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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Staffing

Our classes have now settled. We have 45 classes and an additional staff member appointed on Day 8 numbers. This extra staff member is Mrs Pauline Stock who will be working with the Learning Support Team for the next few weeks and who will then be assigned to special projects throughout the school, including working with advanced groups of students. Our Learning Support allocation dropped this year from two full time teachers to one full time and the other working three days per week. This was a result of our great NAPLAN results. Our Learning Support staff are Joy Wheeler (full time) and Leticia Hanlon (3days) with Pauline working alongside them for part of her role. Our Special Education staff are Gina Perkins (full time), Karen Rayward (7 days per fortnight) and Leticia Hanlon (2 days per week). There are also 58 teacher aide hours assigned to the Special Education Program. All of these staff are based in the Unit facility.

Annual General P&C Meeting

The Annual General meeting for the P&C Association will be held on Wednesday 10 March at 3.15pm in the school's staffroom. All parents and community members are invited to attend.

School Safety

With the very sad news of the passing of the 12 year old boy in Brisbane last week, parents everywhere must have hugged their children a little tighter during the past few days. This school has a very detailed Code of School Behaviour which can be accessed through our web site at www.pacificpinesss.eq.edu.au

We have very high expectations of student, staff and parent behaviour at this school. Everyone here has rights but they also have responsibilities as part of the school community. The behaviour of our students is outstanding and if any student contravenes our Code of Behaviour, then they face the consequences. My Deputy Principals and myself are very proactive in monitoring our students and we are always looking for positives. Be assured that if there is anything occurring with any students, such as bullying, it is reported to us for follow up immediately. If your child discloses any issues to you, then please follow up by talking to one of us. It just takes a phone call or email to make a time through the office. The school process for reporting bullying is through the Bully Report Form which any student can access through their classroom teacher. This form must be completed by the teacher with the student giving the information. This stops any cycles as reporting any issues leads to positive outcomes and teacher awareness.

Start of the Hall Construction

The expected date for the start of the construction of our new \$3 million hall is 9 March. The area around the basketball courts will be fenced off for this construction. Completion is expected around the end of October.

Fundraising for 2010

Fundraising for 2010 will be:

- Term 1 Easter Raffle – can students please start bringing in Easter egg etc donations ASAP to the Tuckshop?
- Term 2 Spellathon
- Term 3 Fashion Show
- Term 4 Christmas Raffle

Kathy Edwards
Principal

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STUDENT LEADERSHIP 2010

We are very proud to announce our Student Leadership Team for 2010. The election process was rigorous and highly contested. The quality of all applicants was outstanding. I know that our Captains, Chloe, Lochlan, Emma and Jon are very enthusiastic to get to know their team and lead their 2010 student body. Pacific

Pines Primary values and encourages student leadership at many levels; this is evidenced by the fact that the school contributes 50% of the funds to pay for a three day Leadership Camp. On behalf of the 2010 student leaders I would like to acknowledge this contribution from the school as well as to thank the 2009 Student Council for the 50% contribution that they raised. The camp is an opportunity for us to really get to know each other, to establish ourselves as a working and productive team, to set the scene for the year and most of all just to have a really good time.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the support and commitment Miss O'Donnell and Mr Slinger have demonstrated to this group of student leaders. Both of these exceptional teachers have a long history with student leadership at Pacific Pines. Without the time and support from teachers our student leaders wouldn't have the opportunities and experiences they are about to embark on.

On Monday the leaders were presented with their badge which clearly identifies them in their elected role. I am looking forward to supporting the students develop their profile in 2010 as a student leader and witnessing the growth and success of them as individuals and as a collective team. Congratulations to one and all.

Angela Gooley
Deputy Principal/Line Manager Year 6 & 7



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FROM THE BUSINESS SERVICES MANAGER

Late Payments

Already this year we have had many students coming to the payment window well after the cut off date. These payments cannot be accepted as all camps/excursions numbers have to be finalised as soon as possible after the cut off date to allow confirmation of numbers to venues and bus bookings.

Obviously if we accept late payments and this necessitates booking an extra bus then the school will make a loss on a camp/excursion.

Internet Payments

Internet payments must be made at least **2 days** before the cut off date of an excursion/activity to allow the transfer to our bank account.

If numbers have been finalised then late payments will be processed as a credit on your child's account.

School Photos

These will be taken on 16 & 18 March. The timetable is yet to be finalised but Years 4-7 will be taken on 16 March and the P-3 on 18 March. The timetable will be available from the website by the end of next week.

Please ensure your envelope is completed **with payment** and returned to the office by 16 March. The school does not handle the money for the photos and we cannot give change – correct money must be in the envelope handed in.

Envelopes for sibling photos are available from the office.

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MUSIC NEWS

Gold Coast Advanced Music Camp

Gold Coast Advanced Music Camp will be held in the last week of Term 2 again this year. The camp is 4 days only this year and is available for Senior Strings, Senior Band and Senior/Boys' Choir members. The cost is \$255 for the four days. Please let any of the music teachers know expressions of interest either by telling your child to see us or by emailing Rosemary Warhurst on rwarh3@eq.edu.au

Choir/Band and Strings Rehearsals

Rehearsal for all choirs and senior band and strings are now in progress and the students are enjoying the challenge of learning their new music. Junior band rehearsals will start next week.

