Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Hillsborough Public School is aiming high and achieving great results! What a productive week we have had at Hillsborough. Last Monday and Wednesday our large team of 34 students represented the school at the Zone Swimming carnival and did the school proud with their tremendous efforts and exemplary behaviour. It was also wonderful to see that 2 of our students will be representing the school and the zone at the Hunter Swimming Championships tomorrow. An outstanding achievement for Josh and Dyllan! We have also had Abbey representing our school at Zone Tennis Trials and next week Tom, Riley and Dylan will trial for Zone Soccer.

Once again, thank you to Ben Pike, who is the jack of all trades and fixed our air conditioning throughout the week. I would like to also thank Brendan Cooper for offering to remove 2 trees for us. We now only need a small section of our courtyard concreted and someone handy to build us a wooden bench seat. If you can help out please let us know. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

This week I would like to acknowledge the extra work that Mrs Norton has been doing to ensure that our school is involved in the Premiers Reading Challenge. We all know that children's reading skills are important to their success in school and work. What we sometimes forget is that reading is also a fun and imaginative activity for children; an activity which opens doors to all kinds of new worlds and enables them to explore the unknown. Thank you Mrs Norton, for helping to inspire a love of reading in our students.

Quote of the Week
“Through literature I become a thousand people and yet remain myself” - CS Lewis

B. Thomas
Relieving Principal

Yr 6 Transition

We already know how fast the year is going and this was highlighted last week when I spoke with Cardiff High School about Year 6 - 7 transition. That’s right, it’s not that long until some of your babies will be heading off to the big wide world of high school! This year Cardiff HS has activities planned for each term, which will help to make the transition process much smoother for our students. The first activity will be an “Expo Day” on Wednesday 12th March. On this day Yr 6 students will attend Cardiff HS to experience some of the opportunities presented at high school by attending demonstration lessons in core subjects and different electives, as well as interact and socialise with their peers. As part of this day, parents of both Year 6 and Year 5 students are also invited to attend an evening information presentation at Cardiff HS from 7pm – 7.45pm.

Clean up Australia Day

Due to the rain last week Clean up Australia Day was postponed to this Friday 7 March, so please remember to bring your gloves and plastic bag this Friday.
Bullying

It is with great sadness that I have had some reports of bullying within the school and hence I would like to provide some information regarding bullying. The following is from the bullying no way website:

Fast Facts: Bullying in Schools
www.bullyingnoway.gov.au/resources

Bullying, No Way! is an initiative of all Australian education sectors working together to promote safe and supportive school communities.

What is bullying? The National Safe Schools Framework defines bullying as repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons. Cyberbullying refers to bullying through information and communication technologies, e.g. the internet or mobile devices. Conflicts or fights between equals and single incidents are not defined as bullying. Bullying of any form or for any reason can have long term effects on those involved, including bystanders.

In short, bullying is a repeated pattern of harmful verbal, physical or social behaviour which involves the misuse of power. Cyberbullying is bullying through the internet or mobile devices.

Is every conflict between students bullying?

Not all aggressive or harmful behaviour between people is bullying. While conflicts and aggressive behaviour need to be addressed, it is important to be clear when these behaviours are not actually bullying. The definition of bullying has three critical aspects a repeated pattern, the misuse of power within relationships, and behaviour which causes harm; all three aspects need to be present in order for behaviour to be called bullying.

What does the ‘misuse of power’ mean?

In a situation where there is a power imbalance, one person or group has a significant advantage over another, and if this power is misused, this enables them to coerce or mistreat another for their own ends. In a bullying situation this power imbalance may arise from the context (e.g. having others to back you up), from assets (e.g. access to a weapon) or from personal characteristics (e.g. being stronger, more articulate or more able to socially manipulate others).

Why is the definition of bullying important?

A clear, comprehensive and shared definition is essential to enable schools to identify bullying, and distinguish it from other types of conflicts or violence, so that appropriate strategies and interventions can be used.

How is bullying different from violence, harassment and discrimination?

The critical feature that distinguishes violence, harassment and discrimination from bullying is that bullying happens within social relationships, featuring repeated and harmful behaviours that stem from a misuse of power. Violence, harassment and discrimination can occur as part of bullying, but also can occur in one off conflicts or between strangers.

It is important to know the difference as the effect on the individual or group may be different and the responses to each may need to be different. Intervening in less serious bullying early can often prevent harassment, discrimination and more serious negative behaviours from becoming part of the bullying pattern.

We are taking reports of bullying extremely seriously and teachers are addressing it in class and on the playground.

At Hillsborough PS we promote a happy, fun and safe learning environment. If your child believes that they are being bullied or would like help with an issue they must tell their teacher so we can help them solve the problem.

Book Club will be back SOON!

The next P&C meeting will be held Monday 7th April
At 8:30am
In the Library
ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND!

ASSEMBLY

Assemblies are on a fortnightly basis on a Tuesday at 2.15pm in the hall. Parents are welcome to attend. The next assembly day will be on Tuesday 18th March. The item will be performed by 6/5E.

