Dear Helensvale Community,

Congratulations to our 2016 School Leaders

After a rigorous election process I am pleased to be able to announce our 2016 School Leaders. Congratulations to:

School Captains - Alisha and Harry

School Vice Captains - Jade and Cameron

Captain of the Student Council – Gabriella

I would like to thank all students who participated in the process this year. I would also like to thank our panel: Kim Ona (Deputy Principal), Jo Irving (Year 6 Year Level Leader), Jeffrey Van Doornum (Student Support Coordinator) and Lisa Rae (P & C President) for their support of this process. I am positive our new student leadership team will be excellent role models for our students as they strive to succeed.

Planning for 2016

I have been working with all members of staff to plan for 2016. At this stage, our staffing, facilities map and student class placements are also being finalised. We are endeavouring to complete this significant planning as soon as possible. As you know, our teaching allocation is based on enrolment numbers so:

- If you will not be returning to our school in 2016 please let June know in Administration on 5556 1333 as soon as possible.
- If you are within our catchment area and hoping to enrol please also contact June know in Administration on 5556 1333 as soon as possible.

Currently all of our year levels are almost full so please contact us as soon as possible if you are yet to enrol your child for Prep in 2016 and are within catchment.

This information will support us in being as planned as possible for the start of Term 1 2016. In the next few weeks I will keep you updated as this information is finalised.
P & C Christmas Carol Evening

I hope all of our families will be joining us on Thursday 3rd December on the oval for our special Christmas Carols evening. Please pack your picnic rug/chairs and bring your family to celebrate an amazing year at our school and the spirit of Christmas. Food vendors will be on site for hungry tummies and our performers will be set to dazzle! Please consider donating a present under our Christmas Tree that Mr Long Bradley will donate through our local Church to families in need. I know this will be a very special evening for our school community and hope to see you there!
Commitment to Wellbeing

As a school we have been working with Jessica Lane, Guidance Officer – Mental Health on our Learning and Wellbeing Framework to support high levels of student and staff wellbeing in our community. This will be a continued priority in 2016 as we work together to ensure that all members of our school community are flourishing.
This week we have welcomed our 2016 Prep students as part of our commitment to ensuring a positive start to school which we recognise helps your child to develop a lifelong love of learning. As a school we are committed to supporting our new families, including our Prep families with a successful transition which is more than a great first day. Our new Prep students have had the opportunity to participate in three sessions focusing on orientation activities with our current Prep teaching team to experience 'big school' and ensure they feel welcome, safe and confident for their first day of school.

I would like to thank and acknowledge all of the parents and our local day-care centres who have supported our new Prep students attending these sessions. We truly value our relationship with you and look forward to developing a strong partnership with you throughout your child's education with us. Of course, these sessions are not the only way that parents can support their child in getting ready for school. Children who can play cooperatively with others, explain their thoughts, ideas and feelings and follow routines and directions are socially and emotionally prepared for school. There are many simple ways you as a parent can encourage your child's development of these skills. Talking with your child about what they see and understand about everyday family events is a simple way you can support your child's development. Reading together, especially stories about change or starting school will develop your child's language, thinking and literacy skills. Visit your local library or ask your child's early childhood teacher for recommendations on books to read. As it gets closer to the start of school, set up a morning and evening routine to help reduce the number of changes they will experience. The routine can include packing their lunch box, dressing themselves, practising the trip to school. Helping your child to work out answers to problems or concerns will help them develop coping strategies and make them more independent and confident. Encourage them to ask for help if they need it and talk to their new Prep teacher, another staff member or an older 'school buddy' about their concerns.

Here are some helpful hints on ways you can support them:

- get to know other Prep children and their families as soon as appropriate, as building these relationships can foster a sense of belonging for you and your child
- know your child’s concerns and provide comfort and support by talking together
• speak positively about their new school
• get to know your child’s new school and the staff by participating in school orientation activities
• contribute to the development of your child’s Transition Statement and provide a copy of the completed statement to your child’s Prep teacher.

As a parent, you know your child best. Talking to the Prep teacher about your child’s other prior-to-school experiences will also help them understand and prepare to meet your child’s learning, social and emotional needs.


You can find out more information on supporting your child transition to school by visiting:


---

National White Ribbon Day – November 25th – Not Now, Not Ever Campaign

The existence of domestic and family violence in our community and its prevention is everybody’s responsibility. It is a complex issue that can impact on anyone, regardless of age, wealth, location, cultural background, sexual identity or gender. The Department of Education and Training is committed to the safety of staff, students and families and eliminating domestic and family violence in any of its forms. Nobody should have to tolerate domestic or family violence and the department strongly encourages and will support those affected to seek help.

