Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Grandparent's Day was celebrated in style last week in spite of the torrential rain. It was wonderful to see so many grandparents and family members working alongside students in their classrooms and enjoying a taste of school life. The children get so much out of seeing their family at school, in their classrooms and sharing their learning and achievements. Huge thanks go to all our staff and most particularly to Mrs Tahnee Pike for all the work she put into organising and coordinating this special event.

On Thursday last week a group of talented Stage Three students headed to Belmont Court House to participate in the ‘Clued Up Kids’ Law Week competition. During this term our team, with the guidance of Mr Ross Burke, have been working with a set of clues and witness statements in order to solve a fictitious criminal case. The students created an amazing multimedia presentation that included green screen technology, a guest appearance by local law enforcement and a blooper reel. They performed extremely well and their efforts were very highly praised winning the Nicole Harvey Trophy as Runners Up.
Principal’s Report continued ...

As part of our involvement in the Premier’s Sporting Challenge, a group of our students participated last week in ‘Learning to Lead’ at Cardiff High School. As a student leadership event with a sporting basis, our students were led by senior high school students and introduced to a range of fun activities. It was a very full and enjoyable day that as well as building confidence, allowed our Stage Three students a taste of high school.

As many parents would already know, our school has been lucky enough to be able to introduce Game Training, a company who provide software and training for school students with an interest in computer gaming technology. Game Training are currently working with a group of our students teaching them how to write computer code and build a commercial grade 3D world from scratch. This is a great extra curricula opportunity and we are looking forward to seeing, and playing, the games our team creates.

On Monday it was the turn of our Boys’ Soccer team to emerge the winners from Round 3 of the State Soccer Knockout. Very able led by our coach Mrs Tahnee Pike, the team demonstrated the skill and sportsmanship that we are so proud of. The boys will progress to Round 4 early next term.

Yesterday our environmental group, the Hillsborough Harvesters, enjoyed a composting workshop with Simon from Lake Macquarie Council. Simon worked with students to set up a worm farm, teaching them the correct ways to care for the worms and how to compost effectively. We would like to thank Mrs Pike and the Lake Macquarie Council for organising this opportunity and eagerly anticipate the next harvest.

Worms, making our gardens grow
I also need to inform you that Pertussis [whooping cough] is present in our school community with several students diagnosed with the disease. I am informed by NSW Health that it is very prevalent in the Hunter area at the moment. If you have any concerns please contact your GP or NSW Health for more information [fact sheet included in this newsletter].

Finally, I would just like to acknowledge our deep sadness at the loss of our General Assistant, Mr Phil Simpson. Phil was a valued staff member here at Hillsborough; he took great pride in the school, most particularly in his work in our playgrounds. In his eight years at the school Phil made many friends on staff and he will be sorely missed.

Lucinda Farrell
Principal
## Canteen Roster

**TERM 2**

**THURSDAY & FRIDAY**

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<th>Thursday 28th May</th>
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**MERIT AWARDS**

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**Clued Up Kids**

Abbie, Jacob, Jono, Mady, Darcy & Abby

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**Library**

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**Australian Property Finance**

Planning your finance doesn’t have to be a daunting process. In fact, it shouldn’t be. Whether you’re buying your first home, looking to invest in property, or even searching for ways to reduce your mortgage, we have the people and the tools to help make it easy.

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3E loves art

3E's packaging project.
Meet Jimmy Junior, 3E's class pet.
Joshua Reed from 5R will be representing NSW in swimming at the Pacific School Games being held in Adelaide in November this year.

Please support Josh and the NSW team by buying some raffle tickets.

TICKETS $2 EACH

Available at the office

Good Luck Josh!

Prizes

1st Prize: 55” Samsung Full HD Smart 3D TV
2nd Prize: GoPro HD Hero4 Action Video Camera
3rd Prize: Apple IPad Mini 32GB Wi-Fi capable
4th Prize: Olympus TG-3 Waterproof Camera
5th Prize: Sony Noise Cancelling Headphones
School Banking is on MONDAY

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Movie $10.00
or
Movie / Popcorn / Drink $20.00
includes free raffle entry & music session

1.45pm - FREE Music Fun in Foyer
2.15pm - JOIN US FOR THE MOVIE & GET YOUR SMILE ON A STICK!

