

Many thanks to all parents and teachers for Meet the Teachers night last week. Please find at the end of this Crest an attachment titled, "What Every Teacher Wants You To Know, But Won't Tell You".

Tonight we have our first P & C meeting for the year and every parent is encouraged to attend. This is one of our more proactive ways of ensuring that parents and our wider community are provided with the chance to directly have a positive impact upon the learning our children are undertaking. The meeting starts at 7.30pm in the staffroom and should finish by 9pm.

Tomorrow is our Swimming Carnival at Knox Aquatic Centre. We design the day to have a dual purpose. Firstly, every child who is turning 8 years of age or older is encouraged to participate for the fun of it! Swim well, earn points for your house and cheer everyone on as they race. The second purpose of the carnival is to allow those strong swimmers an opportunity to excel and move onto future District, Regional, State or National events.

Although it is early in the year please keep a check on your child's hair for nits. Whilst this is not the most popular of subjects, nits in schools are a simple fact of life. There are plenty of home remedies and fact sheets that you can Google to inform you and your family as to how to treat an infestation, but please note that success using any treatment only happens when everyone in the class is vigilant and treats their children. Lack of action by only one family or student will result in the nits returning - so please keep a check and let the school know if your child has nits so that we are able to advise the entire class to take 'action'.

Toilet Block

During the school holidays our toilets had a huge refurbishment. Many thanks to Matt Kean for ensuring this occurred. I must admit though he did have myself and another parent 'hounding' him! The boys' toilets were 'ripped out' and totally upgraded. The aroma in and around both boys' and girls' toilets is non-existent now.

Trophies

Any students, who won perpetual awards (including sport awards) at Presentation Day last year and took them home for a family photo, please return them to school so they can take pride of place in the trophy cabinet or wall of the office. If you know of anyone who has left the school could you please remind them to do the same please.

Classes

NSW Public Schools are provided with teachers and staff on an age-based differential formula. Once the principal enters anticipated numbers of students, DEC Staffing will allocate a set number of teachers, SLSOs, School Administrative Staff, Counsellor times etc.

It is then the principal's job, with many hours input by the teachers, to devise the best mix of classes to suit the available resources.

Please keep in mind that as professional educators, we place students in classes after carefully analysing a variety of academic and social criteria. This may mean that students are not with the same classmates as in the previous year, although we do try to ensure that they have a familiar face in their class. Classrooms are first and foremost about learning and getting along with the teacher and peers in their class and of course students can always meet up with all their friends in the playground (remembering that their longest break from all their friends is only TWO hours). Being able to form a wide range of happy, productive and polite relationships, with a number of people of all ages, assists students as they become older to get along with the many different individuals and personalities they will come across in their life.

Rarely do we get this placement wrong.

Parents deserve and will be provided with reasons for class placement of their child if requested, but there has been a disappointing trend of late with parents demanding that their child is moved from their class placements. Rarely is it

possible to move just one child from a class to another, or to 'swap mine with this kid'. The complexity of classroom personalities and the interconnectedness of classroom interactions rarely allows for such an easy 'swap'.

Whilst we will always listen to (and take into consideration) the concerns of parents, it is in the end, the decision of the principal and the school as to where the best learning setting is for each individual student.

At the end of this year, class placements will be done by our teachers. Please do not send in requests for special placements as the teachers will ensure your child/ren will be placed in the perfect class for them.

Risks of social media

Please be careful when using social media. Popular social networking sites include Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. On social networking sites, users can post information, comment and criticise. The benefits of social networking for parents include being able to stay connected with friends, family and school. Online, users can identify who they share information with and what level of information and interaction they have with others. However, they can't control what their friends might do with their information, which may be shared more broadly than anticipated. For example, one parent may think they are telling only one person they are unhappy with another parent but this can be re-posted to anyone.

