From the Principal....

**PULSE concert**

On Thursday, 13th August I had the pleasure of attending the Western Sydney PULSE concert at the Sydney Opera House. The concert was a showcase of performing arts within NSW Public Schools. Our school was represented by students who performed as part of the mass choir. I was very proud of our student’s performance. I hope performing at the Sydney Opera House will be a lifetime memory for all our students. Thank you to Mrs Sleiman and Miss Racanelli for overseeing our schools involvement and supervising our students, in preparation for their performance. Mrs Sleiman has worked tirelessly to inspire and ensure our students were well prepared for the performance.

**Book Fair**

On Thursday, 6th August our Annual Book Fair was held in the hall. It was a huge success with approx. $7000 being spent on books. It was fantastic to see so many students enthusiastic about buying books to take home and read. A very big thank you to Mrs Scott who organised this event for our school and Mrs Bennett for assisting with the Book Fair.

**NSW Club Grants**

On Thursday, 13th August, Catherine Gregory, Lianne Andrews and I attended a Club Grants NSW presentation at Club Merrylands. Hilltop Road was given a grant of $9000 to continue to fund our Ready Set Go for Kindy program. This funding has been provided for over 10 years and Club Merrylands has ensured the success of this positive start for our Kindergarten students and families. I would like to thank Club Merrylands for providing significant financial support for projects and services that contribute to the wellbeing of the local community.
**Book Week Parade**

On **Wednesday, 26th August** we held our annual Book Week parade. The parade was a wonderful success with students and teachers enjoying the spirit of dressing up and celebrating the joy of reading. Book Week is a valuable week which is run by the Children’s Book Council of Australia and aims to promote the importance and enjoyment of reading among young Australians. Congratulations to the students who received book prizes and thank you to our families which spent hours preparing costumes. A special note of thanks to Mr Hall-Watson who is an amazing MC, always ensuring the Book Week parade is lots of fun.

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**Operation Art**

Each year our school enters art works into Operation Art. Operation Art is an initiative of The Children's Hospital at Westmead in association with the NSW Department of Education and Communities. Each year 50 works are selected to become part of the permanent art collection at The Children's Hospital at Westmead. These selected works will also be exhibited at the Art Gallery of NSW later in 2015 and tour regional art galleries across NSW in 2016.

This year several of our students have been selected from many artists across NSW, for their art work to be shown at the Armory Gallery, Sydney Olympic Park from 5 September – 25 October 2015.

Congratulations to the following students:

- Simay Kamas   5T
- Emily Hoesterei   5R
- Adem Karabulut   6C

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**School Administration and Support Staff (SASS) Recognition Week**

This week is **SASS Recognition week**. The staff, students and parents greatly appreciate the dedication, skills, knowledge and efforts of our valuable SASS staff. Our school would not run smoothly without their hard work and dedication to our school community. Thank you to our amazing SASS team; **Kerry, Gail, Mrs Bennett, Mrs Doust, Mrs Pandurevic, Mrs Chapman, Mrs Hood, Mrs Stewart, Mrs Lahood, Miss Catherine, Mrs Whale and Mr Martin.**
Celebrating the Arts

Our Infants Dance Group, Stage 2 Dance Group and Senior Dance Group will be performing at the Celebrating the Arts Festival today Tuesday, 1st September at Parramatta Riverside Theatre. I am looking forward to this performance. Don’t forget to purchase your tickets online at http://www.riversideparramatta.com.au/

Kindergarten Living Eggs

During Weeks 7 and 8, Kindergarten are having the exciting experience of the Henny Penny Hatching Eggs Program. Students have the opportunity to watch eggs hatching in a specially designed incubator, and then to observe the hatched chicks at play in a large, clear-sided brooding pen in their classrooms.

The students gained knowledge of how to care for the chicks and what they need to survive. Throughout the two weeks, Kindergarten will enjoy playing with the chicks.

Year Six Project Based Learning Feedback

Year Six students recently engaged in the project ‘Is the law fair?’ This unit was co-created by our students and students from Adelaide. This work included many local and authentic connections with private industry and the community to answer this driving question. Below are two examples of feedback and support provided to students.

