From the Principal....

The countdown is on !!

Friday, 6th November 2015

We hope you are looking forward to 4 hours of carnival rides, super-duper sideshow games, prizes, show bags, exciting entertainment and fantastic food!

5.30 – 9.30pm

Have you purchased your wristband yet ?

Wristbands are on sale each morning in the rose garden for $ 25.

They can also be purchased on the night for $30.

Grade Donations Needed

To help make Carnivale a success, each grade has been asked to contribute by donating the following items:

Kindergarten and Year 1 - filled lolly jars

Year 2 and 3 – coloured hairspray

Year 4 – cans of drink

Year 5 and 6 – novelty items that can be used for lucky dips

Have you contributed your items yet?
**Kids Meet**

On Friday, 23rd October Mrs Turrini attended an XO Kids Meet at Beresford Road PS with four students from Year 5. The boys who attended and represented Hilltop Road PS were Ali Maisem Kazemi, Chadi El-Bitar and Daniel and Lucas Panaretto. There were 10 other schools from the surrounding area who also participated in the day. They completed app reviews, learnt how to change keyboards and monitor parts and shared practises suitable for XO mechanics. Thank you to Mrs Turrini for supporting our students throughout the day and providing them with this wonderful opportunity. Congratulations also to the boys who attended, as their behaviour on the day was exemplary.

**Kids Matter**

On Tuesday, 20th October Miss Rowley, Mrs Turrini, Mrs Gregory, Mrs Andrews and I went to the Mecure Hotel in Parramatta. Hilltop Road PS was one of 5 schools in attendance and we were very privileged to receive a Kids Matter Recognition Award, for our wonderful work and support of Kids Matter, wellbeing and mental health. Congratulations to the Kids Matter Team mentioned above, as your continued hard work has allowed Hilltop Road PS to be amongst the first schools in NSW to receive this prestigious award.

**Book Hive Opening**

On Monday, 26th October the Hilltop Road Public School Book Hive was opened. It has been such a great success already. It is wonderful to see so many families sitting with their children before school and sharing a book together. The students are really enjoying being able to utilise this facility at recess and lunch time. The Book Bees that have been selected to manage the Book Hive and encourage younger students to read or to read to younger students, are doing a fantastic job. Thank you once again to Mr Martin who built our new Book Hive and to Miss Marketos and Mrs Goulding who are coordinating this valuable initiative.

**Cricket Clinic**

On Monday, 26th October our K-2 classes participated in their rescheduled cricket clinics organised by Miss Cavallo. Thankfully the rain held off this time and each class attended a 40 minute session where they were taught the basic skills of the game. A very big thank you to Samantha Devlin from Cricket NSW who continues to support our school and provide these extra opportunities for our students.

**ZooSnooz**

On Wednesday, 21st and Thursday 22nd October, our Year Four students had a fantastic time at the ZooSnooz overnight excursion, at Taronga Zoo. The students had a wonderful time participating in the zoo’s education lessons which included a number of animal and reptile encounters. Thankfully the weather held off for the night’s safari and exploring the zoo after dark. Everybody loved seeing the animals moving around in the darkness. The students had a fun time sleeping in their sleeping bags, away from home, with their friends. They were at their first lesson at 6.45am, ready to visit behind the scenes, at the zoo. Students met the zoo keepers and learnt about the food preparation and needs of the animals. They spent the remainder of the day visiting the zoo, watching the seal show and visiting lots of other animal enclosures. Thank you to the ZooSnooz staff who ensured our students had a great time.

My special thanks to Miss Caliskan, Miss Cowpe, Miss Han, Mrs Boustani, Mr Anderson and Mr Balafas, who attended the ZooSnooz and spent time away from their families.

**Code Club**

On Tuesday, 27th October Mrs Romer attended a Code Club training course held at Granville South PS. The course was held in preparation for setting up a Code Club at our school. Code Club will run as a trial from November until the end of the school year. Interested students in Year 2, 3 and 4 can attend the Code Club on Thursday at lunchtime. The students will be taught how to make games, stories and interactive content using the Scratch programming language.
**Junior Big Day In**

On Tuesday, 27th October Hilltop Road PS hosted the first Junior Big Day In for primary aged students and it was a huge success. The students in years 4-6 completed a variety of activities focused on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). Our students had the opportunity to interact with Australia’s technology leaders and gain valuable knowledge and advice from keynote speakers and industry exhibitors. They explored careers in technology and were highly engaged in the many hands on activities the day had to offer. Racing the Formula 1 cars was an amazing experience and certainly one I will always remember.

