



Newsletter

Date 1 March, 2016

Issue 2

Halifax State School

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Important dates

18th March – National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence

21st March – Harmony Day

24th March – Last Day Term 1

25th March – Good Friday

28th March – Easter Monday

11th April – First Day Term 2

25th April – ANZAC Day

Our School Rules

- Courtesy
- Cooperation
- Commitment
- Consideration

THIS WEEKS FOCUS

YCDI – Persistence

SCHOOL RULE: Commitment

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. 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.

Attendance

Attendance target 98% Currently sitting at 97 %



From The Principals Desk

Dear Parents

Miss Spina is ill and will not be with us for the remainder of the term. We wish Miss Spina a quick recovery. In her place we welcome Mrs Wilson for Mondays and Tuesdays. A replacement for remaining days is still to be confirmed.

We have purchased our robots and over the course of the year we will introduce **robotics** and programing to the whole school, including preps.

New **healthy tuck-shop** guidelines have been introduced and we are aligning our tuck-shop menu to reflect the changes and to maintain our Green Apple Status!

Our **Canberra trip** planning is well on its way and I would like to thank Mrs. Thompson for all her hard work in organizing the curriculum-based excursion.

Closing the Gap

Students will take part in the 10th annual National Close the Gap Day on 17 March, to learn about the gap in health outcomes and how we can close it together. Health equality is everyone's business, and we must continue to work together to ensure Indigenous health equality becomes a reality by 2030. Young people are at the forefront of this movement for change — they can see it's their generation that is critical to maintaining momentum and creating long-awaited change.

Visit www.oxfam.org.au/ctgschools for more information.

New Autism Hub and Reading Centre open

The **Autism Hub** and **Reading Centre** located in Woolloongabba, Brisbane are now available to provide resources, training and advice to parents and schools state wide. The new Autism Hub will work in collaboration with existing state and non-government services, and a network of regionally based autism coaches, to help improve engagement and academic achievement of students with autism. The Reading Centre will provide specialist reading advice to parents and teachers, including strategies for teaching children with dyslexia.

Our school says 'Bullying. No Way!' on the National Day of Action

On Friday 18 March, our school will be taking a stand together on the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence. The National Day is an annual event for Australian schools where school communities across the nation stand as one against bullying and violence. Halifax State School is dedicated to creating safe and supportive school environments, free from bullying, harassment and violence.

Together, we can send clear messages to young people that bullying and violence, in or outside the classroom, are not okay at any time. At our school we have a number of programs in place that counter bullying. These include:

- *Program Achieve: You Can Do It*

We will keep you informed about our plans and activities to celebrate the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence on Friday 18 March. Please note the date in your diaries.



Donald Pritchard

READING

Reading Centre

The Reading Centre champions reading as an essential life skill and a rewarding pastime. It provides specialist advice to educators and parents on how to teach reading and support readers, including strategies for students with dyslexia.

We want all Queensland children - from infants to 18 year-olds - to value reading and appreciate the lifelong benefits of being effective readers.

The Reading Centre partners with stakeholders to identify priorities and draws upon the best available evidence to offer a range of resources, services and initiatives.

Reading experts operate from the Reading Centre in Woolloongabba, Brisbane. working throughout the state, they offer face-to-face and online support to:

- educators through differentiated programs of professional learning
- parents, families and local communities as they make reading a highlight of their children's lives.

View the [Reading Centre Fact Sheet](#)  79K for more information about the Reading Centre.

Recent events

New Students

Welcome to Calan and Kurtis



Herbert River Football Rep

Congratulations to Callum on making the Herbert River Schools U12 Football team.

Callum will play against teams from Townsville, Thuringowa, Charters Towers, Burdekin and Whitsunday on the 17th and 18th April in Townsville in an attempt to make the North Queensland Team. Good Luck Callum!

Fun Day

Last Monday students enjoyed a fun day at school consisting of a slip and slide, face painting, t shirt painting, games, movies and craft activities. All students enjoyed themselves and it was a great way to welcome our newcomers.



Tuckshop – Roster for remainder of Term 1 is as follows

| Date | Workers | Baker |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| 7 th March | Louise Jones Michelle Thompson | Davina Hamper |
| 14 th March | Louise Jones Raylene Eveleigh | Raylene Eveleigh |
| 21 st March | Louise Jones Jimmy Thompson | Angela Wigg |

Harmony Day

Harmony Day is held each year to celebrate our cultural diversity. The message of Harmony Day is **everyone belongs** and this year’s theme is ‘our diversity is our strength.

This year three key areas are being focussed on –

- Coming together to celebrate our cultural diversity
- Sharing the economic benefits of our productive diversity
- Highlighting how innovation in a multicultural Australia contributes to our shared future

This will be celebrated on a day in the last week of school. Students are invited to bring along a plate of food originating from another country to share on the day. More details will provided closer to the day.

Lawn Mowing Tender

Tenders are being called for the mowing and brushcutting of the Halifax School Grounds – including the Pre-School grounds. Quotes are to be submitted to the school by Friday, 11th March. Must have own equipment and ABN Number. `

Enquiries can be made by contacting Donald Pritchard on 47777132.

