



## Newsletter

Date 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2015

Issue 3

### Halifax State School

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### Important dates

2<sup>nd</sup> April – Last Day Term 1

3<sup>rd</sup> April – Good Friday

5<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Sunday

6<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Monday

20<sup>th</sup> April – Term 2 Commences

8<sup>th</sup> May – District Cross Country

12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> May – NAPLAN Testing

### Our School Rules

- Courtesy
- Cooperation
- Commitment
- Consideration

### THIS WEEKS FOCUS

**YCDI – Revision of all**

**SCHOOL RULE: Revision of all**

### 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.

### Attendance

Attendance target 98% Currently sitting at 97 %



## From The Principals Desk

Dear Parents

Well it is the end of the term and it has gone very quickly. Students are completing their assessments, while the staff are preparing for next term. I wish everyone a safe and happy break.

### NAPLAN

Years 3 and 5 students will participate in the NAPLAN tests on May 12, 13, 14. It is very important that your child attends school on these days in order to complete the tests. On Friday 15 May any student who missed a test or part of a test will have the opportunity to do what they have missed. All students are expected to participate in the tests. However there are guidelines which allow for students with a disability to be exempt or to have special considerations if they would normally do so in school. These include extra time mainly. The only other option is for parents to request that the child be withdrawn for religious or philosophical reasons. However if you wish to withdraw your child you will need to see the classroom teacher and a form will be provided for you to complete.

### Volunteers

We still need volunteers to help NAPLAN prep and guided reading and athletics. If you can help please let us know.

### Bullying NO WAY

Last week, students engaged in activities to support "National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence" students watched a number of vignettes, had school discussions and made some posters. Something to think about "***Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that***". Martin Luther King, Jr.

Donald Pritchard

# READING

Be confident that your child will learn to read. Show that you enjoy reading by having lots of different reading material at home and by giving books as special presents. Children value reading through watching members of their family read and write every day. Encourage your child to read anytime, anywhere. Children often enjoy reading more if it is shared. Make time away from television and interruptions to read aloud with your child. Read in your home language if your first language is not English. Encourage your child to read by sharing such activities as:

- reading signs and posters
- following a street directory
- checking the television guide
- choosing a video
- using a recipe
- reading game rules
- reading the newspaper aloud together
- playing word games including crossword puzzles
- reading instructions
- looking at letterbox leaflets
- finding brands at the shops
- reading magazines, comics, poems and rhymes.

Listen to your child read every day. Here are some ideas to use now and then, but remember some reading should just be for pleasure:

- look at the cover, title, pictures and talk about what the book might be about
- talk about the story so far and what might happen next
- after reading, talk about the story and ask questions
- talk about the pictures and how they add meaning to the text
- take turns when reading a harder book.

Remember the three Ps for new words: pause, prompt, praise. That is, allow your child time to work out the word (pause), use clues taken from the context (prompt) and praise your child for trying. If necessary, however, simply tell your child the word. Talk to your child's classroom teacher or the principal for further help and advice.

## **This week's Behavioural Article**

Goal setting is one of the most important skills we can develop. Goal achievement leads to feelings of confidence and success. Goals must be achievable and rewardable. Start with a small goal you want to set right now. To make your goal S.M.A.R.T., it needs to conform to the following criteria: Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Timely. Start small and build your goals as your ability grows.

## What are we up to

### P - 2

P-2 has been finishing off assessments and work during this final week of term.



## What are we up to

### 3 - 7

**English:** multimodal persuasive presentation

**Maths:** number facts

**PE:** skipping skills

**Program Achieve focus:** Persistence

**Science:** Biology – life cycles

**ARTS:** visual arts – perspective

**Geography:** Landforms

**School rule focus:** Commitment

### Students of the Week

Congratulations to  
Trenyce  
Seth  
Gabriel

### Student joke of the week

There were two sugar mills, a little one and a big one.

What did the big sugar mill say to the small one?

You're too young to smoke!

From Seth

## Recent Events

### Lower Herbert Kindy Visit

The Lower Herbert Kindy children visited the school to participate in Holiday Activities. The students decorated hats, masks and bags and proudly paraded them.



### Congratulations

Congratulations to Trenyce Pearce on making the Herbert River U12 School Girls Football (Soccer) team. Trenyce will train with the team for 4 weeks before travelling to the Whitsundays to play teams from Charters Towers, Burdekin, Whitsundays, Townsville and Thuringowa and trial for NQ selection.



**P & C Meeting—** The next General Meeting is Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 3.00pm at the Halifax Community Centre.

**AGENDA FOR GENERAL MEETING:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> School Market 16.5.15
- Trivia Fundraising Night August

**Tuckshop –** There is no Tuckshop in the first week of next Term. Tuckshop will recommence on Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> April.



## Dental Forms

The School Dental Service is planning to provide Dental services to our school students in the near future. Please complete the attached forms and return to the school as soon as possible. This is a free service and is at our school so please make use of it if not using any other dental service.



## ANZAC Day Commemoration 2015

*Due to the ANZAC Day 100<sup>th</sup> Commemoration (100 years since the ANZAC landing at Gallipoli) occurring this year, the **Halifax and Ingham Parades will be combined.** Students will be asked to assemble on Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> April at 8.30am at Rotary Park, adjacent to the old*



*Barra Motors building in Herbert Street. The march will begin at 9am sharp. We would like to get as many students to march as possible on this special occasion and proudly represent the school. We will provide any extra details during the first week back at school.*

