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# Hermit Park Herald

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7 December 2015

Hello Community

Wow what a year! Our school is one large family and I have so many people to thank for this. Thank you to our staff - each and every one of whom has gone the extra bit to ensure that Hermit Park offers a wonderful education to our children. I am also very grateful to our hardworking P&C and School Council who have been so generous of their time and efforts to organise functions, operate the OSHC, provide advice and support, and raise funds for additional resources for our school. Thank you also to our parent community. Your support and encouragement are greatly valued and have helped make this year an outstanding one for our school. Also, thank you to our students. Our students are a wonderful group of children who are a joy to work with. You should feel very proud of the job you are doing raising such well-behaved and well-mannered children. On a personal note, I am humbled to lead such a wonderful community. As I enter my tenth year as Principal of our wonderful community, I continue to be amazed by the achievements of our community. On a final note, we hope you have a wonderful holiday and a very happy Christmas and look forward to another great year in 2016!

## **Our Final Week**

Our final week is always a lot of fun with many happenings. On Tuesday, our year 6 students will graduate and then participate in their graduation dance in the evening. On Wednesday our year 6 students will participate in their big day out. Our final day for 2016 will be this Friday.

## **Final Day – Junior Campus 2016**

This Friday, the Junior Campus will close from 1pm. All students will then be on the main campus from 1pm to 3pm.

## **Congratulations to our Class of 2015**

It feels like only yesterday that I was conducting Prep tours for our year 6

students – the time has just flown. We are so proud of all of our year 6 students. This Tuesday we will present all of our students with their graduating certificate and also award our annual academic prizes.

## **Some of Our Achievements for 2015**

2015 has been another super year for our community. We achieved so much together across our four major areas of Academic, Arts, Sports and Community. These include -

- Eisteddfod Winners including Strings, Band and Voice.
- National and State Optiminds Winners.
- Numerous grants won by our P&C.
- P&C awarded P&C of the Year.
- Football Champions.
- Townsville Show Prizes.
- Numerous District and State Sporting Representatives.
- Arts Queensland/ La Luna Animation about Mangroves (year 6).
- Reef Guardian National Sea Stars Award.
- Townsville Bulletin Student Newspaper Awards.
- Wolbachia world first trial.
- Hosted the Federal Education Minister – Mr Simon Birmingham.
- NAPLAN high results
- Music Room started ready for 2016.
- Hosted Frances Watts – Author.
- Hosted 2 Cav Australian Army Mascot - Courage the Eagle.
- Tasty Tuesday.
- Unveiled our new pizza oven.

Congratulations to everyone. This is not a complete list, but certainly a very diverse list! I am very proud indeed.

## **Christmas Carols**

Thank you to our P&C for organizing a lovely Christmas Carols evening. It was great to see so many families and the students sounded great.

## **Report Cards**

Our report cards will be sent home on Wednesday. If you have any questions,

please feel very welcome to see your teacher. Whilst reading the report cards, I have read some wonderful comments about our students.

### **Day 1 2016**

Our first day back will be Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> of January. It is always a very exciting day!

### **Classes 2016**

Our classes for 2016 will be available on day 1 next year – Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> Jan. Class lists will be displayed under D Block, at the office and on the junior campus. We would certainly love to release class lists earlier, but due to the numbers of students changing during the holidays, we re work classes in the New Year.

### **Instrumental Music for 2016**

Over the last two weeks, our instrumental teachers have been busy assessing students who have nominate to learn an instrument next year. This week families will be notified as to whether their student will be offered a place in the program. We certainly had many students applying to learn an instrument which was wonderful to see.

### **New Music Centre**

Our new music centre is rapidly moving along on the tennis court. We expect the centre to be open on day 1 for 2016. The music centre is two rooms with a store room. The centre is fully sound proofed as well as air-conditioned.

### **A Big Thank you from The P&C for 2015**

At the Carols Concert on Wednesday evening, the P&C were delighted to present the school with a cheque for \$190 000. Whilst these funds have already been allocated to school projects throughout the year and for early 2016, it is a way of acknowledging how the P & C, school community, and local businesses joined together to support our school. We'd like to extend our deepest thanks to all of the businesses and organisations who

supported us for their contribution in 2015-The list is far too long to add in here!!

Thank you also to all HPSS families. Without your involvement in P & C fundraising activities and community events throughout the year we wouldn't be able to keep investing in the diverse and well-resourced programs that make this school great!

Thank you again to the never-ending enthusiasm and efforts of our P & C committee and members. Enjoy a well-deserved opportunity to recharge and relax these holidays.

Helen

### **Upcoming Dates**

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup>December – Year 6 graduation

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Year 6 Dance

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Tasty Tuesday

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>December – Yr 6 Big Day Out

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>December – Choir singing at RSL.

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Yr 3 Excursion

Friday 11<sup>th</sup>December – Junior Campus closes at 1pm.

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December – Last Day

Have a wonderful holiday with your family, Clayton, Sharon and Staff.