

Issue No. 16

8 October 2014

Term Dates 2014

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| Term I | 30 Jan - 4 April |
| Term II | 22 April - 27 June |
| Term III | 14 July - 19 Sept |
| Term IV | 6 Oct - 19 Dec |

Term Dates 2015

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| Term I | 30 Jan - 27 March |
| Term II | 13 April - 26 June |
| Term III | 13 July - 18 Sept |
| Term IV | 5 Oct - 18 Dec |



DATES TO REMEMBER



October

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Thu 9 | Whole School Photo |
| Fri 10 | Responsible Pet Ownership - Prep |
| Wed 15 | Pre-School to School Transition - 1.00pm to 3pm |
| Wed 15 | Numeracy Parent Session - Penfold Hall |
| Mon 20-Fri 24 | Junior Swimming Week |
| Fri 24 | 60th Anniversary Celebration - from 2pm |
| Mon 27-Fri 31 | Senior Swimming Week |
| Wed 29 | Pre-School to School Transition - 1.00pm to 3pm |
| Wed 29 | English Literacy Parent Session - Penfold Hall |

November

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| Tue 4 | Cup Day - School Holiday |
| Wed 12 | Pre-School to School Transition - 1.00pm to 3pm |
| Wed 12 | Japanese Literacy Parent Session - Penfold Hall |
| Tue 25 | Prep Info Night - 6.30pm |
| Wed 26 | Pre-School to School Transition - 9.30am to 12.30pm |
| Thu 27 | SRI Christmas Concert - 12.30pm |

December

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| Thu 4 | Volunteers and Parent Helpers Morning Tea |
| Thu 11 | Christmas Concert and Picnic - from 6pm |

Principal Report

Welcome back to what is always an exciting term! Term 4 brings with it many celebrations and planning with 2015 looming. It will be great to have all hands back on deck with Miss Ruth Biddle and Mrs Keiko Harada returning from their Term 3 Long Service Leave. After four weeks in the Acting Assistant Principal role Mrs Maria Mathews will be on Long Service Leave until the end of the first week of Term 4 with Mrs Philippa Murray continuing on in 1M. We hope our travellers have had a lovely break and we look forward to hearing their tales. There have also been a number of families who have been abroad and we welcome them back also.

The first three days of my holidays were spent in at the Bastow Institute on a Principal's Induction Residential Course. This was an exciting opportunity to network with other new Principals and the calibre of

speakers was outstanding. Highlights of the three days would have to have been then time and clarity of thinking away from school to finalise the background plans for 2015 ready to take to staff this term. There were a number of DEECD speakers and other Educational Consultants spread over the three days to inspire and help us reflect on where our schools are at and where they are heading. A well spent three days in the end!

As mentioned in previous newsletters, Term 3 for me is about completing the background planning, staffing and financial planning to hand over to staff in Term 4 to add the layers of detail required from an individual child and teacher perspective. Term 4 sees us planning our 2015 Grade Structure, Room Allocations, including a new Mod 5 portable, Class

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Lists, Back to School Orders, Assessment, Reporting, Professional Learning opportunities and much more. At this time of year there are always questions around who will be teaching where, which staff will assume what roles and who will be moving on to bigger and better things. We will make this information available to the school community once we have completed our planning and recruitment.

Telstra Kids Grant

We are delighted to announce our success in applying for a \$1,200 grant from Telstra. Telstra Kids funds the little things that can make a big difference to kids' lives, helping kids to play and learn. Our Telstra Kids grant will be used to replenish much needed classroom equipment for outdoor play to be used at recess and lunchtimes. A huge thanks to Hayden one of our Prep parents from Telstra for applying for the funding for us. We are very excited to share in the donations which the Telstra Foundation provides each to help kids across Australia to connect to their local communities.

Energy Efficiency Grant

We are delighted to announce our success in applying for a \$10,000 Energy Efficiency Grant from Sustainability Victoria in partnership with DEECD to support the implementation of ResourceSmart Schools. Our Energy Efficiency Grant will be used to assist in making the hall more energy efficient and hopefully cooler in the summer months. A huge thanks to Helen one of our School Council members for the ground work she did in providing supporting documentation for the grant and to the Environment Committee led by Maria Mathews and Rebecca Wood for applying for this funding for us. We are very excited to move towards a more energy efficient school.

