Dear Parents & Carers,

School Improvement Agenda 2015

1. Professional Learning Teams
2. Quality Curriculum & Assessment
3. Dynamic Pedagogy
4. Student wellbeing
5. Improving Upper 2 Band performance

Student Goal Setting

Setting of student goals continues to be one of our focus areas for improving student outcomes. This focus, as identified by research, is that children who are engaged in setting their own learning goals, perform remarkab
better than students who do not set goals. All students in Years 1-6, have developed / are developing their own goals for discussion at the end of term interviews. These goals align with our school improvement agenda above, which lay a strong foundation for improved learning outcomes.

It has been great to talk to students about their goals and how they are progressing. This is also a good opportunity for parents to become involved with learning. Talk to your child about what they are working towards in these areas and support them to achieve their goals in the home environment and importantly, celebrate when their goals are achieved. Please see your child’s class teacher if you require more information, at the interviews.

**NAPLAN DATES**

We have had our first departmental documentation sent to school to commence the NAPLAN process for 2015. This involves ALL students in Years 3, 5, 7 & 9 throughout Australia sitting for Literacy and Numeracy tests on 12, 13 and 14 May. Parents need to keep these three days free of holidays or other commitments if at all possible.

I would encourage parents to view the website for more information [http://www.nap.edu.au](http://www.nap.edu.au)

**READING - IMPROVING THE WAY CHILDREN READ**

Reading is a key priority throughout our school from Prep to Year 6. Every teacher employs differentiated instruction based on student needs arising from class formative and summative assessment data.

Our teachers do an outstanding job of explicitly teaching reading, with the focus on improving fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. At Helensvale we believe that:

*Every child can learn to read a wide variety of multi-modal texts.*

*Oral language, reading and writing are interconnected processes.*

*Readers need practice and frequent opportunities to read in order to become competent and confident readers.*

*The teaching of reading should incorporate a consistent, evidence-based approach across P-6.*

*Reading activities should be authentic, purposeful, guided and scaffolded to provide successful experiences for every student.*

*Strong partnerships between home and school provide a powerful support for children learning to read.*
Our staff are always looking for volunteers to assist with reading, before school and in your child’s classroom. If you are interested, please contact your child’s teacher.

### P&C ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The **Annual General Meeting** will be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 18 March where all memberships lapse, new members are accepted and Executive positions are elected for the next 12 months.

The P&C wishes all families a successful year at Helensvale— and encourages all parents to be involved in our school.

### READY READER PARENT PROGRAM

**Why are we doing this Ready Reader Parent Program?** - To provide an opportunity for parents to support their child at home with the reading process.

This program is an opportunity to build capacity in our parents to support their child to read and for parents to create literacy moments for their child (ren). It is important that schools provide our school community with the opportunity to participate in this valuable program. Parents need to attend one of the sessions each week.

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<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Thursday 5th March</th>
<th>Friday 6th March</th>
<th>Thursday 12th March</th>
<th>Friday 13th March</th>
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### DATE CLAIMERS THURSDAY APRIL 2

- **Cross Country** 9.00-11.00
- **Fun Run** 11.30-1.30

Further information next week.
QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Only one person and one person only will determine how good a runner you become... You will become as good as you let yourself be. That one person is you."

Anonymous

Principal

P&C MEETING 18TH MARCH 2015

Notification of Agenda Item

At the March meeting of the P&C Association the re-introduction of a voluntary contribution scheme will be discussed. For many years the P&C conducted a successful voluntary contribution scheme to assist fund resources in the school. The contribution was $40 per year or $10 a term.

In 2012 the scheme was discontinued due to a number of issues in the school at this time. In 2014 the concept was discussed and supported by the P&C but no formal action was taken to reintroduce the voluntary contribution. In discussion with the Principal, the contribution, if reintroduced would be totally directed to enhancing ICT resources in the school.

Many schools charge parents for ICT use/access/equipment etc. which is significantly higher than $40.00 per year. Should the contribution scheme be supported by parents at the P&C meeting potentially $40000.00 (10: students @ $40.00) could be directed to enhancing ICT resources in the school. That is the scheme would remain at $40.00. These include iPads, computers, laptops, enhancement/replacement of data projectors/interactive whiteboards used daily in classrooms.

The management of the scheme would include monthly reports to the P&C re the contributions collected and what the funds have been expended each month.

I trust you will be able to attend the next meeting to discuss the reintroduction of the voluntary contribution...
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:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>• Child/Children's Name</th>
<th>• Child/Children’s class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Date of absence</td>
<td>• Reason for absence</td>
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**NEWS FROM PREP B**

Wow! What a great start Prep B have made to their educational journey at Helensvale. We have been learning how to be organised and independent by placing our lunch box, drink bottle and take home folder in the appropriate place every morning. Last week we began our Home Reading program and everyone has been doing a great job filling out their Reading Log. Congratulations!

Every week, as part of our Literacy program we have been learning new letters of the alphabet and their associated sounds. Last week one of the letters was the letter rR. Prep B enjoyed making robots and rockets.
As part of our Numeracy program, in maths rotations we have been investigating numbers to ten.

