projects is around bicycle repair, and I'm sure that lots of practical Maths, Science and English will be learnt as part of the project. We also have included the class in our Robotics Program in conjunction with the University of Sydney, and feedback from the university has been very encouraging as they are also keen to explore the Boys Education strategies.

Our P&C will be meeting this coming Tuesday evening in the staff room at 7:00pm. Mr Woudsma will be deputising for me as I will be travelling back from Melbourne, where I will have been working with educators from Indonesia and India in a skill share program.

My thought for the week is from Robert Browning, 'My sun sets to rise again.' Have a great term.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew Best

## Stewart House Donation Drive 2013

Stewart House Donation envelopes have been sent home with your child today. Donations are due back to the office by Friday 10th May 2013.

Your donation supports the 1,800 children who attend Stewart House each year from public schools across NSW and the ACT.

All entries received will go into a draw to win a \$4,000 holiday to a destination of your choice.

Further information about Stewart House is available on [www.stewarthouse.org.au](http://www.stewarthouse.org.au) or by contacting Stewart House on (02) 9938 3021.



## Voluntary School Contributions

Voluntary school contributions of \$43 per child or \$65 per family are now being accepted by the school office. As the money goes towards stocking our library, any contribution received will be recognised by a name plate inside one of the library's new books.

To have your child recognised for his/her school contribution, any money received by **the end of Term 2** will automatically result in a book donated in your child's name. Your child will select the book of their choice and be given the privilege of being the first person to borrow the book from the library.

Thank you for your voluntary support of the school.

## PRELOVED TOYS



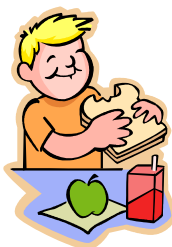
Needed for our quiet play area. They will be well-used and enjoyed by the children of our school. Any donations can be left at the office or dropped off to Mrs Murgatroyd in the PC Lab.

Thank you in advance.



### CANTEEN HELPERS Week Beginning 6th May

**Monday:**  
am Pam  
pm  
**Tuesday:**  
am Kylie, Kerrin  
pm Kylie  
**Wednesday:**  
am Sam, Jo  
pm Alysse  
**Thursday:**  
am Ross, Sally  
pm Alysse  
**Friday:**  
am Sheena  
pm



## P&C News

### Mothers Day Stall

Next Thursday 9th May, we will be holding our annual Mothers Day Stall. We have some beautiful gifts available to purchase and these range in price from \$1.00 - \$7.00. Children will visit the stall in their classes throughout the day.

We need some volunteers to assist with the stall so if you are available to help out on this day, it would be much appreciated.

## NAPLAN 2013

The NAPLAN tests for students in Years 3 and 5 and in Week 3 this term.

<b>Tues - 14th May</b>	Language Conventions & Writing
<b>Wed - 15th May</b>	Reading
<b>Thurs - 16th May</b>	Numeracy
<b>Fri - 17th May</b>	Catch up day

Please ensure your child arrives on time as tests will occur in the morning session. Reassure your child to relax and just do their best. Children are reminded to bring a sharpener and an eraser, HB pencils are provided.

NB: All students should remember to walk quietly around the school.



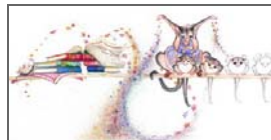
## Updating Contact Details



If any circumstances change at home ie: contact numbers, emergency contacts, custody, court orders or access, please notify the office in writing as soon as possible so this can be updated on our system. Any changes of address need to be supported by sufficient documentation ie: rates notice, rental agreement or electricity bill.

## KIDS' BOOKSHELVES

It's over 30 years this month since Mem Fox and Julie Vivas introduced kids to Possum Magic - and it's still a favourite in our bookshelves. What books are your kids reading in their leisure time? There are more listed from the Premier's Reading Challenge.



Find out more:

<https://products.schools.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/home.html>



As you may be aware, the Woolworths Earn and Learn program has begun again for 2013. For every \$10 spent in a Woolworths store you will receive a sticker. These stickers can be placed on a sticker card and placed in a collection box located in the school foyer area or in the Harrington Park Public School box located in the Mt Annan store.

Last year we earned over 35,000 points and the school received valuable classroom resources. It is hoped that in 2013 we can earn even more points to receive more resources for the school.

Sticker cards are available at all Woolworths stores.

## ILLEGAL PARKING AROUND SCHOOLS ENDANGERS YOUNG LIVES

ILLEGAL PARKING AROUND SCHOOLS ENDANGERS YOUNG LIVES.



**Don't double-park, or stop in pedestrian zones, bus zones or on footpaths.**



## Exemption from School

A number of families are taking holidays outside the regular school holidays. It is important to understand that under the Education Act 1990 children need permission from the principal in order to take leave from school which is compulsory for children 6 years and over. Applications for school exemption must be made in writing to the principal and such applications may include domestic purposes such as family holidays. The principal then needs to be assured that a program of school work will be covered during the child's absence.

If parents are considering a family holiday they are requested to come to the school office and seek an **Exemption from School application**. The application needs to be completed and returned to the principal, Mr Best, who will contact you regarding the granting of permission and the necessary support learning program. When an exemption from school has been approved the days of absence are recorded differently on the child's attendance record as opposed to sick or other minor leave days.

We ask that parents comply with this process to ensure that the school is following its legal obligation to provide the highest quality education. Your support is greatly appreciated.





# ANZAC DAY



ANZAC Day is a very sad but proud time. Because soldiers had to fight in the world wars also other wars. People that die in war we feel sorry for them because we are caring for the people. ANZAC means Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. We feel sorry for those people that died because their families were probably sad. To be a soldier you have to be physically strong, brave, trained and ready for action, patient, have mateship and sacrifice a lot for your country.

Story & Drawing by Breeanna L - 1/2J



ANZAC Day is very special. Soldiers had to fight in wars for their country. ANZAC means Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. I feel very bad for people who lost a family member in a war. Everyone needed to be brave. I watch the dawn ceremony on tv and feel like crying. In my heart I love the people even the people I don't know.

Story and Drawing by: Erin C - 1/2J



## ANZAC Day March

On Thursday 25th April, the ANZAC Day March was held in Camden. A group of approximately 30 students, 4 teachers, parents and grandparents from Harrington Park Public School gathered in the sun to proudly represent our school and pay our respect by participating in the parade. The march started at the top of Argyle Street, it was exciting to see the entire length of the street lined with people waving flags, supporting all the men, women and children who were marching. The parade ended at the Equestrian Park where the huge crowd gathered to listen to the moving service. The students from our school showed exemplary manners and respect throughout the entire morning. It was great to see so many young people paying their respect by participating in this memorable community event.





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