



# The Belltower

## Hurstville Public School Newsletter

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TERM 4  
Issue 16 -Week 2  
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### Principal's Message

Welcome back to Term 4! I trust that all of our students and families had an enjoyable break during the school holidays and have returned rested and ready for a wonderful last term for this year.

I am delighted to be continuing with you as Principal of Hurstville Public School. Whilst I originally thought I would be here for just Term 1, the longer I have stayed, the more I have come to love this school and its students, parents and staff. I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for us to create the very best learning environment and experiences for our children. One of the factors that influenced my decision to apply for the permanent position of Principal was the amazing support I have received from parents and staff whilst I was in the relieving position. I have been so warmly welcomed and could not have asked for a better partnership with our P&C Executive and our staff. I leave Connells Point Public School – an outstanding school with an exceptional staff and community – with nothing but the happiest of memories and start this next exciting chapter full of enthusiasm and energy about what we can, together, achieve.

We are entering a new planning period for 2015-2017 and beyond. All DEC schools have a new process to follow and there is a new approach to developing the School Plan. Our teachers are already heavily engaged in discussing research findings about what our students will need to be successful in the future and we are evaluating some of our current programs and procedures to see what we can do better.

Consulting with our parent community is a very important part of our planning process. We will be asking your opinions in a range of ways, such as through on line surveys, focus group discussions and written surveys. **Included in this Belltower is an online survey about our communication with you.** Please take five minutes to complete the survey as your opinions and comments are important to us, and will help us improve our service to you.

**Communication Survey – Please click on this link and complete by Friday 31 October. Thank you!**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HPSParentCommunicationSurvey>

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### Upcoming Events:

#### Term 4, Weeks 3-10

Oct. 21 <sup>st</sup>	Road Safety/ Science Day
Oct. 29 <sup>th</sup>	Chinese Parent Meeting 9-12pm
Oct. 28 <sup>th</sup>	P&C Meeting 9.15am Morning Tea - Welcome Mrs Hewson 11am
Nov 4 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Forum
Nov. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Mini Fete
Nov. 11 <sup>th</sup>	Walkathon
Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Parent Helper Morning Tea
Dec. 8 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Farewell
Dec. 9 <sup>th</sup>	Years 1,2,3 & 4 Presentation Assembly
Dec.10 <sup>th</sup>	Years 5 & 6 Presentation Assembly
Dec. 11 <sup>th</sup>	Kindy Presentation Assembly



[www.hurstvilleps.com.au](http://www.hurstvilleps.com.au)

We will also be holding a **Parent Forum on Tuesday 4 November**, to discuss and share ideas for the future direction of the school and the needs of our students, as we formulate our School Plan. We hope you can join us from 9:15-11:00 on that day, as your thoughts are important to us.

You might be interested in some of the ideas our staff has been discussing. We have been learning more about 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning and the skills our students need to be successful in the future. This graphic summarises some of the aspects we have been discussing and highlights the directions we need to take in education to ensure our students have the skills, knowledge and understandings essential for the world in which they live now and in the future. We hope to share your thoughts about these and other directions at our forum.



### **Voluntary Contribution**

Thank you to all families who have made a voluntary contribution this year. At this stage, we have received a contribution from approximately one third of our students. All contributions received are used to improve the educational facilities and resources we provide for our students, and can be made at any time throughout the year. It's never too late!

### **EFTPOS and Parent Online Payment System**

To assist our school community in making payments for school expenses such as excursions, sport, equipment, voluntary contributions etc, we are introducing EFTPOS and a secure online payment system.

We will be commencing these services later this term, with the expectation that they will be fully on board and available in 2015. We hope that this will be much more convenient for you and make payment to the school much easier to manage from home. More information will be provided prior to the commencement of these services.

*Mrs Anne Hewson –Principal*

## In The Classroom

### Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten)

The students have settled in very well to Term 4. We have noticed an improvement in all of our students' behaviour, maturity and attitude to learning. The teachers are so impressed with the students.

This week, we had two Orientation Assemblies to welcome our 2015 Kindergarten students. Our current Kindergarten students performed two songs for the parents and pre-schoolers. We are so proud of the students. They sang and moved with enthusiasm and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Congratulations to all our Kindergarten children.

As the weather is becoming warmer, students are taking off jumpers and jackets. Please make sure all your child's belongings are labelled. Please also ensure your child is wearing the correct school uniform. Teachers are noticing some children are continuing to wear layers of clothing under, and on top of, their uniform. They are becoming hot later in the day and are unable to take these layers off. Thank you for your help in ensuring your child is wearing the correct uniform.

