FROM THE PRINCIPAL

2016 Selective High School Applications

Applications for placement in Year 7 at a selective high school in 2016 will be open to parents of students in Year 5 from 14 October to 17 November 2014. The application information booklet will be available on the High Performing Students Unit’s website at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement. Parents without internet access or who cannot use a computer have been told they can apply at a public library or may be assisted at North Rocks Public School to have access to a computer and internet. Parents with disabilities that preclude the use of a computer are told to contact the High Performing Students Unit for assistance. It is very important to note that late applications will not be accepted. Principals will be updated regularly about applications from students at their schools as they are received by the High Performing Students Unit so they can prepare their school assessment scores. Principals or their delegates will enter school assessment scores for the students from their school from 24 November 2014 to 9 December 2014. All students wanting to go to a selective high school for Year 7 in 2016 will have to take the Selective High School Placement Test on the morning of Thursday 12 March 2015. There are 17 fully selective high schools, 25 partially selective high schools, 4 selective agricultural high schools and one virtual selective high school offering selective placement in Year 7 in NSW. Boarding places are available at Farrer Memorial Agricultural High School (boys only), Hurlstone Agricultural High School (co-educational) and Yanco Agricultural High School (co-educational). Parents can apply for up to three selective high schools. Placement in the virtual selective high school is restricted to students intending to enrol in a government high school in a country area far from a city. A map showing where the selective high schools are is available on the Unit’s website and a complete list of selective high schools is available at: www.schools.nsw.edu.au/schoolfind/types/shs_ahs_details.php Parents are told to email the High Performing Students Unit: ssu@det.nsw.edu.au or telephone: 1300 880 367 if they have enquiries not covered in the application information booklet. Principals can ring 9244 5669 if they have enquiries.

Year 5 Bathurst excursion

I was extremely pleased to hear so many wonderful reports regarding the attitude and behaviour of the year 5 students who recently travelled to Bathurst. My congratulations to the teachers and student s who attended the excursion particularly having to put up with the extreme weather which fell upon the mountains over that period of time. Parents may wish to read some student excursion reflections on page 5 of this newsletter.

FOOD ALLERGY ALERT

To help minimise the risk of life threatening allergic reactions we ask all parents to refrain from packing foods that contain peanuts or tree nuts in lunch boxes. Help us protect our students.
Kindergarten 2015
If you haven’t already done so it is important that you commence the enrolment procedures for your child starting school next year. If you know of neighbours or friends let them know that it is enrolment time. Our kindergarten orientation program commenced with a parent information session at 7pm in the school hall on Tuesday 21st October. Our P&C President provided parents with an summary of the P&C activities and encouraged new parents to get involved in the life of the school. On Wednesday we held our first orientation session for the children with two more sessions planned for Thursday 30 October and Friday 7 November. It was lovely to meet the new parents and their darling pre-schoolers and share in the start of an incredible journey.

Leaving North Rocks Public School
Parents could I ask that you inform the office as soon as possible of your intentions to move your child from North Rocks PS for the start of the new school year. This information is vital enabling us to have our classes and staffing ready for the start of the school year. At this stage our numbers continue to grow with our anticipated enrolment in 2015 reaching 700.

North Rocks Symphonic Showcase
Each year we present a showcase of our performing arts groups. This year we invite parents to attend a special presentation from our bands, senior and junior primary choirs, K-2 dance group, 3-6 dance group and a performance by three of our wonderful public speakers. This year showcase will be held in the school hall in the evening of Tuesday 11 December starting at 7pm.

Working Bee
Our next working bee is set down for Sunday 16 November. Please put this date in your diary and keep the morning free. We were forced to cancel the last working bee and are hoping to get a pile of work done at the next one preparing the school for summer. At this working bee we would like to build a couple of sleeper retaining walls, garden edges, repaint some of our warning walk signs, clean up the gardens, etc.. To achieve these objectives and put the school grounds into reasonable shape we are going to need a small army. I ask you to please consider coming along and lending a hand. The working bee notice is attached to the newsletter (see page 1).