It has come to our notice that certain parents have been seeking to undermine the reputation of our school teaching staff. Any malicious and vexatious gossip can be taken as slander and defamation and staff are within their rights to sue. It does not matter what form you use to state or spread defamatory comments, it is against the law.

Remembering that once something is posted on the internet it never truly 'disappears', no matter how many times you press delete.

The risks in using social networking sites include:

- defaming someone and being sued for doing so
- embarrassing or harassing others.

Gossip, whether online or in person, can often be hurtful and lead to distrust and disunity.

Legal advice ... "The Court has recognised cyber defamation to be the same as other forms of defamation and you can take action against a person who defames you over the internet. Even if they did not name you, as long as there is enough information for other people to recognise that the defamatory material is about you, then it is enough. If you feel that you have been defamed by comments, photos or other material written about you online you can contact the website administrator and/or the police."

Eight ways to get your kids organised Are you ready for morning madness, late assignments, yesterday's halfeaten lunch sweating in the schoolbag? Just like adults, children cope much better if they can manage their time and their environment wisely. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips/ eight-great-ways-to-get-your-kidsorganised-for-school

Smart foods to boost learning. Mother Nature is full of foods that help us think and feel better. What do you give your child to help them think more clearly, and enhance concentration and memory? Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/food/smart-foods-to-boost-learning

Friendships to boost your child's learning If children are happy socially they tend to be more engaged in their learning. So teaching your child about the importance of making friends is as vital as learning their ABCs. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/how-friendships-boost-your-childs-learning

Helping your Kindy kid succeed at school A great way to kick off your child's formal education is to understand the school culture and what your child is doing in the classroom. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/helping-kindy-kids-succeed-at-school

Speech problems All kids learn how to talk and listen at different rates but did you know there's a general pattern to your child's language development? Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/ wellbeing/health/speech-problems



Di Rower

Principal

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

RESPECT - Be polite by using manners and social skills such as asking to join in games, helping friends, solving problems.



<u>LIBRARY</u> - Please remember your library bags on your class library day children.

PERFORMING ARTS - Drama - Congratulations to all those children who auditioned so wonderfully last week. They were all so enthusiastic and capable.

Oh, how to choose only 30 out of 140 children who read their poems expressively. Thank you to Mrs Till, Mrs Bolger, Miss Roberts and Mrs Lukic who helped. They were truly amazed at such talent!

Junior Drama will be held on Monday at lunchtime in the hall after eating.

Everyone did their best and that's all you can ask. Well done all, you should be proud of yourselves!. - Jenny Smith

Dance - The students in both dance groups have begun their new dances in preparation for the Sydney North Dance Festival in June. They are full of enthusiasm and are very dedicated. Due to the swimming carnival this Thursday, dance has been cancelled for both the boys group and the girls group for this Thursday only.

- Kelly Lukic

Choir - Junior Choir begins this Thursday 19th February in 2C classroom during lunchtime. This choir is for anyone in Year 1 and Year 2 and will be held each week at the same time. An announcement will be made for the children at the Monday morning assembly and again on Thursday morning. I look forward to seeing and hearing lots of children then. Any enquiries please phone, email or drop into 2C classroom.

- Rosemary Cacitti

<u>CANTEEN</u> - Sushi is now available every Wednesday at the canteen. There is a choice of cucumber, tuna, avocado or chicken teriyaki for \$3.00 each.

Check out BPS Canteen News on facebook. It contains new items on the menu, events and happening and special day reminders.

Our school canteen is open three days a week:- Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Don't forget you can order lunches online at flexischool.com.au.

Volunteers are desperately needed to help out on these days. Any time you can give is very much appreciated whether it is for the whole day (9.30–2.30), lunchtime (12.00-2.30) or mornings (9.30-12.00). Lunch is supplied as well as morning tea. Unfortunately pre-schoolers are not permitted in the canteen for safety reasons.

Please leave your contact details at the school office or phone 9456 1319.

