Principal's message
Welcome to what promises to be a frenetic last few weeks of term 3 for all of us. There is always something fun happening here at Hoxton Park PS!

STAFFING NEWS

Congratulations to Mr Francis who was successful at interview for the position of Teaching Principal at Mulgoa PS. Rob has been a part of the Hoxton Park PS family for many years, contributing significantly to the success and the outstanding reputation that Hoxton Park PS holds. On behalf of the staff, I would like to thank Rob for the positive energy he brings to our school; his leadership; the wonderful connections and relationships he builds with students, staff and our learning community; his great sense of humour (and his ability to crack a joke at just the right time); his loyalty; his professionalism and above all, his friendship. We will have many fond memories of Rob to share on Thursday 20th September in the hall, when we have a special assembly planned for Mr Francis. All our community is welcome to attend this farewell assembly for Rob.

Mr Francis will be replaced by Miss Tregear for Term 4. Miss Tregear has been working at our school this term on the RFF program, so all our students know her.

Mr Francis has included a letter for our school community in this newsletter.

SPRING FAIR

This Saturday is the biannual Spring Fair. It is expected to be HUGE!! Come along and not only support your school but have a terrific family day. The fair begins at 10am with rides, raffles, food stalls, show bags and over 50 other stalls to entertain the entire family for a full day.

A special thank you must be made to the amazing group of P & C parents, led by Debbie Cross, for their tireless work and contribution to our school. We really do value and appreciate what you do.

ELECTION DAY BBQ

Thank you again to our P&C ladies (and husbands) who helped provide the BBQ for election day. The public really do enjoy this service and all profits go to your school. Thank you Debbie, Mick, Sharon, Merryn, Shane, Narelle and Paula. Thank you to Mr Pye who came up to measure up and plan where all the stalls will fit best on our Spring Fair day, too.

TEACHER’S ANNUAL ASSESSMENT

Each year our teaching staff undergoes a teaching assessment which comprises many different facets. One of these, is observation of lessons. The leadership team observe lessons throughout the year for each teacher. As the Principal, I also make it my job to observe each class teacher annually in a formal setting (with set criteria). This is a really enjoyable part of the Principal ship. I have been observing morning routines, as this is something that has been introduced this year from K-6. I am really impressed with the teaching staff here at Hoxton Park and can see the impact that their teaching is having upon our students. We are constantly working towards improvement in all that we do. Our staff have a very strategic professional learning focus, with staff and team meetings revolving around our vision for improvement. The teaching staff are currently finalising our documented Improvement Vision, which I will publish on the website and in the newsletter, next term.
Principals also are assessed each and every term by their School Education Director.

I am currently working on a project with the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership. This involves much professional reading and online postings of responses to these, interacting through blogs with other Principals from around Australia from both independent, catholic and government schools. This project centres around Hoxton Park’s vision for improvement.

Mrs Casey is today working with a group of Deputy Principals from the Region as part of a consultative group to develop an Australian Teacher Performance and development framework.

**NAPLAN**

Parents will be receiving their child’s NAPLAN results this coming Monday. As a leadership team and in team meetings, we will be analysing the data in line with our school based data.

**VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS and SCHOOL FEES**

We are nearing the end of the year and fees should be paid as soon as possible. If you are able to pay $5 a week, we are happy to provide this part payment service to you. Our school also accepts credit card payments.

**FUTURE DIARY DATES**

8 October: (Monday): No Staff development day. Students return for day 1 of term 4.

13 December: Presentation Days & Semester 2 reports are sent home.

17 December: Year 6 bowling day, K-2 movie day, 3-5 activity (TBA)

18 December: Year 6 farewell

19 December: Students’ last day of school

Thank you to my staff: our teachers and ancillary staff, for their commitment to our school and the level of work they have put in this term. I wish everyone a great break over the school holidays and am looking forward to another wonderful term here in paradise.

**Kylie Donovan**

**Principal**

**A Special message from Mr Francis,**

When I reflect on my 14 years at Hoxton Park Public School, what stands out is the friendliness and genuine endeavour of the students, the strong support from parents, the collegiality and teamwork of staff and the cohesiveness of the leadership team.

To begin with, I must acknowledge each Principal I have worked with at Hoxton Park PS. Mrs Brett, Mr Cooper, Mr Leydon and Mrs Donovan have contributed much to my development as a leader, teacher and as a person. I consider you all as mentors.

I have been blessed with the opportunity to work with an incredibly talented, energetic and hardworking executive leadership team both past and present. They are the most dedicated group of people who have your children’s interest as their number one priority. I would like to thank each and every one of them for their support, encouragement and teamwork. I have learnt so much from you all!

Hoxton Park is so special because it has special teachers. I am constantly overwhelmed by the collegiality and dedication of our excellent staff and I can honestly say that there are so many of you who have helped to make me the teacher and leader I am today. The amount of time, energy and quality that staff put into their work each day amazes me! I am honoured to have been a part of such a quality group of people.

By and large, we are extremely fortunate to have fantastic students who are keen to do their personal best. Our students come to school to learn and have fun. It has been my pleasure to play a small part in your growth and development.

I have also had the good fortune to meet many parents whose only desire is to see their children develop into confident, literate 21st Century learners. Over the years I have enjoyed your support and the many discussions and conversations we have had. Thank you for supporting me!

I would also like to thank our outstanding office staff, General Assistants, School Learning Support Officers, canteen staff and cleaners who complete “the family”. The school could not run without you!
Finally, I cannot let this opportunity go by without thanking the most important person in my life. My wife, Karen has been a constant source of love and support for me throughout my career and I couldn’t have achieved any success without her.

Schools are very complex institutions and it is the friendships I have made and the amazing times we have had that will stand out most in my mind. I feel like I am losing my second family so I’m hoping that people will stay in touch. When I look back at my time here, I can only hope that I leave Hoxton Park Public School having made a positive impact.

I wish each and every one of you the best of luck for the future!

Rob Francis

Upcoming events – Term 3

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<th>Week</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 13</td>
<td>Band lesson</td>
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<td>Sep 13</td>
<td>Comm Bank Redemption Day</td>
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<td>Sep 13</td>
<td>3-6 assembly (2/3 Fern)</td>
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<td>Sep 14</td>
<td>K-2 assembly (2 Shrek)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 14</td>
<td>PSSA starts season 3</td>
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<td>Sep 15</td>
<td>Spring Fair</td>
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Upcoming events – Term 4

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<th>Week</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 8</td>
<td>Students &amp; staff return to school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 11</td>
<td>Band lesson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 11</td>
<td>3-6 assembly (3 Verdi)</td>
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<td>Oct 12</td>
<td>K-2 assembly (2 Hagrid)</td>
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<td>Oct 12</td>
<td>PSSA</td>
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**Stepping Out School of Dance**

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

OFFICE NEWS

PSSA money to be paid by Thursday morning each week.

New kindy enrolment forms for 2013 need to be returned to the office by Friday, 21st September.

Please ensure money envelopes are clearly marked with your child’s name, class and what the payment is for.