FROM THE PRINCIPAL

MONDAY THE 17TH OCTOBER 2016 PUPIL FREE DAY
This coming Monday, 17th October the school is closed to students. The school staff will be undertaking a range of Professional Development activities. We welcome these days as wonderful opportunities for the Professional Development of our teachers.

HOMEWORK
It was interesting to hear of the debate over homework that has been raging on some of our media channels. The context of these discussions has been about homework being of no benefit to children and therefore should not be done. It is my opinion that homework is beneficial for children for the following reasons.

Homework:
- Provides children with an opportunity to reinforce some learning that occurred during their school day.
- Allows parents an opportunity to engage with what children are learning at school, and, most importantly.
- Sets children into a routine for the future.

As a parent with 2 sons who have not only completed secondary schooling but also several degrees at the tertiary level, I am so pleased that my children's schools set them homework. This ensured that they saw that learning was also their responsibility and that they needed to set a program of study and stick to it outside of school.

In the case of most schools, including ours, the homework provided is never onerous. It is usually a small amount that can be completed each day, and, in the lower school very much revolves around practising reading. I would certainly encourage parents to continue to support their children in the completion of homework tasks thus setting them up for a greater opportunity for success in the future.

ENROLMENTS FOR HARRISTOWN STATE HIGH SCHOOL
Enrolments are currently open for Year 7 at Harristown State High School for 2017. Students in Year 6 were given enrolment packages earlier this year when representatives from Harristown came to visit. Families of children currently in Year 6 who are intending to attend Harristown State High School need to get their paper work to them urgently. HSHS has already begun a round of interviews to ensure they touch base with all new students for 2017. Harristown High requires all enrolment applications by this Thursday, 13th October.

IF YOU HAVE LOST YOUR ENROLMENT PACKAGE PLEASE PHONE OR VISIT HARRISTOWN STATE HIGH SCHOOL TO PICK UP ANOTHER ENROLMENT PACKAGE.

Harristown High School will be holding their Orientation Day will be held on Tuesday 6th December.

Until Next Week

Mark
POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING (PBL) MATTERS

The Value for this week is “Acting Responsibly,” with a focus on, “I take responsibility for my belongings and school property”. This week’s PBL lesson will aim to remind students of the following:

- Use and touch only your personal belongings (books/pens/lunchbox/uniform)
- Ask permission before using belongings of others/Ask to borrow
- Use school items/property carefully and return item in the same condition (library books/sports equipment)

We discourage our students from bringing valuable items to school such as ipods, cameras and mobile phones. We do understand however, that a student may need the use of a phone after school. Students are reminded that if they do have to bring these valuables to school – they should be handed into the office for safekeeping and collected after school.

UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES

At Darling Heights SS we strongly encourage students to come to school each and every day. The vast majority of students have very good attendance and this occurs because most of our parents realise the importance of regular school attendance and do not allow students to be absent for minor reasons. However, there are still a number of children who have unexplained absences for an unacceptable number of days across the year. The major problem is the amount of time children are having off with what is termed ‘parent-condoned-absences.’ Things such as: a day off because of your birthday, aunty is visiting, thought we’d take the kids shopping, can’t be bothered having an argument to get them to school etc. are all unacceptable.

If children constantly miss a day here, a couple of days there, over a period of time they begin to feel disconnected from their class and their school work. One way to explain this is to imagine a jigsaw puzzle with a whole lot of pieces missing from it. Children who constantly miss ‘pieces’ of the ‘big picture’ are then forced to try and function back at school- something that is difficult for them to do, and it often becomes a pattern that sets children up for failure at school and affects their social relationships as well.

At school we understand that children do become ill and need time to recover or that occasionally there are situations where there is no alternative but to have time off school. The important message here for parents is that every time your child is absent from school without a legitimate reason, it is costing him or her a learning experience.

If your child is away, please contact the school and let us know the reason that your child is absent from school.

