Principal’s Message

NAPLAN
NAPLAN assessments will be held next week. Students in years 3 and 5 will be sitting these tests on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Friday is the “catch up” day if your child is absent from school.

Please remember that NAPLAN assesses student’s skills in literacy and numeracy. These have developed from Kindergarten.

How you can help your child? Ensure they get adequate sleep the night before each test; give them a nutritious breakfast; do not pressure them unnecessarily but encourage their best effort.

Reading Benchmark revised
As a result of the professional learning our teachers are undertaking, we have revised our reading benchmarks for Kinder through to Year 6.

Our teachers are in the process of writing benchmark assessments for each reading level. These are extremely thorough and more in depth than the commercially produced ones which are available to us. The teachers have done a terrific job. The consultants we are using from Get Reading Right have made comment to me on several occasions on the amazing teaching staff that we have here at Hoxton Park PS; how quickly they pick up new ideas and their readiness to trial different ideas.

JoAnne Dooner (consultant) made particular mention of the Kindergarten teachers whose lessons she had observed. Ms Dooner wrote in an email to me:

I am always amazed at the generosity of teachers and their ability to shine when allowed to do so. It was brave of the teachers to follow you to embrace a new way of teaching phonics. Not only have they done this with enthusiasm, they have allowed themselves to be given honest and open feedback while doing so. What an inspiration to others! As an author; when you write a teaching program, you worry that teachers will just pick it up blindly and reproduce it in a boring or robotic way. However, after watching the three very different teachers teach the Get Reading Right program, with their own unique teaching styles and personalities, I no longer have that concern.

The lessons I observed were all strong because they were well paced, differentiated, fun and most of all, they were centred on the children learning how to read! The children in these classes are making progress because of the quality of the teaching. Congratulations to all of them!

Revised reading benchmark levels:
End of Kinder: 8
End of Year 1: 17
End of Year 2: 21
End of Year 3: 24
End of Year 4: 27
End of Year 5: 30
End of Year 6: 32

Public Education Day
Thursday 24 May is Public Education Day. We will be acknowledging this day in our Primary assembly.

Be proud that you send your children to a public school:

Hoxton Park PS = GREAT STUDENTS, GREAT TEACHERS, GREAT LEARNING ENVIRONMENT.

School Website – Authority to Publish
The school website is updated regularly. Visit us to read the latest information about our school. Teachers have sent home a permission sheet this week which is extremely important. This is “An Authority to Publish.”

Legally we must have parent/guardian permission to publish photos and names of students on the website. The details are in the permission form. All students are required to return this note to school either giving permission or not. We must have a copy from every student.

Mathletics
Mathletics program money is now due. It is only $5 for the entire year. Our school funds pay for the remaining $5 for the program. You may not be aware, but by us purchasing this program through the school, you are saving $94. Your child has access to this program from their computer at home using the same password as they do at school. Please feel free to pay this off weekly, if needed.

Opportunity Class Applications
Year 4 students are invited to apply for the Opportunity Class (OC) test. This is a gifted and talented program where if successful, students will attend another school in an OC class for years 5 and 6 of their schooling.

Applications can be made online: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/ocplacement
There will be details about the application process at this website.

Important dates for OC application:
- Online applications – open now
- Paper applications are available from the school office – now
- Friday 18 May 2012: Paper applications due to the Principal
- Friday 18 May 2012: Online applications close
- Wednesday 11 July 2012: Test centre advice sent
- Wednesday 25 July 2012: Opportunity Class Placement Test
- October 2012: Outcome advice sent

Parent Helpers
Thank you to the fabulous parents who have been assisting Mrs Pierson on her days off to cover our new reading books so they can get into classrooms quickly. The ladies are currently re-badging our home reading system so we have ample resources for our students.

Can you listen to students read?
A plea from our teachers.....we know that reading practice (reading to a parent at home) is needed every day. Teachers are asking that if you can spare any time in any classroom, they would love you to listen to students read. Please consider if you come early to the school in the afternoon to mention to your child’s teacher (or any other teacher that you could give your valuable time to) that you are available for 10 minutes, 20 mins, etc. Every bit counts!

Fun Run
Friday 25th May is the last day you can bring in your sponsorship forms and money for our Fun Run.

Spelling and Writing competitions
Tomorrow is the last day you can pay for your entry for these competitions.

Voluntary Contributions Draw
Next week on Monday morning’s assembly, we will be drawing the voluntary contribution draw (the first of several this term). If you have paid your voluntary contribution of $50 per student or $70 per family, you child/children’s names will be in the draw.