Thank you to the parents who attended the exhibitor session in the hall at 2.00pm, to hear more about the importance of STEM. Thank you also to Mrs Sleiman and Mr Kent, who were involved in coordinating the event and participating in the day, by running workshops for our students. A very big thank you to all of the partners involved in the day: UTS – University of Technology Sydney, Our Lady Of Lourdes, Earlwood, Makerspace, Code Camp, Westpac, DC Scratch, DC Ozbots, Bebras Australia, NCSS, F1 in Schools, Minecraft, Robocup, Adobe and Microsoft. Your valuable contribution to the day made it so engaging for our students.

**New Furniture**

On Thursday, 22nd October our school took delivery of new furniture for 8 classrooms. The furniture consists of a variety of seating, tables, benches and ottomans, to enhance the learning environment of our classrooms. The furniture allows for collaboration while working and it provides flexible learning spaces that our students can utilise depending on the activity they are completing.

**Holroyd SES visit**

This term, Year 4 are completing a PBL unit of work focusing on ‘celebrating our local heroes’. The aim is to give back to those that give to others. By turning students into photographers, interviewers, authors, journalists and documentarians, the Community Photojournalists Project offers rich opportunities for students to explore and share their world while celebrating local heroes.

On Monday, 26th October six volunteers from the Holroyd SES visited Hilltop Road PS to talk about the importance of volunteering and what it means to volunteer. They also shared their experiences with our Year 4 students. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the SES volunteers for visiting our school and helping our Year 4 develop meaningful, real world connections.

**National Learning Frontiers Meeting**

On Friday, 23rd October I attended the national meeting for Learning Frontiers which was held in Canberra. During the meeting, we heard from Samsung and Telstra who indicated an interest in supporting this national educational movement.

The committee has agreed to continue to undertake this important work and form new partnerships to fund possibilities for this national group of educators. Our school is looking forward to being part of this nationally recognised group.

**No Hat Play in the Shade**

A large percentage of students are NOT bringing their school hat to school. Please ensure your child has a school hat, which needs to be worn during recess, lunch and sport. If your child is not wearing a hat, they will be asked to play under one for the shelters in our playgrounds.

School hats can be purchased for $10.00 from the office or uniform shop if needed.
**Kindergarten Orientation**

Hilltop Road Public School held the first session of orientation for our new 2016 Kindergarten families on **Thursday, 29th October**. The session was held in the school hall for the parents and our new kinder children visited the classrooms and enjoyed their *big school* experience.

Thank you to the P&C who set up stalls in the hall to provide information to our families about our school gardening program, CBA school banking, the Before & After School Care Centre, the Uniform Shop, the P & C Committee and the Road Safety team from Holroyd.

Thank you also to Miss Wilson and the Junior Dance Group who performed an item and to our Kindergarten representatives who modelled our uniform and confidently spoke to the audience about their experiences at big school this year.

A special thank you to Mrs Baddour and the Kindergarten team for coordinating and organising both sessions of Kindergarten Orientation. It is an enormous job and I appreciate all of your hard work.

**NB :** Our second Kinder orientation session is being held on Thursday, **5th November**.

**Selective HS dates**

Applications for placement in Year 7 at a selective high school in 2017 are now available for parents or carers of students in Year 5, 2015. Parents and carers are requested to apply online. Online applications will be available from **13th October**. **All applications must be submitted by Monday, 16th November.**

**LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** Application information is also available on the Department’s internet at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement.

For more information please see Miss Cavallo.

**School Opal Cards**

The School Opal card will officially launch its new online application for relevant parents and students travelling in the Opal public transport region on **Monday, 2 November**.

The application can be found at [transportnsw.info/schoolstudents](transportnsw.info/schoolstudents)

Just like current paper travel passes, the School Opal card gives eligible students free travel to and from school on school days. However, the School Opal card makes travel simpler, because now students don’t need multiple application forms and passes if they use different transport operators within the Opal network.

Students with school travel passes this year will not need to apply for a School Opal card unless they are changing schools, campus, their home address or moving from year 2 to 3 or year 6 to 7.