“Every day counts, every minute counts”

What sort of Start is Your Child Getting?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>He/She is only missing just ..</th>
<th>That equals..</th>
<th>Which is..</th>
<th>And over 13 years of schooling that’s..</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 minutes per day</td>
<td>50 minutes per week</td>
<td>Nearly 1.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly HALF a year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 minutes per day</td>
<td>1 hour 40 minutes a week</td>
<td>Over 2.5 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half an hour per day</td>
<td>Half a day per week</td>
<td>4 weeks per year</td>
<td>Nearly 1 and a half years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 hour per day</td>
<td>1 day per week</td>
<td>8 weeks per year</td>
<td>Over 2 and a half years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Did you know your child’s best learning time is the start of the school day?

That’s when every minute counts the most!

School Starts at 8:45am

Senior News—After a super session of skating on the last day of term, and a two week holiday to recover from that, the 5/6’s are back with one term to go. The most important thing for many will be to remember that the trip to Canberra is in Week Eight, with the bus leaving on Saturday the 19th of November, and returning the next Saturday. Full payment is due by the 28th of October, so keep those little instalments flowing if you can. There is also a compulsory meeting in the hall tonight starting at 6 for those with students booked to go. Please bring Medicare card numbers along with any other medical and/or dietary requirements to the meeting. Students are also reminded to keep all stationery up to date: pencils, pens, rulers and rubbers, along with exercise books if needed.

Finally, please remind your child that they should be making sure that pencils are sharpened and ready to go before they come to school, so that time is not wasted at the start of class.
Toowoomba Basketball Association

“Summer Silly Season”
Junior Basketball
4th and 1st School Term
Not Playing Rep in 2016/2017?
But would like to continue playing the sport you love?
Mixed teams accepted - play for your club or organize your own team

Venue: Harristown High School Sports Complex
Season Starts:
Saturday October 15th 2016 to Grand Finals May 20th 2017
- Register online at www.toowoombabasketball.com.au
- Email your team nominations to - sillyseason@hotmail.com


Short Term Registration Fee - $25.00 – Not required if already registered with the TBA
Select – BQ EOY Discount, when registering.

Full registration required on the 1st January – current until 31st December, 2017. (Covers administration and insurance)
$50 - 9yrs &under $100 - 10 to 18yrs
GAME FEE: $9.00 per game
All players must register online at – www.toowoombabasketball.com.au

5/6 Canberra Trip - Parent/Carer Camp Information session will be held on Wednesday 12th October at 6pm in the hall. All parents or guardians of 5/6 students going on Canberra camp are encouraged to attend.

The Year 5/6 Canberra Trip is edging closer. Please be aware that continued payments toward the total can be made so that the final sum is not such a daunting one.

TRAMS International Homework Club
Homework Club will recommence tomorrow Wednesday 12th October.

BOOK CLUB:
Book Club forms have been given out. Please return your child’s order and money in an envelope to the Office by Wednesday, 19 October. If you would like to make use of the internet, go to www.scholastic.com.au LOOP. You might like to select “Purchase as a Gift” and we will keep the orders aside for you to collect instead of sending them home with the students when they arrive.

Catholic Sacramental Program Information Session - St Anthony’s Parish: On October 5th there was an information session for parents who would like their child/children to receive the sacraments of Penance in November 2016, and Confirmation and Eucharist at St Anthony’s in 2017. Children should be baptised and be aged at least 9/10 years in 2017. The program is family based so it is expected that parents play a central role in encouraging and engaging their children in the program and participating in Parish liturgies and meetings.

If you missed this information session and would still like your child to be part of the program for 2016/2017 please phone St Anthony’s Parish 4636 1737

YMCA After School Care 46 356308

Kiyua Performing Arts held in the Darling Heights State School Hall - Sat from 9am - 11am.
Payment is by gold coin donation.
For more details call Sheriden 0412135925
**GRADUATION BEAR OR BALL (YEAR 6 STUDENTS ONLY)**

“Graduation……. a conclusion of one chapter, a beginning of another.”