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KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE Online
Whooping Cough (Pertussis)

Last updated: 30 March 2015

What is whooping cough?
Whooping cough can be a life threatening infection in babies. Whooping cough in babies can lead to apnoea (pauses in normal breathing), pneumonia, feeding problems and weight loss, seizures, brain damage and, in some cases, death. Older children and adults can get whooping cough too and pass it on to babies.

What are the symptoms?
- Whooping cough usually begins like a cold with a blocked or runny nose, tiredness, mild fever and a cough.
- The cough gets worse and severe bouts of uncontrollable coughing can develop. Coughing bouts can be followed by vomiting, choking or taking a big gasping breath which causes a "whooping" sound. The cough can last for many weeks and can be worse at night.
- Some newborns may not cough at all but they can stop breathing and turn blue. Some babies have difficulties feeding and can choke or gag.
- Older children and adults may just have a cough that lasts for many weeks. They may not have the whoop.

How is it spread?
- Whooping cough is spread when an infectious person coughs bacteria into the air which can be inhaled by people nearby. If they are not treated early, people with whooping cough are infectious in the first three weeks of their illness.
- Whooping cough spreads easily through families, childcare centres and at school.

Who is at risk?
- Anyone can get whooping cough. People living in the same household as someone with whooping cough are especially at risk.
- Immunisation reduces the risk of infection but immunity fades over time. You can still get whooping cough even if you’ve been immunised.

How is it prevented?
Whooping cough vaccines provide good protection from infection but immunity fades which means that boosters are needed.

Immunisation for babies
- Babies need to be immunised at 2 months, 4 months and 6 months. The first dose can be given as early as 6 weeks of age.
- Getting your baby vaccinated on time gives them some protection when they are most at risk of severe illness.
- If your baby’s vaccines are overdue, see your GP now to catch up.
Immunisation for older children

- A whooping cough booster is needed at 4 years of age.
- Check if your child has been vaccinated. Look at their Blue Book, speak to your GP or ring the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register on 1800 653 809.
- A second whooping cough booster is given in high school through the NSW School-based Vaccination Program.

Immunisation for adults

A booster for adults is recommended for:

- Women who are in the third trimester of pregnancy, preferably at 28 weeks. Free vaccine is provided in NSW through GPs and hospital antenatal clinics.
- Other adult household members, grandparents and carers of infants under 12 months of age.
- Adults working with young children, especially health care and child care workers.

If you are a close contact of someone with whooping cough:

- If you have been exposed to someone with whooping cough early in their illness while they are infectious, watch out for symptoms and see your doctor if you get a new cough.
- Some babies and some pregnant women need antibiotics to prevent whooping cough infection if they have had significant contact with an infectious person.

How is it diagnosed?

Your doctor may ask about your symptoms and whether there you’ve had any contact with whooping cough. If your doctor thinks you have whooping cough, a swab from the back of the nose or throat can confirm the diagnosis.

How is it treated?

- Some babies may need treatment in hospital or in intensive care.
- Antibiotics are used to treat whooping cough in the early stages and can help prevent spreading whooping cough to others. People who are not treated early with the right antibiotics can spread the infection in the first 3 weeks of their illness. After 5 days of antibiotics, you are normally no longer infectious.
- The cough often continues for many weeks, despite antibiotics.

What is the public health response?

Doctors and laboratories must confidentially notify cases of pertussis to the local Public Health Unit. Public Health Unit staff can advise on the best way to stop further spread.

Infectious children are restricted from going to pre-school and school. Unimmunised contacts may be excluded from child care unless they take the special antibiotics.

Identify - Protect - Prevent


For further information please call your local Public Health Unit on 1300 066 055 or visit the New South Wales Health website [www.health.nsw.gov.au]