1F	Tara T, Zahlee O, Ethan P, Tatiana R		
1T	James F, Chloe L		
2R	Ales J, Jasmine B		
3A	Nathan G, Kamden H, Rowan S, Freyja C, Charlie L, Emily L		
4W	Neve R, Jordan T, Abbie C		
5K	Molly H, Anna J, Hugh C		
6B	Renee B, Dylan C, Amelia H		
6K	Ella B, L Drake, C Chapman		

NOTES YOU MAY HAVE MISSED				
Sent Out	Subject	Distribution	Response before	
4/2	General Permission	K-6	ASAP	
4/2	School Sport	Yrs 3—6	12/2	
4/2	Swimming Carnival permission form	Yrs 3-6	17/2	
4/2	Welcome Back Kick Off	K-6	-	
11/2	PSSA Sport	PSSA reps	19/2	
12/2	Sport	Year 3-6	19/2	
18/2	Stewart House bags	K-2	6/3	
Most notes are on the BPS website under 'Our School' tab—'Missed a Note?'				

<u>SCHOOL SUPPORT GROUP</u> - Come alont to the first School Support Group meeting of 2015—Tuesday 24th February at 9:30 in the staffroom.

Morning tea is provided and pre-schoolers are welcome.

The SSG is a great way to find out what is happening in your school and make new friends. We are a very friendly and informal group so please come along. All welcome.

<u>UNIFORM SHOP</u> - The Uniform Shop is open on Mondays 9-10am and Thursdays 3-3.45pm. Cash, cheque and EFTPOS is available (minimum purchase \$20).

If you would like to <u>volunteer</u> in the shop, please leave your name and contact details with the school office.

<u>SCHOOL BANKING</u> - Banking has commenced every Tuesday morning at the canteen between 8.50 and 9.20am. The Commonwealth Bank is continuing their commitment to schools Australia-wide, with \$5 when a student makes their first school banking deposit and 5% on every deposit made (up to \$10 per individual deposit).

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB ORDERS

Please note that parents now have the option, if they prefer to do so, of ordering and paying for their book club orders online, rather than submitting paper order forms and cash/cheque/credit card slips to the school office. For how to do this, please see the

notice from Scholastic. However, the old method of ordering and paying is still available. If parents do order and pay online, their order will be sent to the school along with the main school book club order for delivery to their child's classroom. This means that the benefit is convenience of paying, rather than any speedier delivery. Please be aware when ordering and paying online that if you want your order to be SECRET and not to be sent to your child's classroom, you must let the book club coordinators, Natasha Steele or Sarah Williams, know and give them some way of contacting you when the order arrives, preferably mobile number, otherwise the order will be sent to your child in their classroom.

Natasha and Sarah can be contacted directly if you know either of them, or alternatively via a note in the book club letterbox in the school office.



LOOP is the NEW Scholastic Book Clubs Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for Parents.

If you want to pay by credit card for your online Book Club order, our new platform makes it easy! It eliminates the need for paper order forms plus your online order is submitted to the school safe and sound.

Log-in to www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP or download our NEW iPhone and iPad app from the App Store!

- For a quick start, just click on ORDER in the top menu or REGISTER first to save your details for next time
- Select your school and your child's class
- Add your child's first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for)
- Enter the item number from the Book Club brochure
- You can order for multiple children at once if they attend the same school
- All orders are linked directly to the school for submission to Scholastic. Books will still be delivered to your child's classroom if you order by the close date
- There's no need to return paper order forms or payment receipt details to your school!

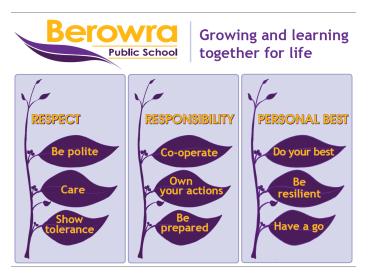
For a quick how-to-order video, log-in to **www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP** and click on **HELP** in the top menu.