Order mementos of your choice to treasure forever:

Bear $14.50  
Soccer ball or football $13.50

Order forms will be distributed to the YEAR 6 STUDENTS ONLY the second week back from the holidays.

**NEW!!** The tuckshop will be trialling homemade pizzas tomorrow – Wednesday, 12th October. There will be two varieties and both will cost $4 per pizza slice.

The two varieties will be: Chicken, cheese and BBQ sauce or ham, cheese and tomato sauce.

**MIRAMBEENA FETE**

30 BAKER STREET, DARLING HEIGHTS

**OCTOBER 22ND, 2016 FROM 9AM TO 2PM**

There will be a diverse array of stalls to satisfy every need including food and drinks, music and entertainment.

**Reminder:** Year 4 Swimming starts this Wednesday. Students will need to have returned their signed permission note and paid their money prior to the first lesson. On the day they will need to bring swimmers, swimming cap and towel. Please be on time for school, as the first group will be leaving straight after the first bell.

Thank you,

Year 4 Teachers

---

“Walk Together Toowoomba”

The final production for the ‘Walk Together’ event will be launched outside the Toowoomba City Library.

Darling Heights State School has been involved with this event with the launch of the school song, “Together from Around the World” on YouTube. 17 Schools, 14 Music & Film Productions and hundreds of talented students have merged as one to be a part of this monumental series based around the concept of cultural diversity and acceptance.

**Date:** Saturday 22nd October at Toowoomba City Library  
**Time:** 11.00am-1.00pm

Walk 11.00am-11.50am starting and finishing at Toowoomba City Library, 155 Herries St then, Choir performs between 11.50-1.00pm at Toowoomba City Library

ALL OF THE TOOWOOMBA COMMUNITY ARE WARMLY INVITED TO ATTEND.

---

**Prep and Year 1 Stars**

- PW    Rissah Kuruvila
- PT    Frank Fono
- PN    Neda Mahdy
- PM    Alaa Etriki
- 1B    Dhurgham Khaleel
- 1S    Drew Petersen
- 1J    Alexa Emmer
- 1M    Alan Lama

**Year 2 Stars**

- 2B    Rihanah Kizito
- 2D    Clinton Isreal
- 2M    Breanna Thompson and Shikia Weribone
- 2C    Eligh McGrady

**3H Stars**

Star Box - Farah Albdair

Star Student - Pratyush Subedi

100% Spelling - Pratyush, Wendy, Ruqayah, Isabel, Ken, Cooper, Brice, Dominic, Farah

100% Maths - Farah, Ruqayah, Ken,

Most Improved Speller - Brice, Levii, Logan

**3B**

Student of the Week: Sarah Lingard

100% Club: Joseph, Frank, Areej, Tansie, Harrison, James, Shakana, Phoenix, Sam, Hazothen

Quality Work Award: Lucas, Nehemiah

Special Improvement Awards: Mahmood, Joseph, Frank, Lucas, Shakana, Most Improved: Lucas Harris

Year 3/4 Awards

Stars of the Week

4S  Dushime Niyomungeli

Student of the Week

4S  Esther Atele

**Merit Awards**

3A  Aaryan Dhakal
4S  Jelena Jackson

**SEP AWARDS**

SEP STARS OF THE WEEK

Tiba Hazim

Ayuen Pach

Reiley Maloney

William Thorley - persistence in working hard

Joshua Roberts - Excellent questioning skills in Maths

Kayan Jalal - Excellent questioning skills in Maths

MUSIC AWARDS

Congratulations to the Following students who used their singing voices for the first time this week:

Deklan Guy, Reenad Eljayash

Leelas Shareef, Hussein Kaaeem,

Ashley Wendelin, Anna Kalondja,

Veronica Jais, Nicholas Van Klaevren,

Desmond Koh,

Shareessa McDermid, Divreet Bhullar

Amelia Smith

Jessica Wippel