School certificate winners
If your child has gained the required number of merits to gain a certificate I would ask that they present them to the office as soon as possible. Our last opportunity to present these certificates will be at our final 3-6 assembly on Wednesday 3 November and for K-2 Friday 5 November. In addition for those students who will be receiving School Awards certificates need to be handed to the office by Friday 14th Nov.

Summer PSSA Results

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<td>Jnr boys T-ball</td>
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<td>Jnr girls T-ball</td>
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FROM THE SPORTS DESK
Congratulations to Emma T, Kate P and Jessica L who recently competed at the NSWPSA Athletics Championships. Kate made the finals of the discuss and ran 8th in the event whilst Emma ran 4th in her 800m heat and Jessica placed 20th also in the discuss. Well done to the three talented athletes.
FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Student Leader Elections
An invitation is extended to parents to attend our student leader speech assembly next Wednesday 29th October. Boys will deliver their speeches at 12:00pm and girls will deliver theirs at 1:30pm. Congratulations to all students who nominated themselves as candidates. It is heartening to know that our senior year in 2015 will be filled with aspirant leaders who so readily model the school’s core values and stand ready to assist others.

Chess Semi Final
Kevin, Jason, Haibing and Matthew continued their winning streak last Friday, accounting for Sydney Grammar St.Ives in the state quarter finals. Tomorrow the boys will take on Summer Hill PS in the state semi finals.

Parents Wanted
The school has begun constructing its strategic plan for the three year period 2015-2017; however WE NEED YOU! While all parents will receive a paper survey in the coming weeks to provide feedback on the school and its programs, I am seeking a group of parents for a face-to-face meeting to discuss in greater detail the opportunities that lie ahead.

The aim of community consultation is to facilitate widespread ownership and understanding about the directions the school will head. Those wishing to contribute productively are welcome to join me in the staffroom next Tuesday 28th October at 2:15pm. If interested, please contact me via email (thomas.moth@det.nsw.edu.au).

North Rocks PS App
I have undertaken preliminary steps to setup a school ‘app’ which can be used on ‘smart’ devices. The intention is to provide real-time updates to parents about the school. Additionally the app will enable us to provide alerts directly to a users’ phones. In recent times this would have been beneficial to advise of cancellations to school sport and arrangements for collection of students from camp. The app will also feature an events calendar, enabling users to add items to their personal calendars and set reminders with the press of a button. While this app will not be ready for full-scale use until 2015, I am seeking volunteers to download and trial the app for the remainder of 2014 and provide feedback. If you are interested, please contact me via email (thomas.moth@det.nsw.edu.au).

Around The Grounds
This week I enjoyed visiting the bookends of the school – Kindergarten and Year 6.

In KH the students were exceptionally proud to show off their written recounts of the book ‘Splat The Cat’. Chloe explained that it was Splat’s first day at school and he didn’t want to go so he hid beneath a blanket! Luckily, Splat eventually made it to school and, as Aaron explained, “he ended up having lots of fun and making friends with a mouse!” Noah and Michelle then reminisced about their first day at school and recalled feeling happy but a little nervous. All students in KH had fun telling me about a whole host of skills they can now do, and information they now know from nearly completing a full year at school.

Over in 6D, Antarctica was a cool topic to discuss, and not for the first time this year I became the student, while the boys and girls shared new understandings with me. Alexia explained that Antarctica is actually classified as a desert, while Kelina added that it was the “coldest, driest, windiest unpopulated place on the planet.” Noah and Tara shared the journeys of explorers Shackleton and Mawson.

Parent Focus Group Meeting
Tuesday 28th October 2:15pm
P&C News
President’s Report
On Tuesday night I attended the Kindy Orientation to speak about the P&C and it occurred to me that there may be many existing parents of the school that do not fully understand how the P&C supports the school.

Each year the P&C receives income of approx. $85k. The largest source ($35k) comes from voluntary contributions by parents. Another $25k comes from our major fundraising activity (this year the fete and in previous years the trailer raffle) with $25k coming from the Uniform Shop, Canteen and Social Club. From these funds the P&C supports the school by providing $30k for Teacher Aides each year and between $10k and $30k each year for teaching resources (books, art supplies, etc). The remaining funds are set aside for larger capital works. Most recently the P&C paid $20k towards cost of installing a wi-fi network across the class rooms and support areas. In prior years the P&C has paid for the K-2 COLA (outside the hall), air conditioning in all class rooms, electronic white boards in all class rooms, portable seating and the list could go on.

