Buon Giorno From The Principal

Senior Camp
By now our Senior Students will be at Halls Gap beginning, what sounds like, a fantastic camp experience. They will be staying in tents and participating in a leadership development trail over three days. We look forward to hearing all about it when they return. The camp fits in beautifully with developing the IB Learner Profile in our senior students and is an important part of their learning this year.

Enrolments for 2013
I thought I would reassure parents that we do have places in Prep next year for families with children at our school and local families. Enrolments for next year are strong with a waiting list starting for Preps who live outside our area. This year we have 59 Prep students with three teachers and a program assistant. I would like to thank Parents Club for their support of our new families through transition packs, the welcome lunch and general transition support. I have included a link to a transition survey for all families if you could complete it online http://bit.ly/x0E02m it will help us to improve our transitions across the school. If you completed this last year please feel free to add comments that relate to this year.

Staff
We have a new leadership structure in the school. This has two purposes; one to aid in communication across the school and two to develop leaders of the future. Each team has a leader and this leader also has responsibility for an area of learning. These positions were filled through expressions of interest and the leaders meet with the principal team on a weekly basis. We have Elisabeth Curtis-Short as the Prep Team Leader with responsibility for Student Teachers, Lisa Pecchiari as the Junior Team Leader with responsibility for Literacy, Lauren Koerner as the Middle Team Leader with responsibility for Numeracy, Jenni Garland as the Senior Team Leader with responsibility for The Ultranet and Marie Diaz as the Oral Language Program Leader.

Information Forums
This week we have the Prep and Middle Parent Forum meetings and we look forward to meeting with parents and sharing information about our school.

Have a great week Tessa Calder
What did you like about your first day at school?

EVERYTHING!

I liked writing 'can'.

It was fun because we made new friends.

When we got to play with the balloons.

I like doing art.

I liked the second day because we did yummy maths and used the whiteboard.

Making lots of friends.

Playing in the Playground.
Pako Festa

It's the Year of the Dragon and the Pako Festa's 30th Birthday! So how appropriate that Highton Primary School are parading their Chinese dragon in the Pako Festa. We will also carry two large signs about Highton Primary International Baccalaureate School and the 10 Learner Profile flags. We'll need lots of adults to help with that. Also, how much fun for the students to be part of this community event.

The Pako Festa is on Saturday 25th of Feb, just a couple of weeks away. The parade is at 11am.

We hope that as many school families; Mums, Dads, Grandparents and kids, as possible can make it along to walk in the parade, dressed in International costumes (if possible). The children could bring simple musical instruments, such as shakers, tambourines or drums to play while parading.

If you are able to come along to join in the fun, parading as part of the Highton Primary School Community, please leave your names at the office.

On the day, we'll meet at 10am at the northern end of Pakington St. Hope to see you there!

Kind Regards, Pako Festa H.P.S. organisers - Jacqui Bennett and Carlo De Mori

Trivia Night

A Trivia Night is being held this year as Parents Club’s major fundraiser. We held this event two years ago and raised over $13,000 for new school resources. We need many hands to make this event a success again. All people interested in helping with the Trivia Night are welcome to attend a meeting in our school staffroom at 9am on Monday February 20th. New faces and ideas most welcome.

Student Banking

Student Banking will commence Thursday 23rd February. Please take bank books to the office each Wednesday ready for the Student Banking Coordinators to process to the Commonwealth Bank first thing Thursday Mornings. Bank books will be returned back to the classroom to be handed to the student. The token system will be continued again this year. We will have more information about the tokens, in the newsletter in the next few weeks. Please keep your tokens in a safe place at home!

To all new families: In due course we will be sending home a pack from the Commonwealth Bank with instructions of how to open an account for your child. Once received if you have any queries regarding the information pack or the Student Banking Process, please leave your name, phone number or email details at the office and we will contact you.

We look forward to another great year of savings with all of the students involved.

Leesa and Carolyn
Student Banking Coordinators
Welcome

All families and staff are invited along to our welcome picnic on Friday March 2nd from 5.30pm on the school oval.
B.Y.O. picnic, drinks, rugs etc….
Bring your skills for the gumboot toss, hoola-hoop competition, egg and spoon races and maybe more. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Community News

- **Highton Dance Academy** - Costumes Supplied, 52414815 or 0414434815
- **The Healing Web Café** - Mainly Vegetarian, 229 Roslyn Rd Highton 52416601
- **Aussie Hoops** - 8 week program 52771388 or cortney@basketballgeelong.com.au
- **Swimming Lessons** - The Handbury Centre or anita.h2o@hotmail.com
- **Clean Up Australia** - Sat 3/2/2012 9-11 Highton Primary School
  Sun4/2/2012 9-11 Tim Hill Reserve Wandana Heights
- **Southern Cross Cultural Exchange** - Seeking host families for International exchange students go to [www.scce.com.au](http://www.scce.com.au) or Phone 1800 500 501
- **Amateurs Football Club** - Auskick Rego day Fri 30/03/2011 5-6 pm
- **South Barwon Football Club** - Registration Day Mon 20/02/2012 6.30-8.00pm
- **Come & Try Hockey** - Newtown Hockey Club. Starting 26/02/12 9-10am
  [www.newtownhockeyclub.com.au](http://www.newtownhockeyclub.com.au) or Ph Claire 0417015130

Belmont High School

Select Entry Accelerated Learning Program (SEALP). Belmont High School will be holding a SEALP information evening (for 2013 year 7 intake) on Tuesday 27th March at 7pm (tours of the school between 6pm and 7pm). 2013 Applications close Monday April 30th 2012.
Testing Fri 4th May or Sat 5th May 2012.
Interviews 14th-15th May 2012.
For further information contact Mr Lesley Goode 52435355.

