Dear Helensvale community,

Sophie's Buddy Bench Presentation

We would like to thank GOLD FM who donated a Buddy Bench to our school last Friday morning. Our school has dedicated our Buddy Bench to Sophie Driene (Prep 2014) who tragically passed away at the start of this year from brain cancer. I would like to thank the many members of our school community who joined us for this special event which was held in the PAC due to the wet weather.

On behalf of our school community I would like to acknowledge Jeff Van Doornum (Student Support Services Coordinator), Lisa Rae (P & C President) and Samantha Donovan (Deputy Principal) for all of their work in organising this special event. We plan to have the bench installed beside the Junior Playground next to the PAC this week (weather permitting).

Thank you to all members of our school community who joined us for this special event and to everyone who helped make this happen.
If you choose to sit on the bench, you MUST
the first friend who invites you to play, or wait

If you see a friend when you are sitting on
invite them to play, or walk and talk

Two friends sitting on the bench can turn to
and invite each other to play, or walk and talk
What is Brain Cancer?

A brain tumour is a mass of unnecessary and abnormal cells growing in the brain. There are two basic kinds of brain tumours – primary brain tumours and metastatic brain tumours.

Brain tumours are named according to where the tumour originated, its pattern of growth and whether it is benign or cancerous. The tumour is also graded by its degree of malignancy and its chances of growing and spreading. There are approximately 130 different types of brain tumour. Brain tumours can be benign or malignant. **Malignant brain tumours are also called brain cancer.**

**Primary brain tumours**

A tumour that starts in the brain is a primary brain tumour. Primary brain tumours may be grouped into
"benign" and "malignant" tumours. Glioblastoma multiforme (GBM), astrocytoma, medulloblastoma and ependymoma are examples of primary brain tumours. A benign tumour consists of very slow growing cells, usually has distinct borders, and rarely spreads. Treatment and/or surgery is often effective, however, if a benign tumour is located in a vital area of the brain it can be considered life-threatening. Malignant brain tumours vary widely both in the way they grow and the way they respond to treatment.

**Paediatric brain tumours**

Children are different to adults—their bodies and brains are still developing. Their tumours are different too. The most common childhood brain tumours are not the same as the most common adult brain tumours. Though rare, brain tumours are the most common form of solid tumours among children under the age of 15. Childhood tumours frequently appear in different locations and behave differently than brain tumours in adults. Treatment options vary depending on the type of tumour and age of the child. Children with tumours may also have a much better prognosis than adults with a similar condition.

It is not known what causes brain cancer—it appears to occur randomly. This is why we need to invest in research. For the vast majority of people with a brain tumour, no outside cause can be clearly identified.

Brain tumours are rare, so it is extremely difficult to collect information about a large enough group of cases to enable statisticians to make reliable conclusions. However, information is being collected around the world and here in Australia, and researchers plan to analyse data from a large number of patients with gliomas.

Cure Brain Cancer is promoting collaboration within Australia and internationally to not only share discoveries and extend clinical trials but also to maximise the data available.

Research is underway into whether certain genes are important risk factors for brain tumours.

Source: Cure Brain Cancer Foundation
Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Camp Quality Primary School Education Program has been invited to perform at your child’s school on:

Friday 8th May 2015

Camp Quality is a children’s family cancer charity. Our purpose is to making a better live for every child living with cancer in Australia.

For over 25 years our Education Program, the Camp Quality Puppets, have transformed thousands of schools by helping children and teachers learn how to create a supportive school community for children affected by cancer, whether they are living with cancer themselves or have a family member living with cancer.

The program consists of a live, educational performance focusing on cancer education, optimism, friendship and tolerance.

There is no charge to the school or the students.

Following the performance, students are encouraged to ask questions and share their concerns. While we are able to answer most of their questions and concerns, we provide teachers with resources to supplement the performance and aid classroom discussion.

Over 4 million children have seen our puppets since the program began. We trust that your child will benefit from the positive messages promoted in our performance.

If you’d like more information about the program, please visit http://www.campquality.org.au/puppets or contact Amy on (07) 3216 0299.

NAPLAN testing time again
From Tuesday next week our Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 students will participate in the annual National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests to assess their skills and understanding in the areas of reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

The tests will be conducted in all state and non-state schools across the country from 12–14 May.

An individual NAPLAN report for each child will be sent home later this year. Results provide additional feedback for parents, carers and teachers on how students are progressing in key curriculum areas.

The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure your child that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can.

Further NAPLAN information for parents and carers is available online. Please contact the school if you have any questions about your child participating in NAPLAN testing.

http://www.nap.edu.au/

**NAPLAN breakfast**

For the last couple of years, Woolworths Helensvale has very generously donated breakfast items for the students at Helensvale State School to enjoy a healthy breakfast for the 3 mornings prior to them sitting for their NAPLAN tests. The students will be sitting their tests on the 12, 13 and 14th May and we would like them all to perform to the very best of their ability as some children arrive at school having little or no breakfast.

