



# Hermit Park State School Newsletter

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Term 1, Week 6 – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017

## CALENDER EVENTS

### From the Principal's Desk

Hard to believe but we are half way through Term 1 already. Our classroom walls are filling with student work samples and celebrations of their learning. If you get a chance pop in before or after school to have a look at your child's learning. Please remember though to visit classes at the start of the school day (8:30-9:00AM) or at the end (3:00-3:15PM). Parents visiting classes between 9:00am and 3:00pm must sign in through the school office. This is important as we need to know who is on our site at all times and to also allow your teacher to be teaching as opposed to meeting with parents during class teaching time. If you are collecting your child from school please come to the office to sign them out first.

Reading is one of our Improvement Agendas for 2017. We have in place at Hermit Park a variety of evidence based reading programs and a whole school focus on reading improvement. A child's success as a reader begins much earlier than the first day of school. Reading, and a love for reading, begins at home. As a parent you can assist your child (particularly in the early years) with getting a strong start as a good reader, and being a good reader can positively impact on many other areas of your child's learning. Here are some handy reading hints.

Once is not enough - encourage your child to re-read favourite books and poems. Re-reading helps kids read more quickly and accurately. Dig deeper into the story - ask your child questions about the story you've just read. Say something like, "Why do you think Clifford did that?"

Play word games - have your child sound out the word as you change it from mat to fat to sat; from sat to sag to sap; and from sap to sip.

I read to you, you read to me - take turns reading aloud at bedtime. Kids enjoy this special time with their parents.

Make books special - turn reading into something special. Take your kids to the library, help them get their own library card, read with them, and buy them books as gifts. Have a favourite place for books in your home or, even better, put books everywhere.

Different strokes for different folks - read different types of books to expose your child to different types of writing. Some kids, especially boys, prefer nonfiction books.

**Read about it, talk about it, and think about it!**

**Natalie Taylor**



**EVERY DAY COUNTS**  
**Current attendance rate**  
**95.3%**

### Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

First round of Friday Interschool Sports

### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March

School Council Parent Representative Voting  
Library 8am – 8:45am

### Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March

No parade

### Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March

Interschool Swimming Carnival  
Long Tan Memorial Pool  
12:00pm- 2:15pm

### Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March

Badge presentation parade

### Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March

P&C Big Breakfast  
Free Dress Day – Green  
7:30am – 8:45am HPSS

### Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March

HPSS OSHC  
AGM & General Meeting  
5:30pm at OSHC room

### Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

Aunty Peach Performance  
Grades Prep – 6 HPSS  
P&C AGM & General meeting  
6pm HPSS

### Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March

Interhouse Cross Country  
HPSS 12:30pm – 2:45pm

## **From the Deputy Principal's Desk**

### **Leadership Roles**

At Hermit Park our year 6 cohort are all treated as leaders of the school. The students are involved in various roles and responsibilities across the school such as sports room, caring for our chickens, maintaining our sustainability projects and mentoring younger students.

Opportunities for further leadership in various areas are also available. One of these areas is our Sports House Captains. At the beginning of this term students nominated to be a house captain and gave a speech to their peers. Congratulations to the following students who were elected by their peers!

### **Castle**

Captains: Cooper Whaling and Sophia Reeson

Vice-Captains: Sebastian Costigan and Lorelei Watson

### **Melton**

Captains: Henry Stephens and Madeline Smith

Vice-Captains: Lachlan Doig and Jayleigh Pinney

### **Stanton**

Captains: Jim Finger and Shannon Hilton

Vice-Captains: Jett Fairbrother and Charlotte Tobin

### **Student Council**

Student Council is a representative structure for students in year 6, through which they can become involved in the affairs of the school, working in partnership with their peers, staff and parents for the benefit of the school. This year students have nominated to be in student council and had to have a teacher and parent endorse their application. The student council has already met to discuss a few projects they would like to tackle this year. Our next newsletter will contain a full report from some representatives with details of this year's projects!!

### **Badge Presentation Parade**

Wednesday March 15<sup>th</sup> will be a very special parade with the induction of our house captains and student council representatives. The parade will begin at approximately 2:15pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

### **Rule of the week**

At Hermit Park we follow three main rules: Be Safe; Be Responsible; Be Respectful.

