

Around the Grove!



Week 2, Term 4 2019

Miss McKinnon

Earlier this week, a Skoolbag App message was distributed informing the school community that I have been offered and accepted a position as Relieving Principal at Carlton Public School till the end of the year. At this point, I am expecting to return to Hurstville Grove Infants School in 2020. I am very proud of the journey that the school community has been on the past 4.5 years and I believe the school is in a great place at present so I leave for a short term comforted by the fact that the whole school community is working cohesively together. I am very pleased that Miss Jillian Mudford will be relieving as principal in my absence. We met today for a handover. Miss Mudford left very excited and she is looking forward to leading the school community for the remainder of the year.

I have really valued the ongoing support of the P&C and parent community these past 4.5 years. I would like to thank the staff and the very inclusive and kind students of Hurstville Grove for ensuring everyday is full of love, laughter and support as we all learn together, I look forward to seeing you all at Presentation Day and some of the other end of year celebrations.

Merit Selection Process - Permanent Classroom Teacher Position

The classroom teaching position is still in progress and I will continue to lead the panel through this process. The school community will be notified of the successful candidate once the process is complete.

Building Update

OoSH/ Therapy Building

As you are aware the school received a capital works building as a result of the last election. I have been working with architects and the Department of Educations Assets Team to design a building that meets the brief of the election promise to our school community. The design is now being finalised and being submitted to council.

The building has been designed to potentially operate an Out of School Hours care centre (OoSH) that can cater for up to 33 students. Further to this, will be a kitchen that the school community can access for fundraising and community meetings etc. The building will also house a Sensory Therapy room, a smaller therapy/meeting room, a store room and an

accessible bathroom and a student unisex bathroom. This building will be delivered and operational by the end of the financial year in 2020.

December / January Building Works

During the school holidays the school administration building will be removed and upgraded to an 8 modular building inclusive of a sick bay, accessible bathroom, meeting room and a larger staffroom. The school is also entitled to an additional classroom that will sit alongside the administration building. This building project will take place over the December/January school holidays and is due to be handed over to the school on 27th January 2020. The schools neighbours have been informed of this building work by the DoE Assets Team.

Update on the school & P&c Playground upgrade

The P&C and the SRC have worked very hard this year to fundraise for a playground upgrade inclusive of new equipment, seating and shade. Due to the upcoming building work the school and P&C are not in a position to complete this work until all buildings are installed as the buildings will encroach on the existing playground space. The school has engaged a civil engineer to relocate the containers that are currently on the grass area and to remove the concrete blocks that they sit on to create more space for the students to play. Once all building work is completed the grass area will be levelled and returfed.

Please see below some of the equipment that the students have requested and the prices. This may give families an idea of why the P&C fundraising efforts are so important as the playground equipment will cost approximately \$41,595, seating \$6,000, sofffall/synthetic grass \$35,000. Shade will be additional to this.



Climber \$22,000 installed, Jeep \$8,500 uninstalled, Rock climbing cubes \$7500. The students have also voted on the installation of a new sand pit and basketball tunnels

2020 enrolments

Invitations and information have been sent about our Kindergarten Orientation Program to those families who have enrolled their children to start school in 2020. I expect that we will again have around 35 children in Kindergarten. If you have friends or neighbours living within our school zone who you know will have school age children next year, please encourage them to come to the school to complete the process or call the office on 9580 5361 so we can send them an enrolment package. Any child who turns five years of age before 31 July 2020 is eligible to start school. Participation in the Transition to School Program is the best way to assist children with their start to school.

School Security

School Security and student safety is paramount to our practice. I have arranged with school assets services to install an electronic gate next to the new administration building once the new building is installed. This will ensure all visitors/parents sign in during the school day.

The school would like to remind you that when entering the school after 9:15 am that you must sign in at the office and pick up a Visitors Sticker, (this is not required for whole school events). It is exceptionally important for student safety that we monitor the entry and departure of all school visitors and helpers, (this is inclusive of dropping off drink bottles/jumpers, attending P&C meetings etc). We thank you for working with the school to keep the students safe.

Community Access to bathroom facilities

We appreciate that there are times that you, your child or toddler may need to access the toilet when you are on the school grounds. A reminder that only students are to enter the student toilets. Parents/toddlers may access the Visitor bathroom that is to the left and around the corner from the student bathrooms. Thank you for following this DoE policy and school practice.

