



## Newsletter

Date 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2014

Issue 4

### Halifax State School

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### Important dates

21<sup>st</sup> March – Gymnastics Program

28<sup>th</sup> March – Gymnastics Program

4<sup>th</sup> April – Gymnastics Program

4<sup>th</sup> April - End of Term 1

5<sup>th</sup> April – School holidays commence

18<sup>th</sup> April – Good Friday

21<sup>st</sup> April – Easter Monday

22<sup>nd</sup> April – Term 2 commences

25<sup>th</sup> April – ANZAC Day

### Absent Letters and phone calls

If your child or children are absent from School, for any reason, could you please make sure you notify us as to the absence (either before or after) by making a phone call, sending a note with the reason or emailing

[the.principal@halifaxss.eq.edu.au](mailto:the.principal@halifaxss.eq.edu.au).

Messages about absences due to illness, personal reasons, etc from School are important, as we need to ensure that our records are up to date.



## From The Principals Desk

Dear Parents

Fast Facts: What is bullying?

On the 21 of March our school will participate in “BULLYING NO WAY” day. Often in the past I have had discussions with parents over perceived bullying. Most of the conflicts that happen at school are not bullying. Schools are like large families and just like any family - conflicts arise. In families we call this sibling rivalry.

At Halifax State School like every other school we have a Responsible Behaviour Plan that outlines our processes for dealing with behaviours. Although I’m glad to say that we seldom have any problems, our students are very enthusiastic, knowledgeable and are like a family.

#### What is bullying?

The National Safe Schools Framework defines bullying as repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons. Cyberbullying refers to bullying through information and communication technologies, e.g. the internet or mobile devices. Conflicts or fights between equals and single incidents are not defined as bullying. Bullying of any form or for any reason can have long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders.

In short, bullying is a **repeated pattern** of harmful verbal, physical or social behaviour which involves the misuse of power. Cyberbullying is bullying through the internet or mobile devices.

#### Is every conflict between students bullying?

**Not all aggressive or harmful behaviour between people is bullying. While conflicts and aggressive behaviour need to be addressed, it is important to be clear when these behaviours are not actually bullying.**

The definition of bullying has three critical aspects - a repeated pattern, the misuse of power within relationships, and behaviour which causes harm; all three aspects need to be present in order for behaviour to be called bullying.

#### Why is the definition of bullying important?

A clear, comprehensive and shared definition is essential to enable schools to identify bullying, and distinguish it from other types of conflicts or violence, so that appropriate strategies and interventions can be used.

#### Social media - beware!

Lately there have been a host of litigations involving social media with parents, students and members of the community making accusations of bullying when in fact there was no bullying. Always be aware of the law before you publish anything on a social media website.

Food handler’s course.

If you are involved in any food handling the P and C have organised a Food Handlers Course, there are places for 8 participants. Contact our P and C President Angela Wigg [angelawigg@yahoo.com.au](mailto:angelawigg@yahoo.com.au).

The course is as follows: **Cost:** Free **Venue:** Hinchinbrook Shire Council Building  
**Number needed:** minimum of 8 **Date:** Thurs, 24th April, 2014 **Time:** 4-6pm  
**Donald Pritchard**

## What are we up to

### P to 2

We are always busy in the P-3 classroom. In English we are investigating persuasion and identifying high modality verbs in picture books. Maths sees us connecting names, numerals and quantities, and partitioning numbers in various ways. In Science students identify that living things have basic needs including food and water; and have a variety of external features. They describe how living things change as they grow. Students understand that the needs of living things are met in the different places in which they live and suggest actions to improve the health of a habitat for living things. In History we look at the impact of changing technology on people's lives (at home and in the ways they worked, travelled, communicated, and played in the past.



## What are we up to

### 3 to 7

What we are doing in English from the National Curriculum

- Understand how noun groups/phrases and adjective groups/phrases can be expanded in a variety of ways to provide a fuller description of the person, place, thing or idea (ACELA1508)
- Understand how to use banks of known words, as well as word origins, prefixes and suffixes, to learn and spell new words (ACELA1513)
- Understand the difference between main and subordinate clauses and that a complex sentence involves at least one subordinate clause (ACELA1507)

Language for interaction

- Understand how to move beyond making bare assertions and take account of differing perspectives and points of view (ACELA1502)
- Text structure and organisation
- Understand that the starting point of a sentence gives prominence to the message in the text and allows for prediction of how the text will unfold (ACELA1505)

## Recent events

### New Faces for Halifax State School

We would like to welcome three new people to the school this week. We have Rae O'Sullivan who was transferred as a Teacher Aide to the school and Michael and Kurtis Cassady who will be Year 4 and Year 1 respectively. We extend a warm welcome to them and their families and we know they will enjoy Halifax State School friendly and supportive environment.



### Students Enjoying Their Time at Halifax State School!



**P & C Meeting**—The **P & C Annual General Meeting will be on next Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2014 at 3.30pm.** We are encouraging all parents to attend and consider nominating for a position. All positions are vacant so please consider working closely with our school towards building a stronger school community where all children benefit.

**Tuckshop Roster**— Tuckshop roster for Term 1 is below

Date	Workers	Baker
18 <sup>th</sup> March	Jan Marinoni Josie Barrett	Angela Wigg
25 <sup>th</sup> March	Deb Marsden Jasmine Pearce	Kim Lake
1 <sup>st</sup> April	Michelle Thompson Jan Marinoni	Dallas Mallett



Queensland Government



**TEACHER AIDE – TA002**  
**2 Permanent Positions**  
**1 x 13 hours per week**  
**1 x 18 hours per week**

Applications are invited for the positions of permanent/part time Teacher Aides at Halifax State School.

An application package including the Selection Criteria is available for collection from Halifax State School, 17 Victoria Terrace, Halifax. To request an application package or for further information, please contact Donald Pritchard, Acting Principal. Prospective employees are required to make application for and be able to obtain a suitability card from the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian.

**Applications for the position close on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2014 and should be addressed and forwarded to:**

Donald Pritchard – Acting Principal  
 Halifax State School