Dear Parents

Welcome the start of another great year. I hope that everyone had a very relaxing holiday and we're already to learn once again.

The HSS staff would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents/carers for making the start of 2015 our best ever.

We thank you for:
• Having your children in our uniform. Hat, black shorts, school shirt was heart-warming.
• Having children’s book requirements here on Day 1 so they were able to start engaging in learning.
• Having student at school ready to learn by 8.45am
• Please remember to get headsets for Italian, they are essential

PRACTICE
At Halifax State School we have adopted the philosophy of daily practice, as opposed to daily homework tasks. Students have access to online learning sites fully funded by the school, these include ZOOWHIZ, Study ladder, and mathletics. These sites act as a resource to support families with the daily practice. Practice helps students to remember and practice the newly acquired skills such as maths tables, spelling, phonics and reading for pleasure. Each night students have spelling, tables and Reading Improvement Booklet to help students become successful.

Practice is:
• appropriate for the ability of each student
• allows time for other commitments such as sports practice, dance practice and home responsibilities.

Parents can help by:
• taking an interest in your child’s work
• supporting your child by setting aside time each day
• providing a dedicated workspace
• encouraging your child to read and take an interest in current events.

STUDENT PERSONAL DETAILS
It is extremely important that student personal details such as contact telephone numbers are correct and yourself and/or someone else can be contacted if your child is unwell or needing medical attention.

It is also very important that we are aware of all medical conditions.

Please contact the office on 47777132 to make any relevant changes to your child’s details.

NAPLAN and Reading Volunteers
We’re currently looking for anyone that can help us with NAPLAN preparation and reading. If you have time please contact one of the teachers and let us know that you would be available. Your help is essential to the success of our students and maintaining and increasing students reading levels.

Have a great week of learning

Donald Pritchard
Recent events

Welcome Back
Students enjoyed their first weeks back at Halifax State School. The school has welcomed 5 Preps, Chloe, Sienna, Bridie, Gabe and John and 3 other students, Kyah, Jamarl and Charity.

150th Anniversary of Queensland Rail
The Year 5 and 6 students were invited by the Hinchinbrook Shire Council to ride on Queensland Rail’s beautifully preserved steam locomotive hauling a set of historic wooden carriages. The occasion is celebration 150 years of continuous operation within the state. Along with students from other schools and fellow community members, the children got to travel on the train to and from Pomel Station near Helen’s Hill.
P & C News

P & C Meeting— Next General Meeting is Tuesday, 17th February, 3.30pm at the Halifax Community Centre. The committee will be looking for some new members to take up positions at the future AGM so come along to this meeting and learn how you can be an active part of your child’s schooling.

Tuckshop Roster— Tuckshop roster for Term 1 is below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Workers</th>
<th>Baker</th>
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<tr>
<td>16th February</td>
<td>Louise Jones</td>
<td>Dallas Mallett</td>
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<td>Amanda Steven</td>
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<td>23rd February</td>
<td>Louise Jones</td>
<td>Angela Wigg</td>
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<td>Josie Barrett</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd March</td>
<td>Michelle Thompson</td>
<td>Prachern Morely</td>
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<td>Raylene Eveleigh</td>
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<td>9th March</td>
<td>Louise Jones</td>
<td>Davina Hamper</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jan Marinoni</td>
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<td>16th March</td>
<td>Louise Jones</td>
<td>Kim Lake</td>
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Are you a scientist, IT professional or an engineer? Would you enjoy inspiring teachers and students in science, maths or information technology? Would you like to become a volunteer scientist, mathematician or IT professional?

We’re looking for scientists, mathematicians, engineers or IT professionals who are interested in working with staff and students – it would be great to have someone from our local community.

Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools use a broad definition of ‘scientist’ which includes professionals working in a science, maths, IT or engineering-related area, encompassing research and applied scientists, technologists and engineers, medical and allied health professionals and mathematicians.

There are no fixed hours – it’s up to you and the teacher to decide how you can contribute.

Register or find out more information online at [www.scientistsinschools.edu.au](http://www.scientistsinschools.edu.au)

Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools is an Australian Government initiative, managed by CSIRO Education and Outreach.

If you’d like to contact the Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools in your region, they’re on 47538635 or email them at [sis.nqld@csiro.au](mailto:sis.nqld@csiro.au).
CHOW WING KUNE DO
KUNG FU ACADEMY
AUSTRALIA

Learn this popular Chinese Mixed Martial Art system based on Kung Fu styles. The art with strict philosophy and discipline.

Training times and venues:

- Ingham - Lourdes Convent School
  - Monday 6:30PM to 8:00PM (Ladies KickFit)
  - Tuesday 6:30PM to 8:00PM
  - Thursday 6:30PM to 8:00PM
- Halifax - PCYC Hall
  - Monday 6:30PM to 7:30PM
  - Wednesday 6:30PM to 7:30PM

Local 6°, 2° and 1° degree Black Belt Instructors specialising in:

- High emphasis of Kung Fu Systems
- Street Defence Techniques
- Ladies Kick Fit and Self-Defence
- Strength and Cardio training in line with Cross Fit and Boot Camps
- Skills and techniques with twin sticks, swords, staff and many more

For more information, call:

- Carl – 0407 873 317 (Ingham)
- Peter – 0403 499 452 (Townsville)