In April the Senior and Boys' choirs will be heading to the Albert Waterways Hall (directly behind Pacific Fair) for a whole day of rehearsals in a massed choir format, with students from Worongary and Coombabah's choral programs. This event will feature a guest conductor Julie Christiansen, who has been conducting for over 25 years and started the Brisbane Birralees Voices - now world renowned children's' choirs. We are very lucky indeed to have the opportunity for our students to work with Julie. The day will culminate in a concert for all parents and friends starting at 5pm (might be 5:15pm....) at the venue.

I will send notes home when we have more details finalised. There will be a cost involved (around \$15) to cover the accompanist, guest conductor and music, but will let you know details asap.

Rosemary Warhurst
Music Teacher

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SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL WELLBEING MATTERS



Social and Emotional Wellbeing Matters

In Australia 89% of school-aged children with a disability attend an ordinary school. However, 63% of these students have been found to experience difficulties. Meeting the needs of children with disabilities can be challenging for schools and families. However, effective support for children's mental health and wellbeing involves efforts to meet the social, emotional and learning needs of all children. The term 'disability' refers to a wide range of conditions that in some way limit people's ability to manage everyday living. Different disabilities are often grouped in categories such as intellectual and learning disabilities, psychiatric disabilities, sensory and speech disabilities, chronic illness, acquired brain injury or physical disabilities. People may also be affected by more than one kind of disability.

Here are some handy hints for supporting children with disabilities

Build strengths step-by-step

Breaking tasks into small steps helps to ensure success and supports children's learning. It is important to support children's confidence by emphasising what they can do, not what they can't.

Be an advocate for children with disabilities

Children with disabilities often face discrimination. Make sure that others understand the need to include and value all children this benefits not only the individual child but promotes a caring community.

Focus on the child not the disability

Children's needs should be assessed individually and regularly. Do not to assume that all children with a particular disability have the same problems and needs. An individual child's needs may also change over time.

Develop partnerships

Parents and carers cannot meet the complex needs of children with disabilities alone. Collaborative involvement between families, schools and health professionals helps to ensure the best outcomes for children's development and mental health.

Here we try very hard to meet the needs of all students in our care and hope that you will continue to support us in doing this.

Until next time
Julie Dixon
Guidance Officer
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STUDENT ABSENCES

Parents/Guardians, please remember to advise the school if your child is absent from school for three days or more. You can do this by using the student absence phone number. If notification is not received your child's absence is recorded as "unexplained". Letters requesting an explanation will be sent to parents/guardians when a child is absent for 3 days or more.

Student Absence Phone Number (24hrs) 5502 5360

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KOOKABURRA TEXT BOOKS FOR SALE

R.E. activity books for Semester 1 are available for purchase now from the payment window at the office on Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 8:15-10:00am

Year 1	Beginning with God	\$5.00
Year 2&3	Infant Connect	\$3.00
Years 4&5	Lower Primary Connect	\$3.00
Years 6&7	Upper Primary Connect	\$3.00
Year 5	Reading Lab 2a-student record book	\$9.05
Year 5	Targeting Maths Dictionary	\$11.20
Year 4	Soundwaves Student Activity Bk.	\$13.85

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

WE WANT YOU !



Junior Rugby League
4 - 17 year olds
Ph - 5573 4885

info - thehornets@bigpond.com
www.helensvalehornets.leaguenet.com.au



Helensvale Hornets
Junior Rugby League Football Club

Putting the sting into rugby league on the Gold Coast!

- * Fastest growing club on the Gold Coast with over 550 members.
- * Director of Coaching for 2010 - ex NRL player & Qld Cup head coach.
- * Highest quality coaching staff - including 2 ex NRL players.
- * Family orientated club catering for all members of the family.
- * Fantastic facilities with modern club house & 5 fields.
- * Latest & greatest strength, speed, agility & training equipment.
- * Off season development academy to take your game to the next level.
- * Family discounts for families with more than 1 child playing.

P - 07 5573 4885 www.helensvalehornets.leaguenet.com.au

DATES TO REMEMBER

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1-3 March	Leadership Camp
10 March	P & C Meeting 3:15pm – All Welcome!
16 & 18 March	School Photographs
18 March	Yrs 4-7 Cross Country
19 March	Yrs 1-3 Cross Country
1 April	Last Day Term 1
12 April	Student Free Day
13 April	First Day of Term 2

EXCURSIONS/ACTIVITIES

<i>Year Level</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Excursion/Activity</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Payment Due by</i>
4	11 March	Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary	\$17	5 March
5	29-31 March	Yr 5 Camp to Tyalgum Ridge Retreat	\$225	19 March
6/7	1-3 March	Leadership Camp	\$32	19 March
CHESS PAYMENTS FOR TERM 1 DUE NOW				