Chocolates – Fundraising

Walk to School Safely Day
When: 18 May
This is a great promotion to encourage our children to become more active. Let’s try to walk to school that day. If you live too far away from school, maybe park the car down the street so your child can join in with other students.

Reports and Parent Teacher Interviews
Teachers have begun writing semester 1 reports. Some advanced warning of dates for Parent teacher interviews:

Tuesday 26 June: 3.10pm-7pm.

Two classes will have their parent teacher interviews on alternate dates:
1 Oz: Wednesday 13 June
2 Hagrid: Monday 18 June

This year we will be booking interview times online. I will give you these details and instructions in upcoming newsletters.

Teachers will also let you know of alternate times they are available.

Cross Country
A big thank you to Miss Covek for organising the school cross country, and to Mr Galla for his efforts with the fun run fundraising.

Kylie Donovan
PRINCIPAL

Upcoming events – Term 2

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<td>K-2 Cross Country</td>
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<td>Spring Fair meeting – 9am - staffroom</td>
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<td>May 11</td>
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<td>May 15</td>
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<td>May 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>P &amp; C meeting. 7pm - staffroom NAPLAN</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3-6 Assembly. 2.15pm. 3 Stanley</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 18</td>
<td>K-2 assembly</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Walk Safely to School Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>Fundraising chocolates home this week</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 24</td>
<td>3-6 Assembly. 2.15pm. 2/3 Fern</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 25</td>
<td>Zone Cross Country</td>
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Positive Communication for Parents
Presented by Petra Will-Herat
(Social Psychologist, Counsellor and Parent Educator)

The way you communicate with your child impacts on their behaviour, self-esteem and your relationship with them. This session aims to teach parents practical skills in communicating positively with their children, setting boundaries as well as strengthening relationships and forming a healthy family dynamic.

Bookings are essential and places are limited: 0407 708 626

Date: Thursday 28th June 2012
Times: 6.45-9.15pm
Place: Club Marconi (Electra lounge), Prairie Vale Rd, Bossley Park.
# Primary Cross Country Results

### 12 Years
**Girls**
1. Bojana Golubovic
2. Jorga Moon
3. Courtney Jackson

**Boys**
1. Joel Saldaneri
2. Jacob De Caria
3. Asitosh Diwakar

### 11 Years
**Girls**
1. Meegan Jimenez
2. Brittany Sloane
3. Thea Hayday-King

**Boys**
1. Joshua Moshi
2. Christian Veron
3. David Whyman

### 10 Years
**Girls**
1. Ashmeeta Diwakar
2. Leilani Campbell
3. Makaela Daly

**Boys**
1. Connor Martin
2. Zac Price
3. Michiko Loyaga

### 9 Years
**Girls**
1. Shirley Lee
2. Victoria Eyke
3. Jazmin Saboune

**Boys**
1. Rolando Daly
2. Joshua Ogden
3. Ryan Fenero

### 8 Years
**Girls**
1. Gyndaaylee Croft
2. Lani Wright
3. Madison Placanica

**Boys**
1. Ethan King
2. Simon Montesin
3. Stanley Pham

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**Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Joel Saldaneri for being selected as a member of the Regional Open Rugby League Team.

We will have an out of uniform day on May 30th to assist Joel with the costs of player levy and uniform.

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**EARN and LEARN with Woolworths**

Collect stickers at the checkout of any Woolworths supermarket (self-service too) until July 22nd to place on your child’s sticker card.

There’ll be one sticker for every $10 spent. Once completed drop the sticker card into a collection box at school.

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## P & C NEWS

Happy Mothers’ Day for all mothers and hope you have a joyful day on Sunday.

There will be a Spring Fair meeting this Friday 11th May at 9am in the staff room. All welcome.

The P & C Meeting will be on next Wednesday 16th May at 7pm in staff room. All welcome.

## Stepping Out School of Dance

**Cheerleading, Jazz & Hip Hop**
**Tap & Irish, Ballet, Singing**
**Musical Theatre**

Contact: Christine
9605 7472  0409548396
9/45-47 Whyalla Place, Prestons
[www.steppingoutdance.com](http://www.steppingoutdance.com)
E: raindrops@bigpond.com.au

## Commonwealth Bank Token Redemption Day

**Thursday 14th June**
**8.30am – 9.00am**
**Outside the school office**

Bring your tokens and trade them for fantastic prizes.