**Those students who do not need to apply will have a School Opal card sent to your school for the beginning of the first term in 2016.**

**Transition to High School**

On Thursday, **22nd October** Ms Close and Mrs Gregory held the second part of their transition to high school for our parents. The meeting was held in 6C’s classroom after school and a number of 2014 year 6 parents came along to talk to this year’s current year 6 parents about starting high school and what to expect. It was a valuable afternoon and lots of questions were answered and experiences were shared. This event does not take place in all schools and it is just another example for how truly wonderful our school and community is, at supporting each other. Thanks to Ms Close and Mrs Gregory for coordinating this new initiative at our school.

More information will follow in the next few weeks to help with the transition to the new system.
Coo-ee March - 100th Anniversary

As part of the 2015 Anzac centenary commemorations a re-enactment is taking place to commemorate the original 515 km (320 miles) Coo-ee recruitment march that was held 100 years ago.

A large part of the success of the 2015 "Coo-ee" re-enactment march, which will end in Sydney on Remembrance Day 11th November, 2015, will depend upon each community being encouraged to take ownership and contribute to their community's reception of the Coo-ee re-enactment marchers as they pass through their area.

On Monday, 9 November 2015, the march will be travelling through Holroyd on its way to Blacktown. Students at Hilltop Road will be supporting this march as it passes through Centenary Road, Merrylands. Parents and community members are also welcome to join our support of the march, as it passes through our area. This will be followed by a service, led by students from Hilltop Road, at 10.15 am in Remembrance Park, Arcadia Street, Merrylands. A note with more information will follow later in the week.

For more information please visit http://cooeemarch2015reenactment.com/

Kindergarten to Year 6 Tutoring

If you are looking for an English or Mathematics tutor who specialises in improving students Speaking, Reading, Writing and Problem Solving skills please feel free to contact Vanessa for availability and cost. Experienced Primary School Teacher, Miss Vanessa Farrugia. Contact number: 0403257184

Important Dates for Term 4, 2015

Please add the following dates to your diaries and schedules to ensure you know

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<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>Canberra excursion</td>
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<td>Year 6 students</td>
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<td>K-6 students</td>
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<td>K-6 students</td>
<td>Year 6 arch</td>
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<tr>
<td>K-6 students</td>
<td>Last day of term</td>
<td>Wednesday, 16th December</td>
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KUMON

MERRYLANDS

Maths & English
Pre School ~ High School
Book Now for an information session 9686 4727
GIRRAWEE HIGH SCHOOL

Invitation to Open Night 2015

To Year 9 Students And Their Parents

Girraween High School is an academically selective co-educational high school with a focus on providing a balanced and positive education experience for our students who aspire to achieve exceptional HSC results.

The school has experienced and dedicated staff, providing students with safe, engaging classes and well-equipped facilities.

You are invited to attend Open Night 2015 which will be held at the school.

The school band will perform from 5:30pm and you are welcome to enjoy this performance.

The Open Night will feature classroom tours, displays, presentations and the chance to meet students and teachers.

Refreshments will be provided.

Date: Tuesday, 3rd November 2015
Time: 6pm to 8pm
Venue: Girraween High School
110 Gilba Road
GIRRAWEE NSW 2145
Tel: 9636 7293 or 9636 7303
Fax: 9696 3274
Web: www.girraween-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

HSC 2014 Achievements:
- Ranked 15th in the state overall
- Ranked 51st out of all government schools
- 36 students received an ATAR of 99 with 17 students achieving an ATAR over 99
- 3 students achieved an ATAR of 99.80 (Maximum ATAR 99.95)
- 25 students were "all rounders" who achieved 90% or better in 10 units of study
- 339 mentions on the Distinguished Achievers List (Band 6 Results)
  - 1 student was placed 1st in the state for Senior Science
  - 1 student was placed 3rd in the state for Senior Science
  - 1 student was placed 4th in the state for Biology
  - 1 student was placed 17th in the state for Modern History
- 100% of students achieved the top two bands in English Extension 1, History Extension, Society and Culture, Engineering Studies, Japanese Continuation and Japanese Extension

Call 96879978 to book in your FREE LESSON!

JUNI! Music School
Enrol Now!

JUNI Musical Enrichment! Lessons, Workshops and Recitals, including:
- Piano
- Violin
- Saxophone
- Guitar
- Singing

Enrolments available in May and November

Enrol Now!