



Newsletter

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Issue 5

Halifax State School

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Important dates

12th, 13th, 14th May – NAPLAN Testing

18th May – HR Child Injury Prevention Day (P-2)

21st May – High School Experience Day (Yr 6)

Our School Rules

- Courtesy
- Cooperation
- Commitment
- Consideration

THIS WEEKS FOCUS

YCDI – Cooperation and Organisation

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

The little school with a big heart is participating in NAPLAN this week on Tuesday and Wednesday, and I wish all the students good luck. Remember to get a good nights sleep and protein for breakfast. Tuesday is English conventions and writing- Wednesday is Maths. Also a big thankyou to Amanda Steven who has volunteered her time to assist in the students' NAPLAN preparation.

I was an invited guest at John Livingston's funeral on Monday. It was a touching tribute to a great educationalist, he will be greatly missed by all of those whom knew him. On behalf of the Halifax community I provided condolences for his family.

Homework

A reminder that students have their Reading Improvement Booklets as a minimum practice for homework and that the school has paid for parents to use studyladder, and Mathletics at home. Parents that wish homework in a printed form (due to not having internet access) can come to the school and we will be happy to print off what homework you think is best for your circumstances. The school computers are available for use daily from 3pm to 3:30pm, daily.

Meetings with the principal; please be aware that I have a number of other engagements other than with the school. If you need to see me you **must** make a booking, so I can fit you in. I am aware some people get a bit impatient but I do have responsibilities to parents who book first, or to planned meetings with other agencies in the community.

Donald Pritchard

READING

10 Tips for grades 4 to 6 to help your child with reading

- **Keep reading with your child.** Kids are never too old to be read to—or let your kids read to you. Read a variety of material – magazines, newspapers, books, poems and comic books. Try cutting out or printing interesting or funny articles to share with them.
- **Public libraries today are worlds to explore so try and go regularly.** Your library has great resources – books, computer games, DVDs, CDs, magazines, newspapers and Internet access. There are also terrific in-house programs such as reading circles for little ones and homework clubs for older children. If you have access to a public library, talk to the librarian about what is available.
- **Read some of the same books as your child.** There are many books that are loved by people of all ages. Ask your librarian or child's teacher for suggestions. You can share your thoughts and ideas, and have great conversations about the characters, stories or topics.
- **Ask your children what they're reading.** Ask what it's about and what is most enjoyable about the book. Ask your child to describe it to you.
- **Tap into interests and hobbies.** Kids are more likely to read about what they find really interesting, like sports or crafts.
- Don't worry if it's a comic book, magazine or an illustrated novel, just remember all reading is good and tastes will change as they get older. When you go to the library, let them choose their own books.
- **Find books that relate to TV shows.** Let's face it, TV and video games are part of life now and our kids benefit when we help them learn how to think about these messages too. We also know that some kids find TV and video games fascinating. You can use this to your advantage—introduce them to books or magazines that relate to their favourite shows, movies or games.
- **Encourage your older kids to read to younger kids.** The older child will practice reading out loud and the younger child will enjoy being read to. Best of all, they get to enjoy spending time together.
- **Play games together.** Trivia games and board games such as *Junior Trivial Pursuit*® or *Junior Scrabble*® can be a fun way to learn about words and reading. Children have such a good time playing they don't realize they are learning.
- **Computers can be reading zones too!** Though we all feel that kids may spend too much time on the computer, there are some great games that help kids with reading and allow them to create their own stories and books. Look for "parent approved" on the box in stores and in the library.
- **Give praise.** The best motivation comes from your positive feedback. Whenever your child finishes a reading or writing assignment, ask about what was read and praise your child's effort.

This week's Behavioural Article

Tip: 5 Effective Ways to Build Your Child's Self Esteem

By [BellyBelly](#) / May 28, 2014

Our self-esteem affects just about every aspect of our lives, from how we relate to other people to the way we handle stressful situations. Healthy self-esteem means having confidence in our own abilities and a strong sense of self-worth, while poor self-esteem usually means low confidence and lack of self-respect.

Positive self-esteem is essential for a healthy, happy and productive life and as parents, helping our children develop healthy self-esteem is one of the best things we can do to set them up for the future.