Great KIDS Range

over 50 frames
to choose from + Sunglasses as well.
eye examinations
BULK BILLED
die

Get The Hillsborough App
Available On All Phones

What Can You Do With It?

Newsletters Sick Notes
Events Dates Change of Details
Notes Due Pop-Up Alerts
Venue Maps Contact Us

active SCHOOL APPS

Great for Schools … Even Better For Parents
Netball
Netball team trials start this week Friday 7 March during sport 10-11am. Both boys and girls can try out in Years 3 - 6.

School Disco
Our first Disco for the year is scheduled for the evening of Thursday 6th March. The Disco will be run in one session for students in Kindergarten through to Year 6. The disco will run from 5.30pm till 7pm. All children are to be delivered to and collected from the hall by a parent or duly appointed adult. There is a cost of $5 per student payable at the door. Don’t forget, the P&C will be running a sausage sizzle before the disco. More details about this are in the newsletter.

P&C News...
The P&C have a Facebook Group called HPS P&C Events, we use this as a reminder for up coming events. Feel free to join this group so you can receive notifications of P&C events.

Any questions, comments or suggestions please don’t hesitate to contact me.
Danielle Whiting - P&C President dwhiting75@gmail.com

Disco BBQ:
The first school disco for the year is being held in Thursday 6th March from 5.30pm until 7pm, for all students from K-6. The P&C will be selling sausage sandwiches, drinks and glow products in the COLA from 5pm. If you’re able to help with the BBQ please let Julie know (details above)

School Photos
Our school photos will be on Wednesday 19 March. Envelopes have already been sent home and can be returned to the school office anytime until photo day. There are family envelopes in the office for those wishing to purchase family photos.

2014 HARMONY DAY COMPETITIONS

The Harmony Day Poster Competition is an annual initiative open to all primary and secondary students across NSW and ACT. Students are encouraged to visually articulate their interpretation of the 2013 theme – “Together We Can”

Entries should reflect one or more of the following principles:
- Our society is made up of different people from different backgrounds.
- While we are unique, we all share the goal of wanting to live together in harmony, peace and understanding. We must respect others religion, gender and race.
- We must not accept hate, violence or unfair treatment of any person or group.
- We must strive to give all Australians equal opportunities and assist those who are less fortunate than ourselves. We are proud to be Australian.

PRIZES
JUNIOR Category
(Kindergarten to Year 6)
STATE Winner - $500
Regional Winner - $150
State Winner’s School - $250

SENIOR Category
(Years 7 to Year 12)
STATE Winner - $500
Regional Winner - $150
State Winner’s School - $250

ENTRY FORMS
Entry forms and completed posters are required to be Submitted to Mrs Mills by Friday 28 March.

2014 HARMONY DAY POSTER COMPETITION

A

DESIGN
All entries MUST be A3 poster size and any medium is acceptable

PRIZES
Prizes will be awarded to those students whose posters best illustrate an innovative approach to the "Together We Can" theme.
All entrants receive a Certificate of Participation.
To say that teaching is in my blood would be an understatement. My maternal grandmother was a teacher, my father was a primary school Principal, my mother was a primary school and choir teacher, and 3 of my 7 brothers are teachers. I have been married to a teacher for 21 years! Although I was born in Scone, I grew up in the Hawkesbury as the youngest of 8 (that's right - no sisters!). I have been a teacher for 23 years, excluding some time off to have my 2 beautiful children, Thomas (15) and Stephanie (10). I have been blessed to work in the Hunter region throughout my career; Rathmines PS, Glendore PS (as an Assistant Principal), Mayfield West PS and of course Hillsborough, where I came to continue my career as an Assistant Principal 5 years ago. Some things I enjoy about teaching are... being silly and using different character voices, crying when I hear a beautiful school choir, seeing my students "get it" when we've been working on something in class, school musicals, Kindergarten kids (they're adorable!) and when my "old" students take time to say hi. I could go on!!! Now that I have resigned as an AP, I am hoping to pursue some of my interests outside school, including scrapbooking, playing cards and Scrabble, beach, music and movies. Some things you might not know about me are.... I would rather clean the toilet than cook dinner, I used to have a golf handicap of 23 and played every Sunday, I am extremely competitive and hate to lose any game, (though I am pretty hopeless at sport!), I learned to swim in a creek, I used to love collecting cicada shells when I was little, and I used to go camping a lot, especially with the Girl Guides. I really wanted to be an astronaut when I was growing up and still want to travel in Space.
OPERAHUNTER’S PRODUCTION OF

Disney

THE ARISTOCATS KIDS

Music and lyrics by
Richard M Sherman, Robert B Sherman,
Al Rinker, Floyd Huddleston and Terry Gilkyson
Music adapted and arranged and additional music by
Bryan Louiselle
Book adapted and additional lyrics written by
Michael Bernard
Based on the 1970 Disney film “The Aristocats”

By arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd
exclusive agent for Music Theatre International.