Below are photos of our Kindergarten students welcoming the new Kindergarten students for 2015 with two songs.



### **FRIENDLY REMINDERS**



- **Tuesday 21 October :**  
NRMA Road Safety Day

9am – 10am Parent session in school hall  
Remind your child to bring their bicycle helmet to school.

- **Every Wednesday :** Nude Food Day

Children are encouraged to bring their food and drinks in re-usable containers

- We encourage all students to wear their **full school uniform** every day.

This includes correct colour shoes and socks, jumpers, jackets and hair accessories for girls.

- **Hats** must be brought to school and worn outside every day as part of our Sun Safe policy.

### **Dates for your diary**

**5 November :** Mini-fete

**11 November :** Walkathon

**3 December :** Parent Helper Morning Tea

**9 December :** Stage 1 and Stage 2 Presentation assemblies

**10 December :** Stage 3 Presentation assembly

**11 December :** Kindergarten Presentation assembly



## Stage 1

### Year 1

This term, Year 1's unit on "Transport" includes developing an awareness of Road Safety and how students and their families stay safe on our roads. To increase the students' awareness, each class has, or will, participate in a short walk around the local streets to observe the signs that children and adults need to pay attention to, to keep everyone safe. These are some photos of the signs we have seen.



As 1H, 1A and 1M were unable to walk on the day they had planned, due to the rainy weather, we ask parents and carers of students in those classes to please sign another permission note and return it to school as soon as possible.

We are also looking forward to Road Safety Day next Tuesday to learn more about safely wearing a helmet and wearing seatbelts.

**Mrs Jenny Cooper – Relieving Deputy Principal**

### Year 2

Welcome back to everyone. We hope that you have had a relaxing and enjoyable break. We would also like to welcome all the new Year 2 students and their families to our school. We hope that you have found settling into our school easy and have made friends already.

Thank you for your support with the Year 2 Swimming Program. The Swimming Program commences on Monday, Week 4. A note will go home with more detail about the times and what the students will be required to bring each day.

With the weather warming up, we would like to remind parents to please make sure their child brings their school hat every day. Their names should also be clearly written on their hats, as well as their jumpers and jackets, as there are many items without names in our lost property box. If your child has lost a hat or jumper, please check the lost property box, which is located just inside the front door of our library.

**Mrs Zaga Marinkovic and Mr Graham Enright - Relieving Assistant Principals**

## Stage 3

### Year 5 and Year 6

#### Year 6 Mini-Fete 2014

The Year 6 teachers and students are currently preparing for the Mini-Fete which will be held on Wednesday 5 November, 2014. The money raised will go towards the Year 6 present for the school. Stalls will include: Sporting activities, Water activities, Haunted House, Face Painting, Hair Spraying, Nail Painting, Guessing Competition .....just to name a few. Look out for our colourful advertising around the school, and a detailed note to parents in the coming weeks!

#### Year 6 Farewell EOI

Thank you to all parents who have signed and returned the expression of interest note for the Year 6 Farewell. Please ensure that they are returned at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your co-operation.

#### Number Crunchers

Congratulations to the following Year 6 students who have made it to the next level of the Number Crunchers Competition:

Raymond 6K  
Vivian 6D  
Matthew 5/6F  
Andrew 6H  
Hanyuan 6B

We wish them all the very best as they compete against several other schools at Connells Point PS on Monday. Good luck!

#### Road Safety Day

On Tuesday 21 October we are having a K-6 Road Safety Day. Students will be involved in safety activities and are invited to bring in their bike helmets to have them properly fitted. The Science Show for Stage 3 students will be held in the hall from 11:25am. Students will be issued with safety workbooks on the day.

#### Year 5 Science

5K and 5E have been participating in class science experiments to investigate the properties of solids, liquids and gases. Last week, students were given the task of creating slime and determining whether it was a solid, liquid or gas by investigating its properties and recording their findings. Ask your child what they discovered.



Mrs Tina Cowley – Assistant Principal

## Support Unit News

Welcome back to Term 4. We hope that all our families had a relaxing and enjoyable break and the students are all looking forward to a busy and productive term.

It is an especially important time for our Year 6 students who are settling in for their last term of primary school with lots of celebrations to come. All of our Year 6 students will be given opportunities to visit their high schools to become familiar with the teachers and the new environment. This term, our classes will be studying the following topics:

5/6M – Gold  
4/5H – Hot or cold  
1/6D – What's Alive  
K/2J – Literacy and numeracy focus

A reminder to parents that cooking notes were sent out earlier this week. Please return permission slips and money to your child's class teacher as soon as possible.

