



Newsletter

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Issue 6

Halifax State School

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Important dates

29th May – Yr 5,6 Lawn Bowls afternoon

6th June – Queens Birthday Public Holiday

10th June – Book Club Due

14th June – Bake Stall at Lucinda Markets

18th June – P&C Meeting

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

Once again the small school with a big heart has made a big impact. We have just been asked to have our tuckshop represented in federal government report and an article in a related magazine. This is a huge validation of the work our tireless volunteers do in the tuckshop and the introduction of a healthy enjoyable meal. Congrats.

Reading Improvement Booklet

Our key priority is reading and to help student achieve and become better readers we have a nightly reading program. Students unable to do this will be provided tutoring during lunchtimes. We are happy to give up our lunch times so students can achieve, be better readers and have better life choices.

Premiers Reading Challenge

Last year our school received a certificate of recognition for being one of the top schools throughout Queensland for participation and achievement in the Challenge. This year we have entered the competition again and students are expected to read nightly. Our state target is 20 books over the next two months. We Can Do It.

As the flu and cold season start to take hold please remember to let the school know if your child is going to be absent. Please make sure your contact details are current in case you need to be contacted.

Donald Pritchard

READING

Tips and Tools for Parents

10 Tips to help your child with reading

Tips for kindergarten to grade 3

- **Cuddle up and read.** Quiet times together are opportunities to bond...and read. The cuddling can be as important as the reading. Make it exciting: put some drama into your voice or let your child read every other page. As you go, explain any new words or ideas.
- **Public libraries today are worlds to explore so try to 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.
- **Make your kitchen part of your "reading zone".** Have fridge magnets available so children can start making words and short sentences.
- **Words are everywhere – take everyday opportunities to read with your child.** Your child's world is filled with words – on cereal boxes, street signs, stores, posters, subway ads, etc. Wherever you go, you can always find new words and point them out.
- **Games can be great learning tools.** Board games or card games such as word bingo or memory and rhyming cards can be a fun way to learn about words, letter sounds, and reading. They can help children realize how much fun learning can be. Check out your local school fair or second-hand stores for gently used games. You can even create your own by cutting out pictures, writing words on cards and getting you child to match them.
- **Computers are reader friendly too!** Though many worry that kids may spend too much time on the computer, there are some great games that help kids learn to read and allow them to create their own stories. Look for "parent approved" on the packaging in stores and in the library. Find some kid-friendly websites, like [TVOKids](#) and [Canadian Geoillustrated for Kids](#), that have games you can play along with your child.
- **Books make great gifts.** Ask family and friends to give a book instead of a toy as a gift. Make sure to tell them about your child's reading level and interests. To build up a home library find almost-new books at garage sales and school fairs.
- **Subscribe to a magazine.** There's no substitute for the excitement of receiving mail. Let your kids subscribe to their favourite age-appropriate magazine and watch their eyes light up with the arrival of each new issue. Great magazines for younger children include *Chirp*® and *Chickadee*®.
- **Be a reading role model.** When your kids see you reading, they will want to imitate you. It won't be long until they learn that reading is fun, interesting, and a "grown up" thing to do.
- **Keep books, magazines and newspapers handy.** Keep a box in the kitchen or living room for easy access.

This week's Behavioural Article

Continuing on our article about self esteem;

Self Esteem Builder #6: Spend time with your child

Carving out time to spend together shows your child you think they are a worthwhile person who is fun to be around.

Self Esteem Builder #7: Focus on the positive

Focus on the positive in their behaviour ... rather than emphasising what they didn't do well. For example, instead of criticising your child for screaming at their sibling, you could try praising them for using their words to communicate rather than hitting, before working on the issue at hand.

Self Esteem Builder #8: Let Your Child Lead The Play

When you play with your child, let them initiate and direct the game instead of always jumping in and taking over. This shows them that you think their ideas are valuable and interesting (even if in reality the tenth rendition of 'The Cat in the Hat' has you bored out of your mind).

Self Esteem Builder #9: Create A Wall Of Fame

It's a great idea to have a wall of fame or another place for your child to display their successes and achievements. This can be a great confidence booster and an injection of positive reinforcement if they are feeling a bit low.

Self Esteem Builder #10: Be Specific In Your Praise

Rather than just saying 'well done', hone in on what it was they did well and why that was good. Rather than saying, 'I am so proud of you!' all of the time, try saying, 'You should be so proud of yourself!' as this will teach them to approve of themselves rather than seek it from others. Of course, it's okay to tell your children you are proud of them, but making it more of a habit to say the latter can really support healthy self esteem. Healthy self-esteem isn't built in a day, or a year, it's an ongoing process of feeling capable, confident and achieving goals. By giving your child a safe and secure foundation and letting them take risks and learn for themselves you can help set them on the path to a future as a confident, happy adult. - See more at:

<http://www.bellybelly.com.au/child/effective-ways-to-build-your-childs-self-esteem/>

What are we up to

P – 2

In Science P-2 have been investigating the properties of different materials such as plastic, paper, foil, wool and wood. They have tested it for the weight it can hold and how easy it is to tear. Many interesting facts have been discovered about each material.

We also had a second visit from the local 'Firies' who showed the class the Fire Truck and let them have a go at using the Fire hose. Students have also learnt the importance of knowing the address where they live in the case they ever have to ring 000 for a home incident.



What are we up to

3 – 7

English: contrasting movies and books – the Lorex and Stormboy

Science: properties of materials

Maths: types of angles, maps and locations

Art: perception, depth and tones

Technology: making a bag for a purpose

Music: making music and exploring beat and rhythm

Congratulations Trenyce

Trenyce attended the NQ Soccer Trials recently and displayed some excellent skills to be named in the Possible/Probables game. This involves the top 25 players in the region, so well done Trenyce.



Lawn Bowls

Year 5 and 6 will be attending a Bowls afternoon at Macknade Bowls Club tomorrow, Friday, 29th May. Please see form attached and return tomorrow morning. Students require personal transport to the Club if possible.

Recent Events

Jamie Oliver Healthy Food Day

Our students participated in the Jamie Oliver Healthy food Day preparing Tacos.



P-2 Safety Day and Fire Station Visit

P-2 were invited to attend a safety day where the students learnt about general safety in different situations. The Halifax Fire Station 'Firies' also visited the school to provide further education on fire safety.



Arts Council

Our students travelled to Victoria Plantation SS to watch the Arts Council show 'Have You Ever Heard A Wombat Sing?'



P & C Meeting— The next **General Meeting is Thursday, 18th June, 3.00pm** at the Halifax Community Centre.

School Market – We will not be holding anymore School Markets for the year, due to lack of support by stallholders and the great majority cancelling last minute at our last market on the 16th May. We did however have a great turnout of market goers and managed to raise just over \$350 thanks to the bake sale and food sold on the day.

Lucinda Markets Bake and Craft Stall – We will be having a bake stall at the next Lucinda Markets held on Sunday 14.6.15. We would appreciate any of your yummy baked goodies bagged up and labelled with ingredients which can be dropped off at the Tuckshop on Friday the 12.6.15, or at the Halifax Hotel on Saturday 13.6.15. (See note attached)

Quiz Night - We are holding a quiz night at our school on the 15th August 2015 to raise money for our school so note this one in your calendar.

Tuckshop – Roster for the remainder of Term 2

Date	Workers	Baker
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.