Why Is Healthy Self-Esteem So Important?

Self-esteem is your child's best defence against the challenges and setbacks that they will naturally have to deal with as they grow up. Children (and adults) who have healthy self-esteem are generally more confident, happier, cope better with stress and experience lower levels of anxiety and frustration than those with low self-esteem.

Building healthy self-esteem starts in infancy and by the time a person reaches adulthood, their ways of thinking about themselves are often deeply ingrained and difficult to change.

Here are ten simple things you can do to help build your child's self-esteem.

Self Esteem Builder #1: Praise your child for effort and completion of tasks, not just for the outcome Even if they don't succeed at something, you can still tell them you are proud of how hard they worked and how much they've improved.

Self Esteem Builder #2: Give your child responsibilities Successfully completing tasks gives children a sense of achievement. Letting them do things for themselves also shows them that you trust in their capabilities.

Self Esteem Builder #3: Be a good role model Avoid being overly self-critical or indulging in self-destructive behaviour in front of your children.

Self Esteem Builder #4: Give your child plenty of love and affection Letting them know they are safe and loved is one of the best ways you can build up a child's self-esteem.

Self Esteem Builder #5: Let them make decisions Allowing your child to make their own choices (where appropriate!) shows that you trust their judgement and gives them a sense of control over their environment.

What are we up to

P – 2

This week in Maths we have been doing **Location and transformation which means students are** identifying and describing pathways, giving and following movement directions and representing movement paths.

In English student have been identifying the parts of a simple sentence that represent ‘What’s happening?’, ‘Who or what is involved?’ and the surrounding circumstances. Year 2 have gone on to Identifying meaningful parts of compound sentences and creating spoken and written texts using compound sentences.



What are we up to

3 – 7

English: multimodal persuasive presentation

Maths: number facts

PE: athletics skills

Science: matter, gasses, solids and liquids

ARTS: music – clefs and staves

Geography: Landforms

Students of the Week

Congratulations to

Shila
Rhyan

Congratulations Trenyce on making the Herbert River Schools Touch Team to travel to Charters Towers in June.



Recent Events

District Cross Country

Our students once again did the school proud at the District Cross Country last Friday. With almost every student participating, Halifax State School gained **3rd placing in the Average Points Trophy** which was won by Mt Fox. Ella Garrigon again excelled winning the 7 yo Girls race in style. Great support was also offered by Trenyce Pearce who came 2nd in the 12yo Girls, Janae Pearce who came 4th in the 9 yo Girls and John Garrigon who also came 4th in the 5 yo boys. Top 15 finishes were also recorded by Liam Mallett (13th), Dustin Eveleigh (12th), Kurtis Cassady (14th), Gabriel Lake (12th) and Trinity Girone (14th).



P & C Meeting— The next **General Meeting** is **Thursday, 14th May, 3.00pm** at the Halifax Community Centre.

School Market – The school’s first market is this Saturday, 16th May. Any help would be appreciated.

Mothers Day Raffle - A big shout out to all the families that sold raffle tickets for our Mother’s Day Raffle! The P&C raised \$423!!! 1st Prize won by Andrew Botto, 2nd Prize Amanda Steven, 3rd Prize Andrew Botto.

Tuckshop – Roster for the remainder of Term 2

Date	Workers	Baker
4 th May	Louise Jones Jan Marinoni	Davina Hamper
11 th May	Louise Jones Amanda Steven	Kim Lake
18 th May	Louise Jones Josie Barrett	Raylene Eveleigh
25 th May	Michelle Thompson Raylene Eveleigh	Dallas Mallett
1 st June	Louise Jones Jan Marinoni	Angela Wigg
15 th June	Louise Jones Amanda Steven	Prachern Morley
22 nd June	Louise Jones Jim Thompson	Davina Hamper

Blue Light

Please be advised the Lower Herbert Blue Light Association will be holding its **Annual General Meeting** on **Tuesday 16th June 2015 at 3.30pm** in the **Blue Light Hall** (old preschool building) in Victoria Terrace. A general meeting will be held afterwards.