On Wednesday this week, Australia recognised White Ribbon Day which is Australia’s only national, male led Campaign to end men’s violence against women. The campaign works through primary prevention initiatives involving awareness raising and education, and programs with youth, schools, workplaces and across the broader community. Globally, White Ribbon is the world’s largest male-led movement to end men’s violence against women. Originating in Canada in 1991, White Ribbon is now active in more than 60 countries. White Ribbon began in Australia in 2003 as part of UNIFEM (now UN Women), formally becoming a Foundation in 2007. White Ribbon Australia observes the International Day of the Elimination of Violence against Women, also known as White Ribbon Day, annually on November 25. White Ribbon Day signals the start of the 16 Days of Activism to Stop Violence against Women, which ends on Human Rights Day (December 10). However the campaign runs all year and is evident across the community through, for example, advertising and marketing campaigns such as Uncover Secrets, social media, community events and White Ribbon Night in July.

You can more about how we can all support putting an end of Domestic Violence by visiting:

http://www.whiteribbon.org.au/
Planning for 2016 Transitions

Our teachers are currently trying to finalise class lists for 2016. In the last week of school, all students will have the opportunity to meet the team of teachers who will be teaching their grade level for the following year. Given the numerous changes that can happen over the summer vacation students will know their teacher for 2016 on the first day of school. However, by providing the 'Meet your Teaching Team' experience we hope to support students transitioning as they will know the teachers on this grade level. Teachers will plan fun experiences for these meetings in the last week of school. This process was used in 2015 with very positive feedback from our students, staff and parents. More information about this will be provided next week.

Samantha Donovan
Acting Principal

From Ms Brown's Desk

Attendance

Best attendance: 96% in Mrs Rutherford's Year 1/2
Classes that also met the target of 95% or higher: PC, 2E, 4/5F
Least unexplained absences: Prep E at 1%
The cohort with the highest attendance: Year 3 with 95%
2016 Prep Transition

This week we had the majority of our 2016 Prep children attend the 2 Transition days. The children have come from 26 different day care centres and a number of these centres, including Munchkins, Koala Kindy, Young Discoverers and Goodstart Early Learning have very generously driven the children to Helensvale State School to ensure they were able to participate. With so many of our families working, this was a wonderful gesture and so gratefully appreciated by us all.

These excited, confident children were totally engrossed in all the activities provided in the various Prep classrooms and many have made it quite clear that they want to come back – and SOON! We can’t wait to see all these wonderful little people again next Thursday for our final Transition Day.

Thanks Helensvale State School for our fantastic transition visit today. The very first words mentioned when the children got on the bus to come home were -’Can we come back? We had so much fun, when can we come back?’ The children were so confident, excited, engaged and ready to listen and learn. This just affirms for us the great work we are doing in the school readiness space. MUNCHKINS

Christmas Sharing Assembly

Prep and Year 1 Sector Assembly will be held on Tuesday morning from 9am -11am, instead of Monday afternoon. We look forward to seeing many of you in the audience.

Persuasive Writing in Year 1

Year 1 students have been learning to write persuasive texts this term. This is one of the texts:

Mrs Donovan Should Drive The School Bus  by Indy W.

I think this because she has a driver’s licence. She has the keys. She does know how to work the buttons. She does know how to drive a school bus. She is tall enough to reach the pedals. She knows where the school is. She knows where the pool is. She knows the bus times. She knows where the bus is.

That’s why I think Mrs Donovan should drive the school bus.

School News

Published by The Administration Department

School Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Payment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 1st Dec</td>
<td>Helensvale's Got Talent Final</td>
<td>PAC</td>
<td>PAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christmas Sharing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prep - Year 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 - 11:00am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 2nd Dec</td>
<td>Christmas Sharing</td>
<td>PAC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Years 2 - 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 - 11:00am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 3rd Dec</td>
<td>Religious Education Christmas</td>
<td>PAC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Concert</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 - 10:30am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HSS Xmas Carol Event</td>
<td>HSS Oval</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4:30 - 7:30pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 4th Dec</td>
<td>Christmas Sharing</td>
<td>PAC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Years 4 - 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 - 11:00am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 7th Dec</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hi Everyone,

With it being only two and a bit weeks until school finishes, we are needing a few volunteers to help out on Wednesday and Thursday for the next few weeks. A few of our regular ladies and gentlemen have either gotten jobs or have other commitments at the moment. So if you could help on either of these days please come in and see me! We would love some extra help and be able to open a few more windows at break times so the kids can get cool drinks and ice blocks in this stifling heat.