Mothers Day

Parents Club are holding a meeting on Tuesday 21st. at 2.30pm. This meeting is to gather ideas for the Mothers Day stall to be held the week before Mothers Day. All new faces and input are welcome.

Welcome

All families and staff are invited along to our welcome picnic on Friday March 2nd from 5.30pm on the school oval.
B.Y.O. picnic, drinks, rugs etc….
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Insurance

Please note students are not insured by the school or Education Department for accident or injury costs, this includes ambulance fees.

EMA

E.M.A. forms are available from the office for Health Care Card holders. If you have not yet completed a form please collect one from the school office and return before February 29th. No late applications can be accepted.

School Crossing

Please remember to stand behind the white line when waiting to cross at the School Crossing.
At Highton Primary School, we always appreciate any extra pair of helping hands in the classroom, at all levels of the school.

If you are an experienced Classroom Helper, please see your child’s teacher with regard to making an appropriate time for you to assist the class.

If you are new to Classroom Helping, please come along to a series of 2 Classroom Helpers Sessions (approx. 1hr each with a date to be confirmed). These sessions will provide you with the knowledge and information you will need, so that you are familiar with classroom routines in both Literacy and Numeracy. These sessions will be held during school time, so that you may experience an authentic understanding of classroom activities and routines.

Whilst it is not an absolute requirement, we strongly encourage all volunteers who work in classrooms to attend the Classroom Helpers Sessions to enable them to provide the best possible help to students in our school. If you are new to classroom helping, or haven't done the course for a while and need a refresher, please contact Lisa Pecchiari at school and/or email your expression of interest and your details to:

pecchiari.lisa.l@edumail.vic.gov.au

Note: All Classroom Helpers are required to have a Working With Children Check. If you have one we will need a copy of your card. If you do not have one, the forms are available at the post office or at the school office. We will need a copy of your receipt for legal purposes.

Looking forward to meeting you.
Lisa Pecchiari

At the end of last year, teachers spent a planning day developing and finalising the Program of Inquiry for 2012. The document is now complete and available on our website under curriculum. The document is a whole school document that shows you what Units of Inquiry your child is doing and when. As we work on a two year cycle, apart from the prep year, which is a standalone program, the page with the specific dates at the bottom is the one we are working on this year. As with all programs, it is flexible and there may be a few small changes, but you will be informed by your child’s teacher if necessary. I hope you have some time to read through this document and collaborate with us to ensure rich ongoing learning for all of our students.

Thank you
Carly Stafford – Assistant Principal

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Thank you
Carly Stafford – Assistant Principal

Volunteers Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CANTEEN</th>
<th>SICK BAY WASHING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 AM—11.30</td>
<td>Allison Peters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alicia Morton</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30—1.45</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rose McKeown</td>
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Active After-school Communities Program
INFORMATION FOR HIGHTON P.S. PARENTS
The Active After-school Communities Program is an Australian Government funded initiative encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle for your children. The program runs for 7 weeks each term, is FREE and students will be provided with a healthy afternoon snack.

Term 1 2012.....

Mondays – Multi-sport
(basketball skills)
Presenter: Basketball Geelong
Start 13th February
End 5th March***(4 weeks)
3:30 - 4:45

Tuesdays – Tennis
Presenter:
Start 14th February
End 28 March
3:30 - 4:45

Mondays – 19th March and 26th March
***Parents need to transport their children to this activity
Presenter – Geelong Yacht Club
The aim of the Active After School Program is to give children the opportunity to try various sports they may not otherwise have a chance to try. We also aim to make links with various sporting clubs in the hope that children may join a club and have an ongoing involvement in sport.

With this in mind I am trying to organise 2 Monday afternoons sailing. This will be different to the normal program in that parents will need to transport children to the venue. In order to run these sessions I need to know that there are at least 15 children interested in taking part and that their parents can take them to Eastern Beach.

Should we not have sufficient numbers to run the sailing afternoons we will revert to the Multi-sport program for the 18th and 25th March. I will confirm in the second week of the program which option will run.

If you would like to join our program please complete the form below and return to the office as soon as possible. Children in all grade levels are welcome to join in either/both sessions.

To help us keep the program running smoothly please be sure to let us know if your child will not be attending on a particular night. A text is fine (0407 826504) or let the office know.

Thanks
Carolyn Hall
AASC Co-ordinator

I would like my child/ren …………………………………………………………to participate in the Active After School program on :

Monday – Sailing 19th and 26th March only
Yes I can transport my child/ren to Eastern Beach
Yes I can stay and help to supervise
I have arranged for my children to travel to Eastern Beach with…………………………………………
Contact#...........................

Tuesday – Tennis

(please indicate which days you require).

Parent name…………………………………………….Contact no…………………………

Signature…………………….. Date………………………..