Sumatran Tigers

I just received this video thanking 6Y students from "Hilltop Public School" for their help in raising awareness about the Sumatran Tiger during their PBL last term. Students were super excited to get the feedback and really feel like they are making a difference through PBL projects.

https://www.dropbox.com/s/3491zk7ryu2egz5/Tiger%20Thank%20You.mov?dl=0

Circus Animal Cruelty

Dear Sayel, Harris and Hung,

Thank you so much for updating us on your wonderful project. The flyer and brochure are both fantastic and obviously you were able to get the message out that it is cruel to have wild animals in circuses. People sometimes just need to be reminded to give some thought to these issues. We are sending each of you a Certificate to show our appreciation for the work that you have done. Well done boys!

Kind regards
Virginia Breen
Supporter Relations Officer
Humane Society International
PO Box 439, Avalon NSW 2107

Congratulations to our Year 6 students for their amazing work.
**Systems Leadership Grant**

Recently, our school received a Systems Leadership grant. This grant for $40,000 will facilitate high level professional learning across a number of schools including:

- Auburn West Public School
- Ambarvale high School
- Camdenville Public School
- Campbelltown Performing High School
- Turramurra North Public School

Our school is looking forward to collaborating with these schools to enhance student engagement and learning outcomes through professional learning.

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**Father’s Day Celebrations**

This week we are looking forward to hosting our annual Father’s Day celebrations.

**Father’s Day Stall**

The Father’s Day stall will be held on **Thursday, 4th September**. Please remember to send a plastic bag and money for your child to participate in this annual event. Thank you to our dedicated parents who work tirelessly to order and prepare the gifts.

**Father’s Day Fun Afternoon**

Our annual Father’s Day Fun Afternoon will be held on **Friday, 5th September** from 3.15pm. Please reserve this time and date in your busy schedules. Come prepared to take the obstacle challenge and big challenge, play table tennis, have a tug-o-war and enjoy a sausage sizzle. Looking forward to this fun afternoon!

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**Kindergarten Farm Excursion**

On Friday, 7th August Kindergarten went on an excursion to Calmsley Hill City Farm. The students had a wonderful time experiencing a day on a real farm. Kindergarten got to milk a cow, pat the various animals in the farmyard nursery and took a tractor ride through the paddock. After lunch, the students got to see Mr Hall-Watson and some of their peers have a go at cracking a whip. They also watched a sheep shearing show and had the opportunity to pat a real snake. It was an enjoyable day filled with lots of learning and fun!
**K-2 Carnival**

Last Friday, K-2 had their athletics carnival at school. It was a fantastic day with great weather. All students attended in their house colours and were very excited to start racing. The day began with students participating in age races and competing to make the finals. We have some very fast runners in K-2. Congratulations to the following students that came first in the finals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>K-2 Athletics Carnival Results</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Girls</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Girls</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Boys</strong></td>
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Parents also got involved in the action for the parent race. Thank you to all the parents that participated. It was great to see so many mums and dads getting involved in the spirit of the day. A big thank you to the parents who cooked the sausage sizzle.

Some K-2 teachers also had a go and competed in the teacher race, adding to the fun of the day. After recess students participated in tabloid activities such as; fling ball, tunnel ball, sack races and relays to name a few. By lunchtime, students had worked up quite an appetite and many enjoyed a sausage on a roll cooked by the school's P&C. It was a great day that was enjoyed by all. Thank you to Mrs Baddour and K-2 teachers or organising such as wonderful experience for our students.
CSIRO Vegetable Education Program

Last week, students participated in the first 2 lessons of the CSIRO Vegetable Education Program. This program is a series of five lessons that aims to increase the students’ awareness and knowledge of vegetables as well as increase their acceptance, enjoyment and willingness to taste vegetables. The Vegetable Education Program was developed by the CSIRO Food and Nutrition Flagship in collaboration with CSIRO Education. The content of the lessons links closely with science and PDHPE syllabus outcomes. Students have had a great time discussing and tasting different vegetables and using their senses to identify taste solutions, vegetables and herbs. The program is proving to be a great success with teachers commenting that students are engaged, curious and really loving experimenting with the vegetables. Students will participate in the next 2 lessons of the series this week.

The 2015 Merrylands/Parramatta Zone Athletics Championships

Recently, the 2015 Merrylands/Parramatta Zone Athletics Championships Field / Track Events took place. Each representative from our school tried their best and demonstrated great sportsmanship. We are very proud of your efforts.