We believe that ensuring our students are not hungry prior to starting the tests gives them every opportunity for success. If your child in years 3 or 5 would like breakfast on these mornings they will need to come to the PAC (Performing Arts Centre) from 8.00 – 8.30am.

Thank you and Happy Naplan

**Quote of the week**
Nationally Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

Collecting data on school students with disability helps teachers, principals and education authorities support the participation of students with disability in schooling on the same basis as students without disability. All Australian Governments have agreed to work together on the annual collection of data on school students with disability. All Australian schools participate in this annual data collection.

The data provided to the Australian Government is aggregated data only. Please be reassured that the Department will not provide on to another organisation any data that can identify an individual student. The only data being collected at the school level to be reported nationally is the:

- number of students in the school who are provided with an adjustment to address a disability;
- level of adjustments we provide for those students; and
- broad category of disability.

Consultation with parents is important not only for the data collection but also to ensure you are aware of the adjustments being provided to support your child. We will therefore continue to consult with you. While only data that cannot identify your child will be submitted outside of the Department, if you do not wish for your child’s details to be included, please let me know. Information and fact sheets are available to help you make a decision from the:

Alternatively, if you have any queries about the collection or use of this data I encourage you to contact me directly.

Mike Shambrook
School Principal

From Mrs Donovan's Desk

Senior Dance Club

On Monday 4th May our Senior Dance Club students were joined by Year 11 and 12 students from Helensvale State High School completing their Certificate 2 in Dance. The Senior Students taught us a funk routine which we will be able to practice and perform later this term. The workshop was enjoyed by everyone and we look forward to the HSHS Dance Team returning on 25 May to finish teaching us this routine. A special thank you to Mrs Kelly, Dance Teacher, HSHS for organising this workshop for our students.
 Helping students get ready for the NAPLAN tests

The most resilient children and young people are those who rise to meet rather than retreat from the challenges presented to them. Perhaps it's best to view the NAPLAN tests as good learning experiences rather than dreaded pressure tests.

During the second week of May, Australian children in Years 3, 5, 7, and 9 will take part in the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN). The stated purpose of this testing program is to gain an overall picture of educational attainment levels to assist education policy and decision-making. The program first implemented in 2000 has drawn some criticism from a number of different quarters, particularly in regard to the use of the information gained through the NAPLAN tests. You've probably heard a number of different viewpoints expressed in the media over the last few weeks.

One view commonly put forward is that the NAPLAN tests put undue pressure on children to perform in test situations. If so, then perhaps the best approach for parents and teachers is to help them handle the pressure rather than avoid it. The most resilient children and young people are those who rise to meet rather than retreat from the challenges presented to them. Perhaps it's best to view the NAPLAN tests as good learning experiences rather than dreaded pressure tests.

Children and young people take their cues from their parents about how to handle many situations. American psychologist Martin Seligman discovered more than a decade ago, through his research into children's thinking styles, how closely a child's explanatory style mimics that of the parent they spend most time around. Optimistic parents beget optimistic kids, just as anxious parents can beget anxious kids. The impact of a parent's explanatory style seems to be magnified somehow in small families where there are fewer voices to be heard.

As a parent, it helps your child, if you take a positive view of the NAPLAN tests. It's better to see them as learning opportunities for kids as well as opportunities to overcome any anxieties or nerves that these tests may bring on. It's also worth remembering that many children don't stress over these tests. The vast majority take them in their stride, wondering what all the fuss is about.

Whether your child stresses or takes in stride here are some tips to help prepare for the NAPLAN tests:

1. **Take your cues from your child:** If your child doesn't worry about them then neither should you. Be careful not to create a problem that doesn't exist by incessantly talking about, or worse, worrying about the test.

2. **Listen to any concerns they have:** If your child confides in some avenues, validate their feelings, rather than put them down with a 'get over it!' response. Yes, sometimes tests can be a little scary, but they get easier every time you take them. Use this as an opportunity to develop some emotional smarts, which starts with recognizing how kids feel.

3. **Give them some relaxation ideas:** Anxiety or nervous kids will benefit from some simple relaxation strategies. Taking some deep breaths, changing their thinking and exercises the morning of the test are some simple ways to help kids get some feeling of control.

4. **Focus on doing their best and trying hard:** Give your child your support, not your performance expectations. Keep your perspective realistic, and help your child put focus on doing their best.

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School News

Published by The Administration Department

http://epublisher.net.au/public/newsletter/ViewNewsletter?u=dxxOJBDR8LyMq_veQt... 7/05/2015
Dear Parents/Carers,

The payment window operating hours are 8am to 9.15am Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Remember you are able to make payments via internet banking at any time – this is our preferred payment option.