**Mrs Nicole Moore – Assistant Principal**

### Group Photos

On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November, our photographers, Don Wood Photography, will be coming to take group photos of students who perform or participate in a school group. This includes the school bands, PSSA teams, dance groups, choirs and chess clubs. If your child is in a group, they will bring home an envelope on Monday. If you would like to order a group photo, please return the envelope with payment to the front office by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November.

**Miss Danielle Scott - Relieving Deputy Principal**



For any students who are wanting to join the Training Band next year, final auditions will be held over the next two weeks. We are already near capacity for our Training Band, so this will be the last opportunity to audition for 2015. We will not be accepting any more audition forms after Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October. Please return audition forms to Miss Tsanidis or Miss Scott.

A Band Information Night will be held for families who will be joining the band next year. It will be held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm in the school hall. We hope you can join us for an informative night.

Our current bands will be performing in a showcase on 25<sup>th</sup> November at 6pm in the school hall. We hope parents can come and enjoy listening to the bands and seeing what their children have learnt. Throughout this term, band tutors will be auditioning Training Band and Concert Band members to see if they can move on to the next band in 2015.

**Miss Danielle Scott - Relieving Deputy Principal**



### **Getting organised for Term 4**

Welcome back to school! Keep track of the week numbers of each Term and help your family stay on top of the million and one things happening this time of year with School A to Z's monthly planners. They're easy to print out and pop up on the fridge for all to see. You might even want to print a spare for each child's bedroom so there are no excuses for them to forget homework, chores and other weekly activities. <http://bit.ly/UbmQz8>

### **Public speaking made easier.**

Many people rate speaking in public as one of their worst fears. But it's an important skill for kids to master, which is part of the reason why we start them off with News in Kindergarten and progress to other presentation skills from an early age. Helping your child prepare their speeches and presentations at home will really boost their confidence.

Here are practical tips any parent can use: <http://bit.ly/Kr3ukB>

## *Attendance*

Did you know that if students miss as little as eight days in a school term, by the end of primary school they will have missed a year of education?

Regular attendance is very important for your child. Please make sure that you send your child to school every day unless they are sick.

If your child is away from school, please send a written note on the day that they return to school, explaining the reason for their absence. This is a legal requirement.

School begins at 9.00 am.

In order for your child to be settled and ready to learn when classes commence, students need to arrive well before the morning bell rings.

We have a large number of students arriving at school late to morning lines, which results in important information being missed and lessons being started without them. Please ensure that your child arrives with time to spare before the bell rings.

Any child who is late to school in the morning must go directly to the school office and ask for a late note. Their name will be recorded on the roll along with the time of arrival and the reason for their lateness.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

**Mrs Jennifer Birch – Deputy Principal**



# Regular School Attendance

Information for parents and carers



**Did you know?** If students miss as little as eight days in a school term, by the end of primary school they will have missed a year of education.

## Why must I send my child to school?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory. This means all children from six years of age and under the minimum school leaving age are legally required to attend school.

From 2010, all New South Wales students must complete Year 10. After Year 10 and until they turn 17 years of age students must be:

1. in school or registered for home schooling, or
2. in approved education or training (e.g. TAFE, traineeship, apprenticeship) or
3. in full-time, paid employment (average 25 hours per week) or in a combination of work, education and/or training.

Principals are legally responsible for keeping accurate records of student attendance.

Principals are also responsible for deciding if the reason given for an absence is justified.

For this reason, Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation for long or frequent absences explained by parents as being due to illness.

If Principals don't consider an explanation to be satisfactory, they will record the absence as unjustified.

It is important to understand that the New South Wales Department of Education and Training may prosecute parents (including carers) if children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unjustified absences from school.

## Must I send my child every day?

**YES.** It is a condition of enrolment that you send your child to school every day.

A small number of absences may be justified if your child:

- has to go to a special religious ceremony
- is required to attend to a serious and/or urgent family situation (eg a funeral)
- is too sick to go to school or has an infectious illness.

Head lice infestations can be a common occurrence, particularly in primary schools. Parents should check their child's hair

regularly for head lice and undertake treatment where eggs or lice are identified.

Translated information about head lice and how to treat them can be found at

<https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/headlice/infosheet.htm>

Advice from NSW Health indicates that there is no need for students to be sent home or excluded from school because of head lice. Head lice, is not a valid reason for prolonged absences from school.

## Why is regular attendance at school important?

Regular school attendance will help your child to succeed in later life.

Attending school every day makes learning easier for your child and helps children to build and maintain friendships with other children.

If your child doesn't learn the basic skills in the early years of school, they may develop learning problems in later years.