At present the P&C has accumulated $150k that has been earmarked to be spent on refurbishing the K-2 playground area in 2015. Ideally, we would like the requirements gathering and planning to be managed by a group of parents who have a direct interest in outcome. If you have an interest in getting involved or know of someone who may be well suited to the task please give me a call or drop me an email. We would like to have the K-2 Playground Committee up and running by the start of December.

The next P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday 19 November at 7:30pm in the staff room. If you have any matters that you would like discussed at the meeting would you please email the P&C Secretary at "nrpspandc@yahoo.com.au" before 11 November.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the P&C please drop me a line to discuss.
Anthony Macarthur
P&C President parramaca@gmail.com 0431 280 748

CANTEEN ON THE ROCKS NEWS
I would just like to thank everyone for supporting the canteen, the ladies are defiantly busy in there preparing all of the lunch orders. Last term we made a profit of $2,767 which is great. A special thank you goes to our wonderful volunteers, without your generous time that you give up to help us in the canteen we would not be able to achieve such a great result, all profits go back to the P&C to be used to benefit our children.

This is the time of year when we are organising our volunteer roster for next year and are hoping that our regular volunteers return, we still have several spots available and we welcome any parents, grandparents or aunts and uncles etc to volunteer. We also have an emergency roster for days when regular volunteers are unable to make it. The canteen is a great environment and you do not have to do any jobs that you feel uncomfortable with, there is no cooking involved and the ladies are always happy to accommodate your needs. Just drop by the canteen or email Mel at bellablooms@bigpond.com if you would like to volunteer or would like more info.

As the weather gets hotter we have a great selection of refreshments at the canteen, we offer combo deals with our lunch orders you can add a 600ml water or 100% juice (apple/orange/tropical) for an extra $1 which is a saving of 50c. Just write ‘combo’ on the lunch order bags to receive the discount.

THE SOCIAL CLUB
Kindy Orientation morning tea – Thank you to all the helpers that came along that morning.
Social Club Dinner – Friday, 28th November at Little Rock Café North Rocks – invitation in the newsletter this week. All parents/carers welcome. Please drop off RSVP to school office.
Reminder - our last meeting for 2014 will be on Monday, 10 October at 9.00am outside school hall. Please come along for a cuppa and friendly chat - preschoolers are also welcome. Hope to see you there! Carol Rizk

Uniform Shop News
This week was the start of our Kindy 2015 Orientation . A huge Thank you to all our many volunteers who have helped provide our new families with their childs school uniforms so far. It was lovely to meet all our new families. The uniform shop will be open for orientation on the 30th October and 7th November. As well as our usual Friday mornings from 8am.
Kerri Swadling

Band news
Thank you to all the performance band members who participated in the workshop and concert on Tuesday afternoon and evening at Muirfield High School. I wasn't able to attend, however I heard it went very well. Great job! For those performance band members who still haven’t returned their band camp note, could you please do so by the end of this week, to the front office.

Jane Robards
Year 5 camp

On Tuesday of week 2 in term 4, the whole of year 5 went to the Blue Mountains and Bathurst for an overnight camp.

It was a very early start, as we had to catch the bus at 6:30am to Katoomba. When we arrived at Katoomba we saw the Three Sisters. We then drove to Scenic World where we went on the railway, and the rainforest walk, followed by the cable way and lastly the skyway. After that we drove to Heritage park sheep and cattle drome, when we arrived we had some free time to play in the wet outside. Then later on we saw the sheep and cow show. After dinner we went to the bush dance where got to learn some fun dances. On the second day we travelled to the goldfields where we went gold panning and we got to find GOLD! We did many fun activities such as making mud bricks, making damper and playing games that little kids played in the olden days.

Bathurst camp was very fun. I really enjoyed when we got to have free time and when we went gold panning even though I got really muddy. I also enjoyed the sheep and cattle drome even though my bed was squeaky.

