



## Newsletter

Date 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2013

Issue 18

### Halifax State School

17 Victoria Terrace

Halifax QLD

4850

P: (07) 47777132

F: (07) 47777389

E: [admin@halifaxss.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@halifaxss.eq.edu.au)

### Important dates

27<sup>th</sup> November – School Swimming

28<sup>th</sup> November – City/Country Swimming  
Carnival

30<sup>th</sup> November - Halifax State School P&C  
Fundraiser – Tupperware and Body Shop  
Party

3<sup>rd</sup> December – Christmas Carols in Halifax

9<sup>th</sup> December – Yr 6&7 Ready. Set, Go, Day ISHS

10<sup>th</sup> December – School Awards night

12<sup>th</sup> December – Yr 7 End of Year  
Celebration

13<sup>th</sup> December – Final Day of School

### 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

I must stress that Education Queensland's every day counts strategy is highly important. As a principal it is my legal responsibility to follow up on students that do not attend school- as everything is electronically reported. The process involves an informal meeting with parents on the first occasion, should a student be truant again then a formal letter and meeting occurs, should a student be truant again then the matter is followed up strongly with possible court action and fines. Students cannot stay home other than being ill, or attending significant events eg funerals. Staying home because "it's your birthday" or "I don't want to go to school" is definitely prohibited. If your child needs to stay home please contact the school by 9am on the day and provide a letter the following day.

### School Opinion Surveys

The school opinion surveys have been released and I am proud to say that we have done extremely well in most areas. Students have given a 100% in "strongly satisfied" in all areas of the survey. Staffs have given 100% in "strongly satisfied" in all areas except work life balance (understandable considering the amount of nights and weekends teachers dedicate towards improving student outcomes). Parents too have given a 100% in "strongly satisfied" in almost every survey question.

### NAPLAN

NAPLAN results have been released and I am proud to say we have done very well. Our students have improved greatly with a number of students in the top two bands. In diagnosing the data we can celebrate the success of students distance travelled between the tests. In 2014 and into the future NAPLAN results will be extremely important for school and student development.

### Halifax Carols Tuesday 3 December 2013

Start time: Assemble at 5.00pm Macrossan Street for procession (5.30pm) behind Fire Truck (Santa) to Lower Herbert Community Hall, Argaeet Street, Halifax.

Est. End: 9.00pm

Food Drinks sold: BBQ by Lower Herbert Halifax Lions drinks by Halifax Progress & blue Light Lower Herbert

School choirs and guest Artists throughout the night.

DJ providing sound and music.

Santa visits with lollies for kids.

Proposed event outside Hall weather permitting however plan B to go inside hall.

### myFamilyLaw

myFamilyLaw is a free family law app where you can submit your family law query to a real family lawyer in your State in Australia.

Also find information about divorce, property settlement, parenting arrangements, child support, family violence and your financial future.

You can also use myFamilyLaw to find and connect with family law professionals, view inspiring motivational quotes and attend family activities listed in myFamilyLaw Events.

[myfamilylaw.net.au](http://myfamilylaw.net.au)

Regards

Donald Pritchard

## Desks and Electronics to Give Away

The school has some items to give away. The items have no warranty and nothing is implied. It will be a first in, first choice situation.

Items are -

- 3 x Students desks
- 2 x Apple iPods
- 2 x iPod Nanos

## Book Lists for 2014

Halifax Newsagency is requesting that any families wanting to purchase books for 2014 should hand their lists in before Christmas to allow time for ordering. The books will not have to be paid for until they are collected in the new year. Booklists are being sent home today.

## What are we up to

### 4 to 7

#### 4/5/6/7 Camp

On the 19 of November 2013 our year's 4-7 class combined with Trebonnes year's 4-7 class headed off to Mungalli Falls. After approximately 3 hours on a bus, stopping once for lunch on the way, we arrived at beautiful Mungalli Falls.