Classroom teachers explicitly teach a rule a week. In our newsletters we will put in our rule of the week. Please feel free to chat to you child/children about the rule and what it means to them.

#### Week 6: **Be Safe – In the Eating areas**

- Sit while eating
- Walk on all concrete paths
- Eat your own food



#### Week 7: **Be Responsible – In the Classroom**

- Listen and follow teacher directions
- Be organised and ready to work
- Complete set tasks
- Take an active role in classroom activities
- Keep work space tidy
- Ask permission to leave the classroom



## **From the Sports Desk**

### **Interschool Sport**

What a busy term we have here at Hermit Park! This week we see round one of Friday Interschool Sport start. All teams have been busy training before and during school with a large contingent of students from both grades 5 and 6 partaking in hockey, netball and rugby league. We wish them all the best over the next seven rounds.

### **Interschool Swimming Carnival**

Some other athletes that have been busy training include our dedicated swim team. Students have been attending practice sessions every Tuesday morning with many others doing weekend training to gain that extra edge over the competition. The Interschool Swimming Carnival will take place at Long Tan Memorial Pool on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March from 12:00pm – 2:15pm, students must arrange their own transport. Again we wish all our athletes the best.



### **Interhouse Cross Country**

Finally we have our Interhouse Cross Country Carnival which will take place on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March at school. By now you will have received a permission note outlining the times, date, course and a consent form that allows your child to partake in the event. As per the previous years we have a "fun run" where all non-competitive students can dress up in crazy theme and run/walk the course with their friends. The competitive race will begin after the 'fun run' is completed. Please note that your child can only compete in one race - the 'fun run' or the competitive race, not both.

### **Book club**

All the HPSS orders for this term's Scholastic Book Club have been processed, and are now being packed at Scholastic's warehouse in Sydney – a big job! The books are due to be delivered to our school by the end of week 7, and we hope to have them distributed to the classrooms the following week. Thank you for the wonderful support.

### **Free Dress Day**

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March is a free dress day! Please wear green in spirit of Saint Patrick's Day, gold coin donation to go towards Student Council Projects. Please wear appropriate sun safe clothing. Student's participating in Friday sport need to bring their uniform.



### **Communication is the Key**

All of our newsletters, tuckshop menus and forms are available from QSchools - a free app that you can download onto your phone and simply select Hermit Park School. As well as our website we also have a Facebook site where we endeavour to keep you up to date with all the latest happenings at Hermit Park State School.

### **Every Day Counts**

Last year our attendance rate was 94%. This year we would like to crack the 95% mark. Research clearly tells us that attendance everyday really matters, with one day absent each week quickly adding up to two months of missed lessons in a year. If your child is sick, please phone the office on 4421 2222 or SMS our absence line 0417 913 222 to let us know the valid reason. If you will be away for any length of time for more than 10 consecutive school days there is a form that needs to be completed - please see the office. Education Queensland collects data on students who are away without reason. Thank you for supporting your child's learning through regular attendance.

### **Before School Procedures**

**8:30am** - Supervision is provided at school from 8:30am. If students arrive before 8:30am they are to sit under the designated building on the Senior Campus only and wait for the bell. When the bell is rung students can then go and put their bags away and either participate in some quiet activities (if the classroom teacher has opened the classroom) or they may play outside if wearing a hat.

**8:50am** a bell is ring to go into class ready to learn. Any **students arriving after 9:00am are to be signed in at the office by an adult.**

### **After School Procedure**

**3:00pm** – School finishes. Students are to be collected by a parent/guardian or older sibling. They are to make their way to their designated waiting area. We urge all parents/guardians and students to use the school crossings when crossing the roads.

### **Viruses**

We would like to inform you that there are children within our school who is immunosuppressed, meaning that these children have a lower immunity and cannot fight infections in the normal way. Viruses that cause measles, chickenpox, and shingles could make this child extremely unwell. Please contact the school immediately if your child is found to have one of these illnesses.

### **Medical Conditions**

All medical conditions are updated annually on One School. Therefore if you have previously informed the school of an existing condition, please contact the office to ensure that our records are up to date. If your child has been diagnosed with a new medical condition or if you are new to our school please contact the office to fill out appropriate paperwork.

### **Contact details**

If you have recently moved address, changed career or have a new mobile number please contact the office to update your details. Also please ensure your emergency contact numbers are still valid.