English 1



## 學生考勤制度

家長和監護人須知



**您知道嗎？如果您的孩子一個學期缺勤八天，在整個小學階段就少學了一年的課程。**

**我為什麼必須送孩子到校上課？**

新南威爾士州的教育是義務的。也就是說，從六歲起的所有兒童，在達到離開學校的最低年齡之前，依照法律的要求都必須上學。

從2010年起，新南威爾士州所有的中學生都必須讀完第十年級（Year 10）。在讀完Year 10之後，未滿17歲的學生必須：

1. 在校讀書，或者註冊在家讀書（home schooling），或者
2. 參加獲得批准的教育或培訓（例如，TAFE，當見習生或學徒），或者
3. 成為有薪酬的全職雇員（平均每週25小時），或者將工作、教育和/或培訓結合起來。

校長依法履行準確記錄學生出勤的義務。

校長也有權決定學生缺勤的原因是否合理。

對此，校長可以要求家長出示孩子生病而需要請長假或頻繁請假的醫生證明或其它證明文件。

如果校長不滿意您所做出的解釋，他們將其視為無故缺勤。

您必須瞭解的是，如果您的孩子到了接受義務教育的法定年齡，您（包括監護人在內）會因為經常讓孩子無故缺勤而受到新南威爾士州教育培訓部（New South Wales Department of Education and Training）的指控。

**我必須每天送孩子上學嗎？**

**是的。**您必須每天送您的孩子到校上課，這是入學條件之一。

如果您的孩子由於以下幾個原因缺勤，將視為合理的解釋。原因如下：

- 必須參加特別的宗教儀式
- 有嚴重及/或緊急的家庭事務（比如：葬禮）
- 患病嚴重而不能到校上課，或是患有傳染病

頭蝨感染是一種常見的疾病，尤其是在小學。家長應定期檢查孩子的頭髮是否有頭蝨，並對長有虱蛋或頭蝨的孩子進行治療。

有關頭蝨和如何治療頭蝨的翻譯資料可見：

<https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/headlice/infosheet.htm>

新南威爾士州衛生部的有關建議表明，學生沒有必要因為頭蝨而被送回家或不到校上課。頭蝨不能作為延長缺勤時間的合理原因。

**為什麼重視考勤很重要？**

重視考勤可以幫助您的孩子在將來取得成功。

每天到校上課可以讓孩子的學習更加輕鬆，也有助於他們和其他孩子建立和保持友誼。

如果您的孩子在學習早期未能學到基本的技能，他們在以後的學習中可能會遇到困難。





## Invitation

*The P&C invites all parents & teachers to a morning tea, to  
officially welcome our new Principal Mrs Anne Hewson*

It has been a busy year and we have waited a long time for a new Principal to be appointed at our school ... but the wait has been worth every second!

It is with great pleasure that the P&C on behalf of our parent community welcomes Mrs Anne Hewson to our school as the new Principal.

A welcome morning tea will be held and we calling on parents and carers to come along and bring a plate to share and celebrate Mrs Anne Hewson's appointment together.

All staff are invited to come along so we can thank staff for their hard work over the year and also to help us work through the mountains of food that has become a hallmark of our community!

**DATE:** Tuesday, 28 October 2014

**TIME:** 11.00am – 12.15pm

**PLACE:** School Hall

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**RSVP** Please return on or before 23<sup>th</sup> October (Thursday) to your class teacher

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's class: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I/We are coming \_\_\_\_\_ number of people.

Yes. I/We are coming and wish to provide a dish

I/we will contribute \_\_\_\_\_





## 邀請函

学校家长委员会诚邀所有家长/老师来庆祝茶点会，  
正式欢迎我们的新校长 **Mrs Anne Hewson**

这是一个忙碌的一年。我们等候很久的新任校长终落定了...但这等候是值得的!

我们家长委员会荣幸代表学校家长欢迎 **Mrs Anne Hewson** 为新任校长

我们诚邀家表及监护人参加这次欢迎校长茶点会及每人带同一盘食物来一齐庆祝

在校老师亦被邀请一同参与，我们可值此机会多谢他们在这一年对我们孩子的教导。老师还可一同分享家长精心准备各式各样美味食物!

日期: 10月28日星期二

时间: 11.00am - 12.15pm

地点: 学校礼堂

**回覆:** 请在十月二十三日(星期四)前将字条交回班老师

请沿这里撕开

家长姓名: \_\_\_\_\_

联络电话: \_\_\_\_\_

小孩班名: \_\_\_\_\_

我/我们会出席共\_\_\_\_\_人

我会带食品分享

食品是: \_\_\_\_\_

## P&C

Hurstville Public School bags are now available for purchase at The Uniform Shop. There are three sizes available. We think they look fantastic. Also, the Uniform Shop is now selling Bucket hats which will provide even more protection from the sun.



