



## Newsletter

Date 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2014

Issue 1

### Halifax State School

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### Important dates

14<sup>th</sup> February – Visit by NQ Cowboys

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

Welcome back. I hope all our students and parents had a wonderful, happy and enjoyable break. I am looking forward to another exciting year in this fantastic school. We achieved so much last year and have high expectations for this year.

On Friday afternoon in accordance with our school documents we had an election for student official positions. Congratulations to our new school leaders; School Captain: Oliver, School Vice-Captain: Dylan, Emu House Captain: Erin, Kangaroo House Captain: Trenyce  
Student Officials will be presented with their badges at our meet and greet night (yet to be finalised).

**Schools App** - Please make sure you have downloaded the schools app to your smart phone it keeps you in touch with the latest news.

**NAPLAN** - This year sees a key focus of all schools in our region on improving reading and writing. Improvements will be judged on our NAPLAN results. At Halifax we have developed Literacy block and Numeracy blocks in an effort to increase student abilities in numeracy and literacy.

**Parent helpers** - We are looking for parents to help with reading groups that will begin shortly. If you are interested please contact the school. I am hoping we can begin this process next week.

**Attendance** - 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.

**How can I help my child to be successful?** - A question all of us parents ask. These are some of the simple everyday things you can do. Get your child to

- Read a chapter or book, the tv guide, recipes, newsletters, advertising materials, traffic signs aloud to you.
- Make up the weekly menu and shopping list.
- Use a calculator to add up the shopping.
- Be involved in spelling each night do a spelling test with the weekly spelling list and watch them improve. Each time they spell a word incorrectly have them write out the correct spelling using write cover check.
- Set high expectations

Regards  
Donald Pritchard

## What are we up to

### P to 3

We are currently working on identifying emotions and feelings in picture books and working on simple and compound sentences. In Maths we are looking at knowing the days of the week and months of the year in order.

The past, present and future is the focus of our History Unit and Living and Non Living is the key focus in Science.

Reading plays a very big part in all KLAs and the students are engaged in reading activities every day.

Homework begins this week. Students were given out their homework on Monday to be returned each Friday. Reading books are also sent home each week. Please make sure you read with your child each night as this will be very beneficial for them.

Thank-you for your co-operation.



## What are we up to

### 4 to 7

This week in **English** we are learning about characterisation, plot and writing narratives.

What we are learning this week in **Maths**

#### **Year 3 and 4**

Make connections between days, weeks and months.  
Use a calendar to plan personal events.

#### **Year 5**

Revise multiplication and division fact families.

#### **Year 6 and 7**

Students will compare and order fractions with related denominators on a number line.

In science we are learning about adaptations

## Recent events

### New Students

We would like to welcome our 3 new students and their families. We have Rhys Bairstow and Connor Thompson starting Prep and Tess Hinschen continuing her schooling in Year 4.



### Appointment of School Leaders

Students wishing to fill student leader positions presented speeches on Friday before all the students and staff voted. After a very close finish between all candidates the following students were successful. School Captain- Oliver Putzka, School Vice Captain – Dylan Marinoni, School House Captains – Kangaroo – Trenyce Pearce, Emu – Erin Begg. **CONGRATULATIONS.**



**P & C Meeting**—A P & C General Meeting will be on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 at 3.30pm. All parents are invited to offer input into these meetings.

**P & C AGM** – This meeting will be scheduled for March and 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
4 <sup>th</sup> February	Jasmine Pearce Jan Marinoni	Amanda Marinoni
11 <sup>th</sup> February	Michelle Thompson Louise Jones	Kim Lake
18 <sup>th</sup> February	Karen Burt Deb Marsden	Dallas Mallet
25 <sup>th</sup> February	Jan Marinoni Josie Barrett	Prachern Morley
4 <sup>th</sup> March	Michelle Thompson Jasmine Pearce	Davina Hamper
11 <sup>th</sup> March	Louise Jones Karen Burt	Karen Burt
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