Bathurst camp was exciting and I hope that other people get to experience this camp or camps like this. I really enjoyed Bathurst and I definitely recommend it. By Lachlan 5A

· The scenic railway was really fun – Karlee
· I really liked playing rugby during our free time, and the scenic railway was awesome – Harry
· When we did a lap of Mount Panorama, it was interesting to see the new tarmac and the wrecked walls from the Bathurst 1000 race – James
· I enjoyed the Scenic Railway the most – Grace
· The line dancing was fabulous fun – Uzair
· I will never forget drinking milk straight from the cow! – Jemma
· We had lots of fun in our cabins with our friends – Helia
· It was interesting to learn about the different kinds of sheep: wool sheep, meat sheep and carpet sheep – Paris
· I learned that lip balm is made from the oil in sheep’s wool – Nicole
· Panning was my favourite part – Rayyan
· Homemade damper is delicious! – Hexuan
· The view from the Skyway was really cool and awesome – Joe
· I saw snow for the first time – Ashton
· I thoroughly enjoyed the food - Elise
WORKING BEE – NORTH ROCKS PUBLIC SCHOOL GROUNDS
Sunday 16 November 8am – 1pm

Preparation for Summer

The “Working Bee” operates from 8am – 1pm and you are welcome to come for all or part of that time. Children are welcome, and combine jobs with fun!

Please call Peter (9871 1772) if you need any further information, or have machinery/skills suitable for any of our tasks.

Here’s what we plan to do:

1. Weed and mulch gardens
2. Repaint walk signs
3. Edging grass areas and areas along fence lines.
4. Build retaining edging C Block memorial garden – complete job started last working bee
5. Blow/sweep pathways clean after works completed.
6. Pressure clean paths behind F Block
7. Clean air conditioner filters
8. Remove garden edging and replace with small timber retaining wall near the vegetable garden.
9. Trim hedges

If you would like to weed prior to the day you are very welcome.

PLEASE BRING TOOLS with you suitable for the task – wheelbarrows, gloves, saws, secateurs, spades, shovels, rakes, pinch bar, buckets, trowels or hand tools for weeding, leaf blower.

Helper also needed for BBQ, catering and shopping call Peter 9871 1772.

Afternoon tea provided, please return this form for catering before Wednesday 13 August

Working Bee Return Slip
Please return before Wednesday 12 November 2014

Family Name: .................................. Class(es): ..............

Number of adults: .................... Number of Children: ........

Preferred Task: Number...........

Equipment you are able to supply: ........................................
Castle Hill High School P&C invites you to

**Children’s Health & Wellbeing in the 21st Century**

An information session on the potential risks of electromagnetic radiation exposure from telecommunication towers, WiFi routers, smart phones, wireless-enabled computers and other devices

**Monday 10th November - 5 to 7 pm - Castle Hill High School**

**SPEAKERS INCLUDE**

**Prof. Dariusz Leszczynski**, an internationally renowned expert on radiation health from the University of Helsinki, Finland. Editor in Chief - Frontiers in Radiation Health

**Prof. Ray Kearney OAM**, Former Head of Dept. Infectious Diseases & Immunology, University of Sydney

**Dr. Priyanka Bandara**, Advisory Board Member (Hon) Environmental Health Trust (USA) and Doctors for Safer Schools

**Dr. Mary Redmayne**, Research Fellow from the Centre for Population Health Research on Electromagnetic Energy, Monash University

Convener: **Prof. Katherine Georgouras OAM**

RSVP and queries: Elizabeth Madders:  

*chhspc2154@gmail.com*
Social Club Dinner

When: Friday, 28th November 2014
Where: Little Rock Café – Westfields North Rocks
Time: 7.00pm

All NRPS parents/carers welcome – even if you’ve never attended a social club meeting!