This week’s spelling focus is i and y can say “i” at the end of a syllable but usually they say “i”. Try helping your child to think of different words that highlight this strategy.

**Challenge**

Read words from the environment and general surrounds. (traffic signs, posters at shopping centre etc.). See how many words you can come up with that fit the strategy.

The weekly problem solving strategy is Identify relevant and irrelevant information. This strategy involves looking for at a problem that has a lot of unnecessary information. If you cross out the information you don’t
need, the problem becomes easier to understand.

Ready Reader Program

Thank you to all those parents who attended the Ready Reader Program this week. I look forward to seeing you all there again for the second component next week.

Student Success

Congratulations to Teehavi M on her selection in the Broadwater District Netball Team. We wish her all the best when she attends the Regional Trials later this term.

P & C NEWS

EASTER FAMILY FUN RUN

Next Wednesday we will be launching this year’s exciting Fun Run Event……. We really want to make this a morning with lots of parents involved. So keep your eyes peeled at next Wednesday’s Full School Assembly details on how you could win a Ipad Mini…….. We have an exciting new format this year including an egg n spoon challenge….

We would love to hear from any parents that would like to volunteer on the day please from preparing the ice blocks to helping with the races etc, please email pandc@helensvaless.eq.edu.au.

TUCKSHOP
A big thank you to the lovely ladies who have come along and volunteered in the Tuckshop over this last week, your help is very much appreciated by Tracy and her staff. We look forward to your continued support……

HSS P&C Annual General Meeting

A reminder that the Helensvale State School P&C Association will be holding our AGM following our general meeting on Wednesday 18th March from 7pm. We welcomed a few new members at our last meeting and look forward to having them on board.

BOOKCLUB

Issue 1 orders have been sent home with the students this week.

We received orders for just over $2000 in total which in turn earned our school $400 in Rewards which we will use on books and resources for our school! Thank you for your support of Bookclub.

If there are any questions for Bookclub, please contact us on hssbookclub@gmail.com or Carole 0412978701.

Just a reminder that Bookclub is now CASHLESS. We received a number of orders with cash this issue and processed them but the next issue is cashless and you will need to order via the Loop system with a credit or debit card online.

You can place your order via www.scholastic.com.au/loop or via the iPhone App (Android coming soon).

To Place an Order -
1. Brochure sent home with student
2. Select the book/s you want
3. Mark them on the order form on the back of the brochure for your records only
5. Select QLD on the left hand side
6. Start typing Helensvale State School in the School Box and select our school
7. A box will appear on the screen, press CLOSE
8. You will be directed to the Loop Payment page
9. Select ORDER at the top
10. Select QLD in School Details
11. Type postcode 4212 or school name
12. Select our school from the list on the right
13. Click on START ORDER
14. Click on ORDER under Issue 1, 2015
15. Click on the + to add your Children
16. Add your child’s first name and last surname initial (so the school knows who the book is for)
17. Select the child’s Class from the list and click on ADD
18. Enter the item number from the Book Club brochure and quantity
19. You can order for multiple children at once by clicking on Add Child and repeating as above
20. Once you have finished your order for your family, click on NEXT
21. Check your order and then click NEXT
22. Add your payment details and click on Proceed with Payment and once processed it will confirm your order
23. All orders are linked directly to the school for submission to Scholastic
24. Books will be delivered to your child’s classroom in about two weeks if you order by the close date

There’s NO need to return paper order forms to school. On the brochure back page, we are Option 1 only.

For a quick how-to-order video, log-in to www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP, select State and School and then click on HELP at the top.

The next issue of Bookclub will be sent home next week.

Happy Reading!
Carole

HOST FAMILIES REQUIRED

HOST FAMILIES REQUIRED
FOR JAPANESE STUDENTS

Helensvale Primary School will be welcoming students from the Kokuren Study Tour from 22-30 March. Students are between the ages of 10-13.

The programme provides both the visiting students and the hosting families with a wonderful opportunity to share experiences and cultures and to develop lifelong friendships.

Host families will be subsidised by $75 a night for 2 students. You will be required to supply 3 meals a day, transport to and from school and a warm, friendly, home.

If you are interested in hosting a student or you would like any additional information, please contact Naomi or Judy on the following number

The Japanese Advisory Service
(07) 5592 0575

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.
Mindfulness Course for Parents

If you are a parent of a child with a psychological, behavioral or developmental difficulty this course is for you!

‘Mindfulness’ refers to the practice of being attentive to the present moment in a focused, non-judgmental and open-minded manner. Mindfulness has been used therapeutically as a coping tool to better manage symptoms associated with all types of emotional distress including anxiety, depression and stress.

This 5 weeks course will use practical mindfulness based exercises to help you develop new coping skills for dealing with the stress associated with being a parent.