I would like to thank all our wonderful volunteers whom have helped out throughout the year. Your help has been really grateful: as without parent help we wouldn’t have the extensive menu that we do, or be open every day. It is a fun way to help out in the school. So if you have a little free time, please could you consider helping out as we would love to meet new members of our school community.

I would like to say a special thank you to the parents who just stepped up and came and helped while I was away on bereavement leave. Our community was just amazing to our family so thank you!

Flexischools will operate until Thursday 10th December, 2015. Flexischools wipe the orders from this date so you are not paying for orders while we are on holidays. If you do a running order for a certain day each week you will have to set it up again when we come back from holidays.

On Friday, the last day of term, the Tuckshop will be closed due to cleaning and stocktake. Therefore we will be unable to do lunches on this day. Please make alternate arrangements for your child/ren’s lunches on this day. Thank you in advance for your co-operation in this matter.

Thanks,
Tracy Wall
Tuckshop Convenor

Christmas Card Delivery

Christmas Card delivery will be happening WEEK 9.

Students can post cards to each other from PREP C each morning before school in the Christmas Post Box.

Cards MUST have a student name and class clearly on the front. NO Candy Canes/Chocolates to be stuck to the front of the cards.

Posting can start from THURSDAY 26th of WEEK 8. Deliveries to classrooms by groups of Year 6 singers and dancers will run daily from Mon-Fri of WEEK 9 only.

Roslyn Melrose

News from YMCA

[Image]

2016 Enrolment Electronic and hardcopy forms are out. Please call in and pick one up, or email for an electronic copy. We look forward to all our new Prep’s joining us in 2016.

YMCA Helensvale OSHC
P: 07 5665 9216
M: 0438 166 533
ahv@ymcabrisbane.org

If you are new to the school and would like a tour of our service, please call to make an appointment. Our team members will show you around and explain all things OSHC.

New Payment Method

A new payment method is now available to pay for invoices from the school. Some families may now be receiving invoices for excursions etc and have not received them in the past. This is due to the new payment method being offered. BPoint is now the preferred method for payment. An advantage of this is you will receive a receipt through BPoint as soon as payment is made. Please ensure you use the correct CRN and invoice number when making payment. When invoices are received by email you will also receive a permission note the same day with information about the excursion/activity.

Leonie Foster

Student Absence Line

Email: absence@helensvaless.eq.edu.au
Phone: 55561370
Don’t forget we have a convenient absence line - email & phone, for parents/carers to access 24/7. Parents can leave a message in relation to student absence for the class teacher by this email or phone line. Please phone or email with the following information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child/Childrens Name</th>
<th>Child/childrens class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of absence</td>
<td>Reason for absence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Community News

Published by The Administration Department

Advertising in our Newsletter

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.

Players Wanted

Early Sign-On Day

12noon - 2pm Sunday 6th December 2015

Pay your Discounted Registration Fee of $230 in Full on the Early Sign-On Day & Get $30 Uniform Voucher To Buy Shorts & Socks or Club Shirt, Sports Bag etc.

Parkwood Sharks Rugby League Club

Parkwoodsharks@yahoo.com.au / www.parkwoodsharks.com

Animal Welfare League Qld

Animal Antics

School Holiday Activities Program

BOOK NOW

15 Dec & 12 Jan 9:30am - 2:30pm

PlACES STRICTLY LIMITED!!

To book please contact 07 5509 9034 or email education@awldqld.com.au

For more info go to our website www.awldqld.com.au

Fun, educational activities for ages 6 - 10 years...

- Learn all about our shelter animals!
- Guided, behind-the-scenes tour of our Rehoming Centre!
- Animal-themed arts and craft!
- Learn about dog training and responsible animal care!
- Cuddle with our ‘pocket-pets’, cats and kittens and heaps more...

Clarinet for Sale

Clarinet for sale, if any parents are looking for an instrument for next year.

Asking price $50. The clarinet works perfectly fine and was only used for 1 year.

If anyone is interested they can contact Danni on 0405556208 or email dbr38@es.edu.au.
Looking for something to do?
Check out our FREE MOVIE NIGHTS in Division 1 over the coming months. Tell your family and friends to come along.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FREE MOVIE NIGHT</th>
<th>Movie</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ormeau Norfolk Village Oval</td>
<td>Big Hero 5</td>
<td>10 October 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Coomera Centre</td>
<td>Minions</td>
<td>23 January 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pimpama Brian Houston Village Green</td>
<td>Little Rascals</td>
<td>13 February 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You can contact me on 5581 6301 or 0424 778 990 or by email division1@goldcoast.qld.gov.au

OR

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/CrDonnaGatesDivision1

To find out more information phone 07 5581 6301 or division1@goldcoast.qld.gov.au