### P&C Committee



## Public Speaking Competition

On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October, our school's Public Speaking Finalists competed in the highly competitive Georges River Network Public Speaking Competition which was held at Penshurst West Public School. Our school was represented by Leo from KC (Early Stage 1), Jonathan from 2C (Stage 1), Vanessa from 3/4C (Stage 2) and Ethan from 5I (Stage 3). They competed against students from other schools in the Georges River Network.

Prior to the Regional competition, these students competed against their class, their grade and finally their Stage. It was quite an achievement in itself for them to be the finalists at school level. Leading up to the Regional competition, the students continued to spend time practising their speeches and improving their skills in writing impromptu speeches so that they were well prepared. Each student's speech was excellent.

Congratulations to all four student finalists for the wonderful way in which you conducted yourselves and for being such outstanding public speakers!

### **BOXES OF LOVE**



*For a number of years our school has been involved in the Boxes Of Love Program. This is a humanitarian project that seeks to bring some joy to children who are affected by war, poverty, disease and natural disaster. Last year the whole Hurstville area community sent nearly 1000 gift boxes to children around the world. The Hurstville gift boxes came from families, local schools and civic organisations.*

*Many classes in the school have decided to be part of this worthwhile cause again. Our children learn that there are other children not as fortunate as themselves and that we can help to make their life a little happier in a small way.*

*Children are encouraged to bring in a donation of money to their class teacher which can be used to buy items for the boxes or for postage or NEW items that can be put directly into the boxes.*

*If your child's class is involved please give generously to make this a successful effort to help others.*





**Bexley PS is having a.....**

# **GREAT, HUGE, MEGA GARAGE SALE!!!!!!**

Apart from our own treasures, many of our families are setting up stalls on this day, so it is like 20 Garage Sales in one!

**When: Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October**

**Where: Bexley Public School  
330-354 Forest Road  
Bexley  
(Easiest Access via  
Frederick Street)**

**Time: 9:00am – 3:00pm**

Would you like to set up your own stall at our sale for \$20?

Then contact us at school on 9567 3501

**BBQ**

**JUMPING CASTLE**

**RAFFLE**



### NRMA Science & Road Safety Day

On **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October**, our school will be hosting an **NRMA Science & Road Safety Day**, a road safety program that will be delivered free of charge to our school by the National Roads & Motorists' Association with the aim of helping our students stay safe on the road.

This program involves students participating in road safety shows in the hall and completing road safety workbooks in the classroom to help reinforce important road safety messages.

The shows combine important **road safety message with science**. Messages such as "Wear a Seatbelt" have a greater impact when children have a stronger understanding of the forces they experience when travelling in a car and what could happen to them should the car stop suddenly in a crash. In the science show, a crash test dummy – an egg – memorably shows **children how a seatbelt works** to restrain passengers in a crash and more importantly **why a seatbelt must be worn** on each trip.

The program also teaches the students **how to correctly fit their bicycle helmet**. So, on the day of the program, we ask all students who have a bicycle helmet at home to **bring their helmet (not their bike) to school** to practise the correct way of wearing it.

**Parents play a vital role in keeping their children safe, and so we would like to invite you to come and watch the first show of the day to see what your children are learning and how you can reinforce these road safety messages at home.**

**The show starts at 9.05 am in the school hall and will finish at 9.55am.**

After the day, your child will be bringing home the NRMA road safety workbook they have completed in class, so please take the opportunity to speak to them about what they have learned and what they can do to help keep their friends and family safe.

**Within each workbook is a 4-page parent insert on child road and bike safety for you as a handy reference guide at home.**

# STORYTIME @ St Mark's

A fun weekly presentation of picture books, songs and literacy games

A themed, age appropriate program for pre-readers, specifically designed to lay the foundation of literacy and learning and language

When:

Weekly Tuesday from 10am-10.45am

Who:

For kids aged 2-5yrs and their caregivers

Where:

St Mark's Church hall, The Mall, South Hurstville

Weekly presenter - Rachel Greenwood: children's literature expert and regular forum presenter regarding children's literacy, committee member of Children's Book Council of Australia (NSW), and, Editor of the quarterly journal *All the BUZZ About BOOKS*.

**Come along and join in anytime during school term.**

For further information contact Rachel: [rachel@ladybugmusik.com.au](mailto:rachel@ladybugmusik.com.au)

A not-for-profit, community based program sponsored by St Mark's Anglican Church, South Hurstville.

