Newsletter
Date 31st March, 2015
Issue 3

Halifax State School
17 Victoria Terrace, Halifax  QLD  4850
P: (07) 47777132
F: (07) 47777389
E: admin@halifaxss.eq.edu.au

Important dates
2nd April – Last Day Term 1
3rd April – Good Friday
5th April – Easter Sunday
6th April – Easter Monday
20th April – Term 2 Commences
8th May – District Cross Country
12th, 13th, 14th 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. 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 The only other option is for parents to request that the child be withdrawn for religious or philosophical reasons.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
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.

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 Thuringow and trial for NQ selection.
P & C Meeting— The next General Meeting is Thursday, 23rd April, 3.00pm at the Halifax Community Centre.

AGENDA FOR GENERAL MEETING:

- 1st 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, 27th 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 100th 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, 25th 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.