Welcome to Kindergarten 2015



Diary Dates					
February					
Wed 18	P&C meeting 7.30pm in staffroom				
Thurs 19	Swimming Carnival at Knox Grammar				
Fri 20	Kick Off 5.30-8pm school grounds				
Tues 24	School Support Group meeting 9.30am				
March					
Mon 2	Asquith Girls High School Open Night				
Tues 3	Asquith Boys High School Open Night				
Fri 6	Stewart House last collection day				
Sat 7	AGHS / ABHS Enrichment Test				
Tues 10	Zone Swimming Carnival				
Thurs 12	Selective High School Placement Test				
Wed 18	P&C meeting 7.30pm in staffroom				
Mon 23	Parent/Teacher Interviews				
Sat 28	State Elections				
April					
Thurs 2	Hat Parade Last day of Term 1				
Fri 3	Good Friday				
Mon 6	Easter Monday				
Mon 20	Staff Development Day				
Tues 21	Students return for Term 2				
Sat 25	ANZAC Day				
Thurs 30	BPS Cross Country Carnival				
Мау					
Thurs 7	School Photo Day				



Some descriptive writing from 6B

Rainforests

'Squelch, squelch, squelch' went my old gumboots on the damp forest floor. It was extremely hot and humid.

"I think I should rest here for a bit" I said to myself. I sat down next to an ancient, mossy tree. I took this moment to look around the dense rainforest I was walking through. Loud sounds of exotic birds echoed in the distance. Colourful flowers spotted every shrub. I looked up and saw layers and layers of thick branches blocking the sky. That was the canopy layer, home to most of the amazing animals in the world.

Renee B

Rainforests

A rainforest is known by its name. It's rainy and it's a forest and it has unique wildlife such as bower birds, toucans and monkeys. Australian rainforests have 80% of birds that are not found anywhere else in the world. There are lots of plants and birds. So many I can't explain.

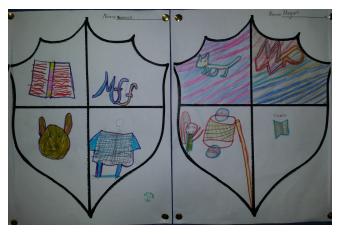
Plants and trees are the main thing to keep the rainforest living. They produce food and air for the animals. But sadly people are chopping down the trees and killing animals. We are all trying to stop this. Rainforests are the heart of the world.

Lachlan O

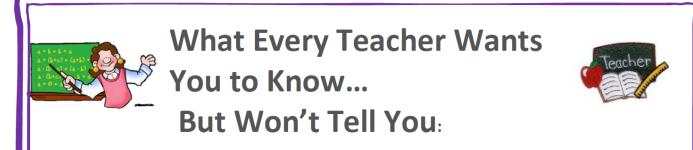
Stage 2 have been studying the **Australian Identity and History**, including designing a personal shield and a new Australian postage stamp.

The art with many hands symbolises our multicultural diversity.









1. Your respect means the world to me. I truly care about your child and am trying to do my best to make sure that he/she is learning! Please show your child that you respect me by talking positively about me in front of him/her and backing me up when there are discipline issues at school.

2. We are a TEAM. We are both working towards the same goal when it comes to your child-helping him learn and be successful! If there is an issue and I share it with you, it does NOT mean that I don't like your child...actually, it means that I care enough about your child to help him resolve any things prohibiting him or anyone else in my class from learning.

3. If your child is five years old or older, **please make sure she knows how to tie him/her shoes**...or buy Velcro shoes. Taking time to tie the shoes of multiple children in my class only takes away time that would otherwise be used for instruction.

4. Please don't tell me your child is bored. I try to make learning as interesting and engaging as I can and telling me this makes it seem like you don't think I am doing my job. Many times what might appear to be boredom is often a lack of self-control and/or self-regulation (which typically works itself out with maturity). If we need to work on teaching your child how to cope with down time, what to do if he finishes early, or how he can be challenged, **let's work together and come up with some solutions**.