Class Placement 2015

As in previous years, parents are invited to write to me regarding class placements for children in the coming year. This information will be shared with the relevant teachers and the insights gained by your comments will be considered by staff when children are placed in their new groupings for 2015. It should be noted that there is no provision to request teachers. Please remember that class placement is taken most seriously by staff and consideration is given to the child's intellectual, physical,

emotional and social development as well as the cohort of children. Information received from parents is considered in this context. Please ensure you write to me by Monday 3rd November as staff will begin working on class lists in that week.

If you are planning on moving interstate, to another country or away from Huntingdale and are yet to notify the office please do so as soon as possible. Numbers have a significant bearing on our planning and we appreciate early notification where possible.

Swimming

It is that time of year again! It's always such a lovely week down at the Clayton Aquatic Centre. Apart from the obvious benefits of getting in the water and progressing their swimming skills the children also benefit from the independence and ability to demonstrate personal care for dressing and organising themselves. Thank you to all of the parent helpers who have made themselves available to meet with the children down at the pool to provide instructions, particularly the younger children, in getting dressed sorted and ready. The children and teachers are very appreciative.

OSH Care Survey

Thank you to our parent community who replied to the recent survey we are in the process of collating the data and will present the findings to School Council at the November meeting.

Annual Community Consultation: National School Chaplaincy and Student Welfare Program (NSCSWP)

The guidelines for the NSCSW Program allows school communities to choose either a Chaplain or a Student Welfare Officer. School Council has developed a consultation process to determine the position we wish to have at the school and gauge ongoing interest. At this stage funding has yet to be confirmed by the government however as a school we wish to continue with this process to ensure once funding arrangements are announced we are in a position to act on the consultation. A letter detailing the process will be sent home shortly and information will be uploaded to the school website. Key information included:

Parent Information Sessions: Two Parent Information Sessions will be provided outlining the objectives and principles underpinning the NSCSWP and how the

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Chaplain and Student Welfare Officer positions fit within the school's Student Wellbeing framework. It will give you a snapshot of what the role entails and how we currently support community members under this program. These sessions will be held on:

Monday 17th November at 9.00am in the Staffroom

Tuesday 18th November at 6.00pm in the Staffroom

Ballot: On Wednesday 19th November a ballot paper and covering letter outlining the process will be posted to all families. The ballot paper gives you the chance to express your view by selecting one of two options, Chaplain or Student Welfare Officer, and will be required to be returned to the school by Wednesday 3rd December 2014.

Notification re: Measles and Chickenpox Reminder

You would have received a letter regarding Measles and Chickenpox and reminders in the newsletter each term. As you know there is currently a child in our school community who is receiving medical treatment. The child participates in the normal school program without any major limitations. A major concern, however, is if this student develops measles or chickenpox, they can become seriously ill. I seek your cooperation in preventing this situation. If your son/daughter has or may have measles or chickenpox, I request that you do not send them to school during this period and notify your class teacher and the office as soon as possible. Thank you for your support in keeping our school a safe place for all of our children.

Rotary Gd 4 Scholarships

Each year the Rotary Club of Oakleigh donate a sum of money to the school to support our Student Leaders and potential student leaders. The Grade 4 students are currently in the process of writing a letter to me to explain why they would be a fitting candidate for the donation. Four students are selected from this pool by their current and past teachers as well as the Leadership Team. The children are selected based on:

- Leadership demonstrated in current and previous year(s)
- Contribution to school community in current and previous year(s)
- Ability to represent the school displaying the four values of Kindness, Courage, Personal Best and Creativity

We look forward to being able to present these chil-

dren with their awards in a few weeks.

South Oakleigh Secondary College Japanese Language Award Winners

I was reading the SOSC newsletter last week and stumbled across a page which outlined details of the 'Language Perfect World Championship Award Winners'. SOSC came 45th out of 269 schools worldwide which was a great achievement but I was most impressed with some of our ex-student achievements. Namely, Gold Award to James Alicastro and Bronze Awards to Zoe Alicastro and Jerusha Buckland. Well done to these students, it's so lovely to hear you are continuing with your Japanese Language journey.