### **Parking**

As the safety of our children is always our highest priority we are asking all families to please take care around our school crossings. Please take note of the following points:

- \*Use designated pedestrian crossings at all times
- \*Obey speed limits near our crossings
- \*Obey all signage regarding parking near the crossings

We thank you for your cooperation as it will ensure the safe arrival and departure of students.

### **Technology and mobile phones**

Just a reminder that all mobile phones and technology devices need to be handed in to the office before school and collected from the office after school each day.



### **P&C News**

#### **Big Breakfast**

The P&C invite all HPSS families to come together over a big breakfast on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 7:30am – 8:45am on the basketball court. All children are free with a paying adult - \$5.00 per adult. Join us for an all you can eat breakfast of cereals, fruit, pancakes, tea, coffee and juice. (Gluten free options available)

Invitation to Help!

If you'd like to lend a hand with egg cracking, batter making, pancake flipping and venue setting then we'd love to hear from you. We have a lot of fun on the morning and welcome helpers any time between 5am and 9am. If that sounds tempting just email Helen on [pandc@hermparkss.eq.edu.au](mailto:pandc@hermparkss.eq.edu.au) with your availability. Many thanks!

### **P&C Meeting**

**P&C AGM** Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 6pm to 6:30pm in the staffroom

**P&C General Meeting** Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 6:30pm in the staffroom

It's AGM time again for your HPSS P&C. If you'd like to nominate for a position you can do so in 2 ways - attend the AGM and make your nomination or, if unable to attend you can submit your nomination in advance.

Please email Helen, outgoing P&C President, on [pandc@hermparkss.eq.edu.au](mailto:pandc@hermparkss.eq.edu.au) for forms.

Voting can also be done in the same 2 ways.

### **Hermit Park P&C Association – Outside School Hours Care**

Hermit Park P&C Association OSHC requires a new Treasurer to join the team.

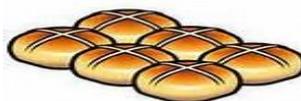
Meetings are the fourth Monday of each month in the OSHC room from 5:30pm.

Please see Georgina to find out more or email [hermitparkoshc@bigpond.com](mailto:hermitparkoshc@bigpond.com)



### **Hot Cross Bun Drive**

The Hermit Park P&C will be holding a **Hot Cross Bun Drive** with the help of Bakers Delight at Castletown starting next week to raise funds for **new sporting uniforms**. Our current sports uniforms have had a fair go for nearly 15 years and it is time for them to bow out and for new uniforms to be adorned by our HPSS sporting heroes! Each 6 pack of buns that are sold will earn \$2 to go towards the purchase of these uniforms. Envelopes will be sent home today to each family for orders. Orders can be made through FlexiSchools, our online ordering system, as well. All cash orders (with the envelope) will need to be brought back to the front office for processing by **March 17<sup>th</sup>**, likewise, the FlexiSchools orders will close by **3pm March 17<sup>th</sup>**. Orders to be collected on **Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup>**.



Please order as many buns as you can – and don't forget to ask other family members, friends and neighbours too!! Top 3 earners will receive a voucher from Bakers Delight!! Enjoy our new Easter Fundraiser and, of course, enjoy your Bakers Delight Hot Cross Buns!!!!

### **Uniform Shop**

Our uniform shop is run by parent volunteers and we always welcome new members.

The uniform shop hours are currently:

**Monday 8:30 – 9:15am**

**Tuesday 2:45 – 3:15pm**

We have introduced online ordering to our school sales system as our uniform shop is cash only.

For more information head to [flexischools.com.au](http://flexischools.com.au)

### **School Banking is every THURSDAY**

**\$1, \$2, \$3, \$4..... Like to count?**

Help is required Thursday afternoon to count the School Banking money.

Please come along every Thursday 2:15pm, meet in the Library - younger siblings are welcomed.

Enjoy a social chat and help the Banking program to continue.

Any enquiries please contact Larissa on 0411 547 969

### **Tuckshop**

Our tuckshop is open Monday to Friday. Orders are to be at the tuckshop by 9am on the Senior Campus and all Early Years Campus orders will be collected at the classrooms. Please provide a separate bag for each break and child and label with your child's full name and class. Our tuckshop now offers flexischools and EFTPOS as alternative payment options.