Congratulations to the following students who achieved the following results:

**Latecia Lolohea:**
1\textsuperscript{st} Shot Put (Under 10s Girls),
1\textsuperscript{st} Long Jump (Juniors)
3\textsuperscript{rd} High Jump (Juniors)
1\textsuperscript{st} 100 m
1\textsuperscript{st} 200 m
3\textsuperscript{rd} 800 m

**Natalie Pesa:**
2\textsuperscript{nd} Long Jump (Juniors)

**Mohamed Ghaddar:**
1\textsuperscript{st} High Jump (11 yr old boys)
2\textsuperscript{nd} Long Jump (11 yr old boys)
2\textsuperscript{nd} Shot Put (11 yr old boys)
1\textsuperscript{st} 100m (11 yr old boys)
1\textsuperscript{st} 200 m
1\textsuperscript{st} 800 m

**Hung Tran:**
2\textsuperscript{nd} 200 m (12/13 yr boys)

**Ryan Malvacino:**
1\textsuperscript{st} 100 m (12/13 year old boys)
3\textsuperscript{rd} 200 m (12/13 boys)
**Spelling Bee**

On the 11th and 12th August the Stage 2 and 3 Spelling Bee was held. Many students participated in the event and demonstrated great determination when attempting to spell some very tricky words. Congratulations to all students that participated as it took a lot of courage to stand on stage and spell words aloud in front of their peers. Thank you to Miss Shabaz for all her hard work in organising the event. The winner for the stage 2 competition was Kadircan (4D) and the runner up was Isabelle (3R). In stage 3 the winner was Arunita (6C) and Sayel (6C) was the runner up. All four students will compete in the Regional Spelling Bee later this term. Good luck to our 4 Hilltop Road representatives.

**Dan Haesler Parent Workshop**

On Tuesday, 18th August, we were privileged to have the international speaker, Dan Haesler, return to Hilltop Road to work with the staff and run a parent workshop. Dan has developed a reputation as one of Asia Pacific’s most dynamic educational speakers. His presentation focused on growth mindset and how parents and teachers can help children succeed. It was great to see so many parents engage with Dan during the workshop. Dan spoke about the differences between a growth mindset (the understanding that you can embrace challenges, persist with setbacks and learn from criticism) and the fixed mindset (where you would avoid challenges, give up easily and see effort as pointless). Throughout the workshop Dan highlighted how we can support students to have a growth mindset towards their learning. He also commented on different ways we can give honest feedback to children that encourages their effort and is specific to help them improve. Highlights of the parent workshop will be available to view on our school website shortly.

**Have a great week.**

Natalie See
Principal

**Stay Connected**

Want to stay in touch and connected to our school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Twitter</strong></th>
<th><strong>Facebook</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Follow us on Twitter</td>
<td>Follow us on Facebook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twitter handle: @hilltoproadps</td>
<td>Hilltop Road Public School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Username: Hilltop Road PS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>School App</strong></th>
<th><strong>Visit our school website</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apple App Store and Google Play Store for your iPhone or android phone. Just search Hilltop Road.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hilltoprd-p.schools.nsw.edu.au">www.hilltoprd-p.schools.nsw.edu.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>It is free.</td>
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<td><strong>The login details are as follows:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>username: community</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>password: hilltoprdps</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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Important Dates - Term 3, 2015

Please add the following dates to your diaries and schedules to ensure you know what’s happening in our school:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Selected groups</td>
<td>Celebrating the Arts Concert</td>
<td>Tuesday, 1\textsuperscript{st} September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6 students</td>
<td>Sport, SRC &amp; performance groups photo day</td>
<td>Wednesday, 2\textsuperscript{nd} September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6 students</td>
<td>Father’s day stall</td>
<td>Thursday, 3\textsuperscript{rd} September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6 parents</td>
<td>Father’s day fun afternoon</td>
<td>Friday, 4\textsuperscript{th} September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-6 students</td>
<td>Swimming scheme</td>
<td>Monday, 7\textsuperscript{th} September to Friday, 18\textsuperscript{th} September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5 students</td>
<td>PBL art show</td>
<td>Tuesday, 15\textsuperscript{th} September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6 parents</td>
<td>P&amp;C meeting – 7.30pm</td>
<td>Tuesday, 15\textsuperscript{th} September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6 students</td>
<td>Last day of term 3</td>
<td>Friday, 18\textsuperscript{th} September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6 students</td>
<td>Public holiday</td>
<td>Monday, 5\textsuperscript{th} October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-6 students</td>
<td>Term 4 commences</td>
<td>Tuesday, 6\textsuperscript{th} October</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>