Enquiries to Carol – 0401 138 430

RSVP for Social Club Dinner

Name: __________________________________________

Number of people: ____________________

Enrol now for Kindergarten 2015
From MUIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

Year 7 2015 Orientation Day
Could you please ask the TIC of Year 7 Transition from Year 6 to 7 to remind families of the correct date for our Orientation Day

ORIENTATION FOR STUDENTS ENROLLING YEAR 7 2015

Wednesday 3rd December 2014

Enrol now for Kindergarten 2015
At NRPS we value RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY, SAFETY, HONESTY

Providing Speech Pathology services to children requiring assistance with:

- Pronouncing sounds
- Learning Difficulties
- Following instructions
- Reading and writing difficulties
- Problems expressing ideas
- Visualising and Verbalising
- Understanding/comprehension
- Formulating correct sentences
- Stuttering
- Voice problems

Services are available at our Epping office Monday-Friday and also within the North Rocks Primary School on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

To make an enquiry:

Phone: 9876 4962 or Email: carlingfordspeech@gmail.com

Learn Music on Keyboard at North Rocks Public School

Enrolment

- 45min weekly group lesson
- Fun musical games
- Ensemble playing
- Musical theory
- Practical skills
- Instrument not required initially
- Competitive rate - $25 per session
- Convenient atschool venue

Smart Kids Love Music!

Call: 9411 3122 to enrol (business hours during school term)

www.learnmusicschool.com.au
Professional studio shots of Grandparents with Grandchildren or capture all the generations in a family portrait
- Two free photos per family
- Additional photos $5 each

Devonshire Teas

Colouring in for the kids while you wait for your photos

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**

9.30am - 4.30pm

You must arrive 10 MINUTES before your allocated time.

Book direct with Hills Community Aid at Living Choice Australia Limited
15 Old Glenhaven Rd, Glenhaven NSW 2156

FOR MORE INFORMATION 02 9639 8620  emzhca.org.au  www.hca.org.au

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Glenhaven Public School P&C invite you to come and enjoy Halloween with a ‘Movie Under the Stars’

**When:**
Friday 31st October 2014 (Halloween)

**Where:**
Glenhaven Public School Oval – entry via main gate

**Time:**
Gates Open 6.30pm – Movie @ Sunset approx 7.30 pm

$10.00 per person

Limited tickets available so prepay now
Under 4’s free
Tickets $13 on the night if not sold out prior

Email for ticket information

glenhavenpublosmovienight@gmail.com

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Sydney Newcomers is the friendliest of clubs!

Want to socialise with a local group of the friendliest ladies at a variety of events?

We are so much more than a women’s social club; there’s plenty of events to satisfy most interests. Our members are of all nationalities, all ages and from all walks of life.

sydneynewcomers.com.au

Don’t be shy, get in touch. We’d love to have you join us.

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ChiFUNese

Play and Learn Mandarin Chinese

Give your child competitive advantage in the ‘Asian Century’ by learning Mandarin and Chinese culture! ChiFUNese is a leading Mandarin program held at more than 20 schools around Sydney. The innovative program is student-centric and game-based.

Email for a FREE trial lesson at North Rocks

admin@chifunese.com  (02) 8006 8606

www.chifunese.com
Is your daughter interested in playing netball in 2015?
This is your invitation to come along to the Carlingford Flames player registration day:

On: Sunday, 2 November, 2014
From: 1pm - 3pm
At: STORAGE KING – 1 North Rocks Road, North Parramatta

Carlingford Flames netball club strives to provide positive role models through netball to girls from the age of 8. We encourage and support development of the player, the umpire and administrators while achieving a strong sense of community.

As an established and large community club we have the experience and resources to develop each player to their full potential whilst creating an environment where players make friends within the wider local community, not just their school.

For further information please email Chris Kellerway: skellerway@hotmail.com
Or visit the club website: http://www.carlingfordflames.nsw.netball.com.au

Carlingford Netball Club
Do you want to play netball in 2015?

Come and play with Carlingford Netball Club
• Under 7-9yrs Modified netball – Friday night
• Juniors and Seniors – Saturday competition
• NetSetGo! Accredited 10 week program for 5-7 years
  • Local Competition at Pennant Hills Park
  • Club Training at North Rocks netball courts

Our Club “on-line” Registrations are now open.
Simply go to our website www.carlingfordnetball.com.au to register and follow the prompts or contact our Registrar Fiona Briggs on ph: 0411 201 835.

Join us for Registration Day on Saturday 15th November 2014
at Murray Farm Public School Hall 10 - 2pm.

* As the Club is moving to a new uniform next year all players will need to attend Registration Day to be fitted for this uniform. See website for details.

* Any new players will need to provide a certified copy of their birth certificate.

We can also register a whole team of friends if you would like to play together!