

The Gecko News

Principal's Word



It has been a busy lead up to the end of term with many events across all areas, from our Public School Review, Interschool League Tag competitions and Years 3-6 swimming lessons. The students involved in the swimming lessons have been enjoying their sessions, despite the cooler weather. The forecast for next week predicts warmer weather which will be welcomed by all. The lessons conclude with our annual Beach Carnival on Thursday, 1 April. Further details regarding this event are outlined within this newsletter.

Tomorrow brings one of our favourite whole school events, the P&C Colour Explosion. Students are very excited to join in the fun of water and colour tomorrow afternoon. The P&C focus for the event is on bringing our community together and we are excited to share in the fun with everyone. Special thanks to Mrs Vallve, Mrs Rochelle Watson and the P&C Committee for their organisation of this event.



Term One concludes on Thursday, 1 April. On behalf of the staff, I would like to wish all of our families a Happy Easter and a safe and relaxing holiday. We look forward to seeing everyone back and well-rested, with students commencing Term 2 on Tuesday, 20 April.

Melanie Buller
Principal

Public School Review

Our Public School review was held on Thursday, 11 March. It was a very successful day with the review team validating the evidence provided regarding the programs and processes used across the school. The team commended staff on their commitment to improving the outcomes for students in both academic and non-academic areas. A report from the review has been received and will be available to view on our website by the end of Term One.

Beach Carnival

On Thursday, 1 April students from Years 3-6 will have their regular swimming lesson as well as participate in our Beach Carnival, involving a range of beach games and activities. Students will leave and return to school at the following times, allowing them to complete the carnival rotations and their regular swimming lessons:

Rooms 21, 10, 15 & 18

Departure 8:00am

Return 12:00pm

Rooms 20, 13, 16 & 12

Departure 8:25am

Return 12:25pm

Rooms 19, 11, 14 & 22

Departure 8:50am

Return 12:50pm

Please ensure students bring a water bottle and healthy snacks (recess). These are to be placed in a NAMED PLASTIC BAG. No school bags will be taken to the beach and lunch will be eaten upon their return to school.

The Beach Carnival has a strong emphasis on maximum participation, learning and fun. Students will be accompanied by teaching and support staff who will supervise students on buses and at the Beach Carnival. Parents/Carers are welcome and encouraged to come down and watch/help with the various activities down at the carnival.

School Banking

We are seeking volunteers to run our school banking programme. This is serviced by the Commonwealth Bank and provides children with the opportunity to develop good saving habits, through banking each week. School banking would operate before school one day per week. If you are interested in assisting, please contact the school office for further information.



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Kids Against Violence (KAV) Program

During Term 2, our Year 2 students will be participating in the Kids Against Violence (KAV) Program. This program is based on the Protective Behaviours model and sessions incorporate age appropriate violence education (identifying safe and unsafe situations and feelings), conversation time, and interactive activities to suit a variety of learning needs. KAV sessions will be presented by staff from OVIS and supported by our classroom teachers.

Information and consent forms for the program have been sent out via Compass today. If you have any difficulties accessing the information or have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Art News

At last we have finished the backgrounds for our Seahorses. Things got a bit messy with the oil pastels and edicol dye but we made it.

Check out the Year 1 and Year 3 Seahorses that are on display in the front office and the library.

The upper school children have completed their lion faces and will be starting on the magnificent mane.

Yours in Art, Mrs Gatti



School Board

The next meeting of the School Board is scheduled for Monday, 29 April at 4:00pm in the staffroom. If you have any items that you would like the Board to discuss, please ring the school office on 9584 6200 and we will put you in touch with one of your Parent Representatives.

Attendance

It has been fabulous to see the high level of attendance that we have started the year with, continuing across the term. With 5 school days left until we break for Easter and the school holidays, I am hoping that we maintain that trend. I know the weather has started to change, so if your child is genuinely ill, keeping them home is of course the best option. Just make sure you let us know by adding an Attendance Note in Compass each day they are away ill.

Congratulations to **Room 16** for being our latest **Awesome Attendance class winners** for weeks 6 and 7. Our final class attendance winners for this term will be announced on the last day of term by our student councillors.

Ms Braithwaite

Dental Clinic

A message from the South Halls Head Dental Clinic:

Unfortunately, South Halls Head Dental Clinic is currently closed due to a flood that has occurred in the clinic.

If you have an upcoming appointment, a staff member will be in contact with you soon to make arrangements. If your child has a tooth ache or dental emergency, please contact Meadow Springs Dental Therapy on 9584 2478 between 8am-4pm or after-hours emergencies 1800 098 818.

During the holidays the emergency clinic will be as follows-

- Greenfields Dental Therapy 9581 3895 for the 7 to the 9 April
- Meadow Springs Dental 9584 2478 for the 12 to the 16 April.

We will endeavour to keep you updated when the clinic will be operational again.

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Term Dates

| Week | Day | Event |
|------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 8 | Fri 26/3 | Colour Explosion |
| 9 | Mon 29/3 – Thu 1/4 | Yrs 3 – 6 Swimming |
| | Mon 29/3 | School Board meeting 4pm |
| | Thu 1/4 | Yrs 3 – 6 Beach Carnival |
| | Fri 2/4 | Public Holiday – Good Friday |

Colour Explosion

The School Colour Explosion Run will be held on Friday, 26 March starting at the following times:

- Kindy - Year 1; 1:30 – 1:50pm
- Years 2 – 6: 2:00pm – 2:25pm

Please note, children are able to come to school in the clothes they will be wearing for the Colour Fun Run e.g. old shorts and white t-shirt. Years 3 – 6 wear bathers to school as per usual, as swimming lessons are still on. **NO SCHOOL UNIFORMS THIS FRIDAY PLEASE!**

A notice has been sent out via Compass with more details.



Community News

Instrumental Music Lessons
On School Campus!

Small Group & Private Lessons

- Primary Music Institute offer instrumental music lessons right here on school campus!
- To find out all about the music lessons please visit PMI's website. You can check which instruments are available, get up to date program details and apply for lessons online
- Please **ENROL TODAY** via PMI's website
- Lessons are held once per week on school campus – with lessons typically outside school hours
- Only \$18.50 per child per small group lesson (2-5 students for 30 minutes)
- Our small group lessons provide a fun and affordable opportunity to learn instrumental music
- Private lessons (1-on-1) and pair lessons (max 2 students) are also available
- Instrumental music can improve your child's school results – including for reading, maths, coordination, IQ, abstract reasoning, performance confidence... and is great fun!

P: 0417 573 797
E: ric@pmipeel.com
www.primarymusicinstitute.com.au

AUSKICK "COME & TRY"

BOYS & GIRLS - PRE PRIMARY to YEAR 2

FRIDAY 26TH MARCH

from 4:30pm

MERLIN ST RESERVE, HALLS HEAD

FRIDAY NIGHT AUSKICK 4:45pm - 5:50pm

SEASON STARTS FRIDAY 30TH APRIL

REGISTER ONLINE AT: www.hhfc.com.au

Email enquiries: auskick@hhfc.com.au

COURAGE DOESN'T
always roar.
 SOMETIMES COURAGE IS
 THE QUIET VOICE AT THE END
 of the day saying,
 I WILL TRY AGAIN TOMORROW.
 -mary anne radmacher

"Be an encourager. The world has plenty of critics already" – Dave Willis