We met Matt the owner of Mungalli Falls who told us that the next 4 days were going to be very exciting. We met a very nice Canadian instructor called Jess. The very first activity we did that day was archery. We found that some of our fellow campers were quite good at it. We had our showers and headed down to beautiful restaurant with such an exquisite view. We Had lasagne and ice-cream for desert. That night we had so much fun and we met some new friends.

The next day we met James and Naomi, who were both from England, we did orienteering with them. Later that afternoon we went to The Crystal caves in Atherton. We were able to touch any crystals that weren't behind a barrier. They then cracked a geode for us and we had a variety of crystals in our geode. That night we had tacos for dinner and ice-cream for dessert. We went down to the water fall to meet some very bright friends. We saw fire flies and glow worms.

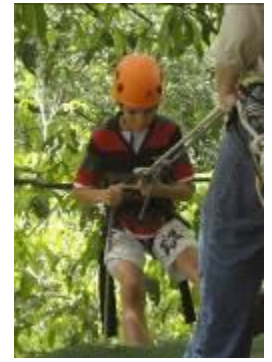
The next day we had the most interesting day including abseiling, an obstacle course and a landslide. We started with abseiling. Matt and Jamie were our instructors for abseiling starting with a very small rock although we went abseiling in Tinaroo this time it was different they used an upper belay system instead of a lower belay system. We then moved up to the place we were actually abseiling from. It was at least 15m high. Some of us were quite afraid but overcame our fears and conquered the wall. Later it started to rain and we headed down to the obstacle course. Naomi was our instructor. The obstacle course consisted of mud, mud and more mud. Crawling through it, swinging over it and running through it. Some of us ended up with some bumps and scratches yet were fine to go on the flying fox, some of us were even game enough to go backwards. We then went on the 110m waterslide called the landslide. Using helmets and mats we slid down the landslide. Some of us came off our mats. Some of us made enormous splashes and ear piercing screams but we all had fun. That night we had dinner and desert .we then played a game called the newspaper game and the yellow team were the victors.

The next day we cleaned up and packed our bags for the bus trip home. About half an hour into the trip we stopped at Paronella Park. Paronella Park was made according to José Paronella dreams. He had a vision in his head of the old Catalonian castles his grandmother told him about and his legacy was created. Paronella Park has taken quite a beating through the years but is still functioning with wonderful tour guides like ours Angie recreating the story of José Paronella's dream with our own Mrs Fuller telling us of some of the fun and excitement she had at Paronella Park when it was in its hay day. We completed the day with purchasing some souvenirs and getting a little piece of the castle to take home with us that came down in cyclone Larry in 2006.then after quite a few hours on the bus and a few people nodding off we got home and What an exciting week we had.

By  
Kate Burt

## Recent events

### School Camp



### P-3 School Swimming – Safety Day



**P & C Meeting**—The next **P & C General Meeting** will be on **Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2013 at 3.00pm**. All parents are invited to offer input into these meetings.

**Body Shop and Tupperware Party** –A reminder about the Halifax State School P&C Fundraiser – Tupperware and Body Shop Party to be held on the Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm.

**Tuckshop Roster**— Tuckshop roster for the final week of Tuckshop of Term 4 is below

Date	Workers	Baker
3rd December	Michelle Thompson Jan Marinoni	

## School Awards Night

**When** - Tuesday evening, 10<sup>th</sup> December

**Venue** - Halifax State School

**Time** - 5.30pm onwards

P&C will hold a BBQ

Students free

Note with more details to be sent home soon



## Kids Craft & Learn To Sew Classes

Kids craft and learning to sew classes will be held in the Christmas/School holidays at the QCWA Hall, Halifax for all children in prep to year 7.

The dates are Monday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December and the 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> of January and finishing on Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> of January.

The classes will start at 9am and finish at 11:30am.

The cost will be \$5 per child.

A free morning tea is provided.

Bookings are preferred. Please contact Lyn on 0427572101.

Hope to see you there