Have a good fortnight for what is always one of the most exciting terms of the year!

Kate Spithill
Principal

Assistant Principal's News

After almost 6 weeks off school, I have returned with many fond memories (and photos) of my travels to the United States and Canada. I had a fantastic time looking at the vast and different scenery and landscapes in these countries, meeting new friends and existing ones in my travels, flying in helicopters, hiking around canyons, relaxing on the beach, eating different foods and shopping. The highlights of my trip include going to the Grand Canyon and Yellowstone National Park (photos below), The Grand Tetons and rafting down the Snake



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River in Wyoming, swimming at Waikiki Beach in Hawaii, taking an open air helicopter over Ohauthe list could go on.....

But it is always great to come back home! It was lovely returning to Huntingdale on Monday, receiving many warm hellos from staff, students and parents and also spending some time with 5/6T. I sincerely thank Maria Mathews for her work as Acting Assistant Principal in my absence.



Children's Week

Children's Week is celebrated from Saturday 18 October to Sunday 26 October. It is a national celebration which focuses on a different article of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. This year's theme is 'every child having the right to speak and be heard'. There are hundreds of free events that run right across the state that recognise the unique and important place children have in our community. I encourage you to visit the website www.education.vic.gov.au/childrensweek

School Attendance

The start of any term is a timely reminder about the importance of school attendance and arriving at school on time. By attending school regularly it assists children in developing good routines, nurturing and maintaining social relationships and achieving academic success. Being punctual to school is also vital. Students

miss important information that is given at the commencement of the school day if they are late. We ask parents to consider this very carefully as they often set the tone for school attendance and punctuality.

Division Athletics

This week I attended the Division Athletics for the Boroondara, Monash-Waverley and Whitehorse networks held at the Bill Sewart Athletics Track in Nunawading. Our students competed in a number of relays and tried their best during the events. Well done!

Have a great week!

Ruth Biddle

THE LAST HURRAH – DVDs

The DVDs have been delivered and will be sent home with those students who have ordered a copy.

If you haven't received your copy by Thursday afternoon, please call at the office to see Gill, who has the master copy of orders.

We hope you enjoy the memory of "The Last Hurrah" for many years to come.

Late orders are available until 20th October should you wish to order extra copies or for those families who didn't order. The price is \$27.00



Theme: The Holidays

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Before Care Activities | What I did on the holidays | Indigenous dot art | Dr Seuss Lorax Trees | OSHClub Recipe book | Summer Wall |
| After Care Activities | What I did on the holidays Soccer | Indigenous dot art Cheese toasties | Dr Seuss Lorax Trees Our reflection journal | Beach Theme Weetbix Choc Balls | Summer Wall Shrunken Head |

Parent Information

OSHC program phone: 0429 363 990
 Coordinator: Daniel Thomas
 Assistants: Mona Devi
 OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000
All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au all bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account. For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.

Welcome back to Term 4! It's great to finally be back at Huntingdale and I hope everyone had a wonderful Term 3 and holidays! A special thankyou to Mona and Rachel Duke for taking care of the program in my absence, they did a terrific job in making sure everything ran smoothly!

To start the term, we are focusing on the Holidays, particularly what we did and where, alongside re-introducing some of our favourite activities, like cooking and sports. There will be a lot of activities throughout this term that are run by the older students which will be very exciting to see. At the end of this Term, we will also be holding a special event for all parents and students involved in OSH (as well as the teachers), more information to come later!

Just a friendly reminder that we are still waiting on a lot of medical documentation to come back to OSH from parents. Even if your child is not a regular at OSH, we still need these documents to ensure the highest quality service. If these could be given to Dan at OSHClub or the school office by the end of October, that would be greatly appreciated.

As always, we are looking for old clothes, toys, books, recyclables or even craft materials to help us learn and have new experiences. We would absolutely love donations to the program and always appreciate the thought! We had a wonderful donation last year which has really helped us improve our program!

Just a reminder that if you need to contact the program for any reason, whether it be late bookings, cancellations or any other reason, please contact Dan on 0429 363 990.
Looking forward to having a fantastic term!