5. I put a lot of work into the parent notes/emails that I send home. There is also lots of important information included, so **please take just a few minutes to read it and check your child's backpack every day and your emails**.

6. **Please bring individually wrapped or pre-cut birthday treats that are ready to serve**. Trying to cut a cake or watermelon while 26 (or more) hungry mouths are (not-so-patiently) waiting can often lead to complete chaos. And when you send a snack like jelly, don't forget the spoons!

7. Don't assume that just because you struggled with a specific subject in school (i.e. maths) that your child will as well. Always encourage your child in *every subject*, not just those that interest you.

8. Let your child make mistakes and try to do things by himself. Don't rescue him/her whenever he/she can't figure something out. It gives your child a feeling of power and control when he/she can handle things independently.

9. **Make sure your child gets plenty of rest each night.** Primary school children need *at least* 10 hours of sleep every night. Don't overdo it when it comes to extracurricular activities-children need down time just like adults!

10. YOU are your child's first (and most important) teacher. Trust your instincts. I have your child for 9 months and you have them for their entire lives-don't underestimate your importance when it comes to your child's education! Make your home a learning oasis and read to him/her every day!

Hornsby Child and Youth Mental Health Service (СҮМНS)



Parenting Anxious Children SEMINAR FOR PARENTS - TERM 1, 2015

A seminar for parents of children aged 4-10 yrs discussing:

Thursday 5 March

The nature of anxiety and the different ways it may present in children, risk factors and potential implications for parents and children, as well as identification of practical strategies & resources to assist. Time: 10am-12pm

- The seminar will be facilitated by CYMHS staff (which includes Psychologists, Social Workers & family therapists).
- The seminar will be run at Hillview Community Health Centre 1334 Pacific Highway Turramurra. Entry via Boyd Ave. Please allow enough time for parking and arrive 10 minutes before the registered start time. Unfortunately, we cannot provide childcare facilities and are unable to have infants attend with their parents.
- The seminar is available to families who live in the Hornsby Ku-Ring-Gai local government area.
- The cost of the seminar is \$10 but there will be no charge for concession card holders.
- Registration is essential as groups fill quickly.
- To confirm your place please call CYMHS on 9485 6155.
- Participants will be asked to complete feedback forms.
- The service reserves the right to postpone or cancel seminars in the case of insufficient registrations.





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Asquith Girls High School



Year 5 & 6 students and parents invitation to our

OPEN NIGHT

Monday 2nd March 2015

School Hall, Stokes Ave Asquith 5:15pm BBQ 6pm – 8pm School Information and Tour

2016 Gifted and Talented Examination Saturday 7th March 2015 Visit our website to download an application

www.asquithgir-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Message from the Principal

l extend a warm welcome and invitation to all Year 5 and 6 parents to our Open Night.

Asquith Girls High School is proud to offer an holistic and nurturing educational environment catering to the specific academic and wellbeing needs of our students.

The Gifted and Talented program is supported by extension, acceleration and extra curricular opportunities that cater for individualised learning.

We are committed to developing young women who are independent, responsible learners and leaders who are able to work cooperatively as future global citizens.

I look forward to meeting you at our Open Night. Elizabeth Amurazis Elizabeth Amurazis Principal

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...to make ice blocks.

Summer afternoons are hot and sticky in Australia, and kids come home from school tired and hungry. Get them eating fruit with

fruit-filled ice blocks ...

Place any combo of finely diced fruit into moulds like: mango, blueberries, strawberries, watermelon, rockmelon, kiwifruit, drained canned peaches,



Eat It To

Page 9

Beat It

apricots or pineapple in natural juice, or passionfruit pulp.

Top with a fruit juice of your choice then freeze until solid – at least 4 hours, or overnight.

Enjoy watching your kids eat fruit!