Communicating with staff as per the DoE School Community Charter

I would like to reiterate our communication protocols that were outlined in last terms newsletter.

We know that the best education happens when parents and schools work together. It is important that our school is a positive environment and that parents and carers are kept informed of students' progress and school announcements.

While we appreciate the role that support teachers and non teaching staff play in your child's education, **to ensure accurate and consistent information** about your child's learning and development, the school requests that **all communication** involving your child and the programs they are involved in are **directed to the classroom teacher**. Our staff will find a time to talk to you when they can give you their full attention. Please remember that while our staff are in class or dealing with other matters, they may not be available to answer your questions immediately. If your needs are not met with your child's classroom teacher or if the issue/concern is of a more serious nature, we request that you follow this up with a scheduled meeting with the Principal, Miss McKinnon. We thank you for respecting and following these communication protocols. For more information on communicating effectively with the school please see this link:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/going-to-a-public-school/media/documents/school-community-charter.pdf>

Teacher and Staff gifts

Given that it is Term 4 and that there has been some discussion on the Oatley Parents Facebook page about appropriate gifts for teachers. The P&C have asked that the school informs the school community that while all gestures of gratitude in the ways of gifts are greatly appreciated DoE policy/Code of Conduct clearly states that staff (teaching and non teaching) need to declare with their line manager (Principal) all gifts over the value of \$50. Further to this, any collections for staff not coordinated by the school (ie. for a retirement) needs to occur outside the school, not through the school office.

We're Going to the Zoo, Zoo, Zoo!

Students and staff had a wonderful day at the zoo yesterday, I would like to thank Miss David and Mrs Sterg for their efforts in coordinating this excursion and I'd also like to give a huge shout out to the staff who attended to ensure the students had a successful day of exploring and learning.

2020 Classes

We are in the middle of forming 2020 classes. If your child is not returning to the school for Year 1 or 2 in 2020 can you please notify the school in writing at your earliest convenience.

Year 3 2020

A reminder that Year 2 students (unless an individual transition plan has been coordinated) will visit their 2020 Year 3 school on:

Friday	Mortdale PS	Hurstville Sth	Connells Pt	Peakhurst Sth	Penshurst West
8.11.19	9-11.25am	9.25 - 11.15	9.25 - 11.50	9.20 -11.20	9.25 - 11.25
15.11.19	9-11.25am	9.00 - 11.45	9.25 - 11.50	9.20 -11.20	9.25 - 11.50
22.11.19	9-11.25am	9.00 - 12.00	9.25 - 11.50	9.20 -11.20	9.25 - 11.50

If you are car-pooling with another family, please provide written permission to the transitioning school and to HGIS as the family driving your child will need to sign them in and out at the transition school and as they return to HGIS. Your child's leave between 9.15 - 12pm is marked as school leave.

Movie Night - Toy Story 4

The annual P&C Movie Night is tonight. The movie night is about bringing all members of our community together and we really hope your family can make it!

Gates open at 6pm for an array of food stalls and the movie will commence as the sun goes down.

Friday 25th October
6pm gates open
Movie approximately 7.15pm
Tickets \$8

Dates for the calendar

Term 4	
Friday 25th October	P&C Family Movie Night, 6pm - All welcome
Friday 1st November	Coffee @ the Grove - parent workshop, focus on Maths
Friday 1st November	P&C Meeting
Wednesday 6th November	Kids & Fella's Business (Flight and BBQ) 4-5.30pm
Friday 8th November	Transition Day 1 to Kindy 2020
Friday 8th November	Transition Day 1 to Yr 3, 2020
Wednesday 13th November	Teacher Professional Learning 3.30 – 6.30pm (4C Transforming schools)
Friday 15th November	Transition Day 2 to Kindy 2020
Friday 15th November	Transition Day 2 to Yr 3, 2020
Friday 15th November	P&C Disco – Penshurst RSL
Friday 22nd November	Transition Day 3 to Kindy 2020
Friday 22nd November	Transition Day 3 to Yr 3, 2020
Wednesday 27th November	Teacher Professional Learning 3.30 – 6.30pm (4C Transforming schools)
Friday 29th November	Coffee @ the Grove - parent hands on STEAM workshop
Friday 6th December	P&C AGM
Thursday 12th December	Presentation Day and Thank you morning tea
Tuesday 17th December	Student Fun Day
Wednesday 18th December	Yr 2 Arch and last day of school for HGIS 2019