Thank you,
Leonie Foster
Business Services Manager

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**Student Absence Line**

**55561370**

Don’t forget we have a convenient absence line for parents/carers to access 24/7. Parents can leave a message in relation to student absence for the class teacher on this line. Please phone and leave the following information:

- Child/Childrens Name
- Child/childrens class
- Date of absence
- Reason for absence

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**Focus Skill for this week**
Helensvale State School
Focus Skill

“Getting to class after the bell”

School rule: Be safe, Be a learner    You can do it key: Organisation

At Helensvale our school day starts at 8.45am. This is when the first bell rings in the morning. This is the signal to go to class and be ready and organised to enter the room to start learning time.

At 8.50am the roll is marked and if you are not in class by this time you need to go to the office to collect a late slip. Learning time starts at 8.55am.

After morning tea the first bell rings at 11.30am. This is the signal to start moving back to class, get a drink and go to the toilet.

ALL GAMES STOP and you should return any sports equipment to the sports bins in your play area.
At **11.35am** the second bell rings and by this time you should be outside your classroom lined up ready to re-enter for learning time.

**The playground looks like this.......**

[Image of playground]

....**EMPTY.**

**Everyone is back in class.**

At lunch time we do the same thing. The bell rings at **2.10pm**. This is the signal to start moving back to class, get a drink and go to the toilet.

**ALL GAMES STOP** and you should return any sports equipment to the sports bins in your play area.

At **2.15pm** the second bell rings and by this time you should be outside your classroom lined up ready to re-enter for learning.
**Student Sporting Success**

Congratulations to Luke C from Yr 6 who has made his second Regional Sporting team for the year. Luke was selected for the South Coast Regional Basketball Team to compete at the State Titles later this term. It is a massive achievement to achieve this level in sport across two sports (AFL and Basketball) so we would like to congratulate Luke and wish him all the best at the upcoming competitions.

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**BOOK CLUB**

**May is National Family Reading Month!**

Scholastic have a competition on at the moment to celebrate this, details are below. The competition closes May 15, 2015.

Snap a picture of yourself and family members (pets too!) in front of your favourite bookshelf and you could win a $100 Book Club Voucher! There are 10 vouchers to be won.

**How to Enter:**

Simply tell us in no more than 25 words what makes your bookshelf look so good.

Email your answer and shelfie picture to competitions@scholastic.com.au with subject line ‘Share a Shelfie Competition’. Include your first name, surname, age, school name and state.

T&Cs are available [here](#).

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**ICAS English and Maths Competition**

This year children in Years 4, 5 and 6 will be given the opportunity to participate in the ICAS – English and Maths tests, formerly known as University of New South Wales English and Maths Tests.
Participation is completely voluntary. The benefits of participation include:-

- Evidence for students’ portfolios to support applications for Excellence Programs for High School
- Individual Reports, information about individual progress over time
- An Award Certificate

The cost to participate will be $8.00 per subject. Entry fees need to be paid by 21 May 2015.
The English test will take place on 28 July and the Maths test will be on 11 August.

Interested students will be given a letter with payment details during this week. If you would like your child to participate, please ensure that the permission slip is signed and payment is made by 21 May 2015.

Jane Rheeder
Learning Coach

Community News

Published by The Administration Department

Advertising Space is now available within our newsletter

Please phone Michelle on 0409992479 or send an email to michelle.m@austnews.com.au if you are interested in advertising your business.
Sensory Screening for Families with Special Needs

Big Hero 6
Penguins Of Madagascar
Home (In Cinemas 19 Mar)
Tinkerbell: Legend Of The Neverbeast (In Cinemas 2 Apr)
Minions (In Cinemas 18 Jun)

SUN 15 FEB  SUN 15 MAR  SUN 26 APR  SUN 24 MAY  SUN 28 JUN

Sensory Movie Day is an inclusive event for families with special needs
- Lighting is on dim, sound lowered, volunteers monitoring fire exit doors.
- Sensory Movie Day run once a month on a Sunday at 11am
- Tickets are $8 each (Except Ipswich $6 each). Children 2yrs and under are free
- Companion I.D. Cards are accepted

Sensory Movie Day is running at the following Locations:
Morayfield, Maroochydore, Mackay, Capalaba, Browns Plains, Ipswich,
Toowoomba, Lismore, Tuggerah and Cronulla
Any questions email sensormovieday@hotmail.com

BUY TICKETS NOW AT THE BOX OFFICE

EVENT
bcc CINEMAS
My treasured Stand Up Paddle Board, “Pinkie” was lost last Monday Apr 27 on Monterey Keys Drive. She has been seen as we have received reports via social media however she has not yet been returned to her rightful owner. Reports indicate that someone has picked up Pinkie and has left her on the side of the road on Monterey Keys Drive. If anyone knows anything, or has Pinkie PLEASE call Susi Bostock 0478 405 652