For more information visit www.eatittobeatit.com.au or join us at facebook.com/eatittobeatit

THE ATHLETE'S FOOT HORNSBY Rewards program is a proud Supporter of Berowra PS

The School Rewards Program is a great fundraising opportunity with \$5 from every pair of shoes purchased being donated back to your school. This applies to the whole family across our fantastic range of school, sports, work and casual shoes. Ask one of our friendly staff in store for more details.



SCHOOL REWARDS

Mathlete's Foot

LOWER GROUND FLOOR

WESTFIELD SHOPPINGTOWN



International Soccer Tour & Language Tour

2016 Enrichment Class Examination



Asquith Boys High School is offering places in 2016 for a Year 7 Enrichment Class.

Entrance into this class for academically gifted students, is based on the results of a placement test.

vor an application package go to our website www.asquithboy-h.schools.nsw.edu.au or contact Stuart Robertson Enrichment Class Co-ordinator - 9477 3508 The Enrichment Class placement test will be held on Saturday 7 March 2015.

Applications close Wednesday 4 March. Leadership and citizenship, technology, community participation, creative arts and sporting excellence



Asquith Girls High School Coffee with the Principal

Year 5 and 6 Parents & Caregivers are invited to have coffee in the school gardens with **Elizabeth Amvrazis, Principal**

Thursday 5th March 9.30am-10.30am

This is an opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have about Asquith Girls High School and the opportunities offered in a relaxed and personalised setting.

RSVP: Tuesday 3rd March

Phone: 9477 6411

Email: asquithgir-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au







2016 YEAR 7 GIFTED AND TALENTED TESTING

When: Monday, 30 March 2015 : 8.45 am – 12 noon

Where: St Ives High School Hall, Yarrabung Road, St Ives

Cost: \$70 (non refundable)

Applications close Monday, 20 March 2015. An information pack will be sent on receipt of payment and application form.

GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM

This program serves a readily identified community need - that of challenging talented students in a local setting. In addition, it provides an extra dimension to our general aim of providing each student with an excellent academic, cultural, social and physical education. Our program also offers to potential selective high school students, the high academic standard they are seeking, but in a setting which is co-educational, socially cohesive and community focused.

Our objectives are to:

- create a core class of gifted and talented students at St lves High School. The group
 would be globally gifted but having specific strengths and talents in numeracy, literacy
 and problem-solving techniques;
- provide for the natural progression of gifted and talented students through a high school setting. These students have already been recognised and catered for in local primary schools and our program would complement developments in a number of primary schools;
- implement accelerated progression where appropriate, allowing future opportunity for students to complete the School Certificate and/or the Higher School Certificate ahead of their peers.

If you have any queries, please contact Mrs Patricia Gettens, the Program Coordinator, on 9144 1689 or email <u>patricia.gettens@det.nsw.edu.au</u>.

Mark Watson Principal

Open Afternoon Tuesday 3 March, 2015; 4 - 7 pm

St Ives High School, Yarrabung Road, St Ives, 2075 P: 91441689 www.stives-h.schools.nsw.eo Come and join us as our school swings into action for you to see the diverse programs and opportunities for your child.

- Hear an address by the Principal, Mr Mark Watson
- Visit our Trade Training Centre, Library, connected teaching space,
- technologically equipped classrooms.
- Take part in fun activities in all subject areas.
- Meet our fantastic students and experienced teachers who are proud of their school and keen to answer all your questions.
- Be informed about our Gifted & Talented Program and extension classes.
 Learn about extra curricula activities such as Duke of Edinburgh, Mock Trials, Debating, knockout and representative sport, Performing Arts Unit (Dance, Acting, Musical Theatre and Vocal Tuition), Band and Music Tutorial
- program, and multicultural activities. • Hear about student leadership opportunities eg. SRC, peer leaders, Interact, and student volunteering program.
- Find out how our high school works we'd love to see you in 2016. Parking is available on Yarrabung Road but not on school grounds.