Cost $100

Contact Details
For further information, or to secure a place in the course, please contact
Griffith University Gold Coast Campus
Psychology Clinic on
1800 188 295
Or Email
psychclinic-gc@griffith.edu.au
griffith.edu.au/health/clinics/psychologyclinic

Starting Dates 2015

First Course:
5 consecutive Tuesday mornings
9.30am – 11.30am
17th February – 17th March

Second Course:
5 consecutive Monday afternoons
10.30am – 12.30pm
2nd March – 30th March

Third Course:
5 consecutive Monday afternoons
5.00pm – 7.00pm
2nd March – 30th March

Fourth Course:
5 consecutive Monday mornings
9.30am – 11.30am
20th April – 18th May
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 sensorymovieday@hotmail.com

BUY TICKETS NOW AT THE BOX OFFICE

EVENT CINEMAS  bcc CINEMAS
Helensvale Neighbourhood Watch is hosting a Family Fun Day!

Saturday
14 March 2015
10AM – 2PM
Helensvale Lions Park
2 Discovery Drive, Helensvale

Heaps of FREE Activities
Face Painting
Meet our Emergency Services
Giant Inflatable Slide
African Drumming
Fun Interactive Displays
Random Fun with GMG Sports Training

Food Vendors Available!
Sausage Sizzle
Ice Cream
Cold Drinks
Cake Stall
Hot Chips
Fairy Floss
Coffee Van

Come along and meet your neighbours and connect with your local Community!

Heart of Helensvale

Heart of Helensvale

Neighbourhood Watch Queensland

Heart of Helensvale

Working Together

Proudly supported by
CITY OF GOLDCOAST.

Connect with us online

Follow us on twitter
Like us on Facebook

Stay informed
subscribe to the Coomera Blog
@ coomera.nhwq.org
The Pyjama Foundation

THE LONG ROAD

REGISTER • FUNDRAISE • WALK

They’ve been down the long road already, take the long road for them.

Sunday 29 March

Hollindale Park, Seaworld Drive, Main Beach, Gold Coast
Sign in from 6.30am for a 7.00am start

For more information call Stephanie - 0422 663 200
or email stephanie@thepyjamafoundation.com

Register now to help children in foster care have a better future
www.thepyjamafoundation.com/upcoming-events
Why not host an overseas exchange student with AFS Intercultural Programs? We have participants due to arrive in July and they require volunteer host families for their stay in QLD.

Participants come for 8 weeks to 5 months and attend high schools or volunteer for organisations in the community. They come from countries including Switzerland, France, Italy, Germany and many more.

Make a friendship that can last a lifetime. For more information please call your local AFS volunteer Kelly Mudford on 0448 065 990 or contact the AFS Hosting team on 1300 131 736 or visit www.afs.org.au/host to make an inquiry!
Parli italiano...? Host an Italian student!

Open your home to a true blue Italian student arriving in July!

Italy is much more than just pizza, pasta and the leaning tower of Pisa, and by hosting an Italian student in your home, you will get to learn all about Italy first hand!

Students are arriving in July and staying in Australia from 6 weeks to 6 months, they’ll attend school, and live as part of your family - another son, daughter, brother or sister!

Interested? Be quick to give us a call on 1300 131 736 to find out which students are still searching for families.

The Hosting Team at the AFS National Office on 1300 131 736 or at aus.hosting@afs.org

Connecting Lives, Sharing Cultures

Enquiries: 1300 131 736  Email: ausafs@afs.org
Website: www.afs.org.au/host
1-2-3 MAGIC® & EMOTION COACHING

PARENT COURSE

A three-session program for parents and carers to help manage difficult behavior in children 2-12 years old is being held at Studio Village Community Centre

at 87 Village Way Studio Village

3x Saturday Mornings  9:30am to noon
Starting On 7 March 2015

Learn:

✓ How to discipline without arguing, yelling or smacking
✓ How to sort behaviour
✓ How to handle challenging and testing behaviours
✓ Choosing your strategy, the three choices
✓ Using emotion coaching to encourage good behaviour
✓ 7 tactics for encouraging good behaviour

Registration Fee?
The course costs $15.00
Register for this course contacting Nikki Condon at Studio Village Community Centre on 07 5529 8253

What people are saying?

What a relief to come across a program that preserves the dignity of the child, maintains the self control of both the parent and the child and is actually easy to remember when memory is the first thing to go!

I realized quickly that the 1-2-3 Magic can be a magnificent preventative measure that any parent can use to avoid raising a child, who later down the line, needs excessive discipline or grows out of control.

Who's running it?
The trainer for this course is Nikki Condon who completed the Parentshop® 1-2-3 Magic & Emotion Coaching on 10 May 2010. Studio Village Family Support Worker, Nikki has worked with families, children, young people including teen mums, and the community since the 1990's with a special interest in building parents confidence to raise happy children.

For more information contact Nikki
phone: 5529 8253  email: family@studiovillage.com.au

Village Family Support Program is funded by the Department of Communities

• An end to the arguing and yelling!  • It saved our lives  • Simple, sane, effective •

This course is being run by a Parentshop® licensed practitioner.  www.parentshop.com.au