Tickets: $25 Adults, $15 Concession
$10 Children (15 years and under) $60 Family (2 Adults and 2 Children)
Contact: 02 4943 1572 or email mbuck@exemail.com.au

Lake Macquarie
Performing Arts Centre
Warner Bay
April 22, 23, 24, 26
2pm and 6pm

Wesley Centre
Beaumont St
Hamilton
April 27
2pm and 6pm

Do you have a child in year 4, 5 or 6?

Have you missed out on thousands of dollars?

In 2001 the Government introduced the ‘First Child Tax Offset’ and surprisingly many Australians did not know about it and have NOT claimed any benefits.

If you have ANY child that was born between 1 July 2001 and 30 June 2004 you may be eligible to receive up to $12,500 of entitlements.

The government has a 30 June 2014 deadline on this entitlement so please email childoffset@twelve.com.au today to receive more information.

Twelve Chartered Accountants
ABN 61 712 659 747
www.twelve.com.au
Principal: Derek Nolen CA

Your Family Tax Specialist
KM has been learning about ordinal numbers by racing cars and awarding them places. 1st Place goes to KM for their creative learning.

Hineira 2/1A

Abbie 6/5D
The East Lake Macquarie Zone Swimming Carnival was held on Monday the 24th and Wednesday the 26th of February at Swansea Pool. Hillsborough sent 34 swimmers across both days to the carnival which is a fantastic achievement.

Both Mr Edden and Mr Daniels were lucky enough to accompany the team to the event. Monday’s events included the backstroke, butterfly, breaststroke and individual medley. We had quite a few swimmers successful in making it through the heats into the finals on Wednesday. Wednesday’s events included the finals to the form strokes and the heats and finals of the freestyle. Once again, Hillsborough managed to perform well in all events, including the relay event in which we were quite competitive. Many students were successful in gaining first, second and third place ribbons in their individual events.

Two students, Josh R and Dylan R, swam extremely well earning themselves spots in the Regional Swimming Carnival to be held on Thursday the 6th of March. This is a fantastic achievement and we wish them the very best of luck.

Mr Edden and Mr Daniels were extremely proud of all the swimmers that represented our school. They all did so with pride and honour and exhibited fantastic sportsmanship in and out of the pool.
**Late Arrival & Early Pick Up of Students**

Parents/carers are advised that children who arrive late to school need to come to the office to get a “Late Arrival” note, regardless of whether they are accompanied by an adult.

If you are picking up your child early from school, parents/carers or a designated person MUST come to the office to get an “Early Leaver” note before collecting their child. Teachers will not allow your child to accompany you unless you provide them with the Early Leaver note.

**Lost Something?**

There is a lost property box located in the office in sickbay. Please remember to label all items that are brought to school so that they can be returned to your child if they go missing.

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**Coastal Valleys Region Girl Guides invite you to**

**Come and Try Guides!**

**At your local Girl Guide unit**

For girls aged 7-18 years

Guides enjoy challenging and fun program of indoor and outdoor activities: games, leadership and life skills, craft, badges, cooking, camping and community events

For information on the location and available meetings in your area

Please email Region Membership Advisor Helen, on **helenEG2@live.com.au**

Or visit our website www.girlguides-nowact.org.au to find out more about Guides

**HAVING FUN TODAY - LEADING THE WORLD TOMORROW..**
**This Week's Featured App**

This week’s app is a very valuable one for all students K-6. **Zippep’s Astro Circus** is a free app created by cybersmart to help support students when interacting online. The cute graphics and lovable characters take students on a playful journey through an astro circus to learn about cyber bullying, staying safe on the Internet and how to protect their personal information online. More information about themes and issues discussed in the app can be located on the Zippep’s Astro Circus website which can be found on the app.

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**Warners Bay Physie and Dance**

Physie is great fun - why not try something new? Physie is a combination of ballet, aerobics, gymnastics and jazz dance all rolled into one.

Classes range from 3-4 Years through to Ladies.

Team and individual events available at a low cost.

Enquiries are welcome to Mandy on 0408 206 349 or mandy.smith.159@gmail.com.

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**Children's Dental Benefit Schedule**

Helping kids to grow up smiling.....

Have you received a letter from Medicare about dental treatment for your child/ren? The **CDBS** is a new dental health program covering most general dental needs for your child/ren capped at $1000 per 24mths.

- Yes we are participating in this fantastic government program!
- Yes we are BULK BILLING for ELIGIBLE children!

Call us now to book your child’s dental check-up and help them to grow up smiling!

*If you are not sure of your child’s eligibility or have not received a letter from Medicare you can call them on 132011"
Hillsborough Public School P & C Uniform Shop – Order Form

Name: ___________________________ Phone Number: ___________________________ Child’s Name: ___________________________ Class: ____

Date: ___________________________ Cash / Cheque: ___________________________ Goods Taken / Fill Order: ___________________________

Order #: ___________________________ Receipt #: ___________________________

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Also available:
- Green Gloves $4 (one size fits all)
- Girls Green Scungies $5 (size 12-14, 14-16)
- Hair Pack $2 (green - brush, scrunchie, elastic)