**Principal’s Message**

**NAPLAN Results**

Today, students in Years 3 and 5 will be receiving their NAPLAN results. As parents and grandparents, we can place great hopes and expectations on our children. Whilst it is good to have positive expectations, and to believe in our children, it is very important that they know that we love and value them as people, more than we care about the marks that they get.

As you prepare to open the envelopes after school today, it might be timely to reflect on the letter below, from a teacher in England to her students, which she wrote to accompany their test results:

"Please find enclosed your test results. We are very proud of you as you demonstrated huge amounts of commitment and tried your very best during this tricky week (of testing).

However, we are concerned that these tests do not always assess all of what it is that makes each of you special and unique. The people who create these tests and score them do not know each of you - the way your teachers do ... and certainly not the way your families do. They do not know that many of you speak two languages. They do not know that you can play a musical instrument or that you can dance or paint a picture. They do not know that your friends count on you to be there for them or that your laughter can brighten the dreariest day. They do not know that you write poetry or songs, play or participate in sports, wonder about the future, or that sometimes you take care of your little brother or sister after school. They do not know that you have travelled to a really neat place or that you know how to tell a great story or that you really love spending time with special family members and friends. They do not know that you can be trustworthy, kind or thoughtful, and that you try, every day, to do your very best... the scores that you get will tell you something, but they will not tell you everything."

*(with thanks to Barrowford Primary School, Lancashire, England)*

In an often competitive world, we can come to think that “success” is just about rankings, marks and scores, when really we know that success is about who you are, how you act, and what you do with the skills and abilities that you have.

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**Upcoming Events:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 3, Weeks 8-10</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 8th</td>
<td>Year 4 Excursion</td>
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<td>Sept. 9th</td>
<td>Support Unit classes Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 10th</td>
<td>Maths Olympiad</td>
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<td>Sept. 11th</td>
<td>Year 4 Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 15th</td>
<td>Year 2 Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 19th</td>
<td>Last day Term 3</td>
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**TERM 4**

| Oct. 6th | Staff and Students Return |

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Get the Belltower on your mobile device! Download the School eNews App from the AppStore!

www.hurstvilleps.com.au
Congratulations to all of our students who have done their best in the NAPLAN tests. We hope you continue to strive to do your very best, and to be proud of the person you are, every day.

Good Manners
One of the social skills that is delightful to see in children is courtesy, or good manners. Children with good manners are a pleasure to deal with, and stand out in comparison to less polite peers.

Like most things, good manners come more easily to some than to others, and also like most things, need to be taught, modelled and rewarded.

Developing good manners in our children starts very early, with learning simple things like saying “please” and “thank you”, to the stage where it becomes automatic. We need to expect our children will use these terms, and acknowledge their good manners when they do. Most of us respond to compliments when they are deserved, and feel good that someone else has noticed our efforts.

Other small courtesies that I like to see at school include children:

- Holding the door open for others, especially adults;
- Starting a message with a greeting rather than a bald statement or request e.g. “Excuse me, Mrs Hewson, may I.....” rather than “I want the …”;
- Greeting teachers or other adults when they pass them in the playground e.g. “Good morning, Mr Grahame”;
- Standing aside to let adults pass through a doorway first;
- Waiting for an appropriate break in conversation before speaking, rather than interrupting; and
- Offering assistance when seeing someone carrying an armful of things, or picking up something another person has dropped.

It is so refreshing and pleasurable to see and hear good manners in action! I always make the point of complimenting children when they display courtesy, because I think it is so important.

Friendly Reminders

- If your child is late for school, please take them to the office to get a late note before they come to class.
- Responsibility is one of our school values. There are many ways that we encourage students to show responsibility. One of these is to be responsible for their own belongings. If they remove their jackets or hats, they must put them inside their bags if they are in their classroom, or in a place where they remember to collect them if they are in the playground. Please support our teaching by speaking with your child about being responsible for their own belongings.
- Lost property can be found in the outer area of the library.
- Don’t forget to submit your family favourite recipes for our cookbook.
Good manners are a way of showing respect for others, so as well as presenting our children in a very positive light, they are developing attitudes and skills that will enhance their relationships, both now and in the future.

It is too late to start demanding courtesy and regard for others when our children are in their teen or young adult years. It starts with toddlers, and builds over their primary years. We need to have high and consistent expectations of our children, and refuse to accept rudeness in any form.

Painting

We are due to begin painting the outside of Block E on Monday. The painters will start on the Forest Road side of the building so as to cause least disruption to our organisation during term time and will continue around to the playground side during the holidays.

To allow access for scaffolding or a cherry-picker, the two shade sails nearest the building will be taken down. We will use this opportunity to replace the damaged sail, which was vandalised a number of years ago. This painting is part of our program to improve the external appearance of our school, to match the beautiful rooms and facilities we have inside.

In The Classroom

Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten)

Kindergarten had a visit from Hurstville Fire Brigade on Monday 1 September. The children learnt about fire safety and how to ‘stop, drop and roll’. They also learnt ‘how to get down low and go, go, go’. The students learnt that they need to dial 000 in an emergency.

Students also had the opportunity to see two fire trucks. Every Kindergarten student held a hose and sprayed water on a tree. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Fireman Tim spoke about the special fire safety equipment stored on a truck. Some students were unaware of what a smoke detector was, so if you have a smoke detector in your home, please take the time to show your child what it is. Have a look at some of our wonderful photos.

Thank you to Mrs Cusumano for organising this special event.

Mrs Jessica Maakaroun - Assistant Principal
Here are some photos from Kindergarten and the Hurstville Fire Brigade.

Stage 1
Year 1

The students and teachers in Year 1 are very excited about the Language and Literacy Program which has begun this week in classrooms, and will continue into next term. Once per week your child’s class will have a lesson presented by Miss Loren Apokourastos, a qualified Speech Pathologist, with the assistance of your child’s class teacher. The strategies used in this lesson will be followed up in subsequent lessons during the week. Please look for a note in your child’s bag which further explains the program.
We understand that on rare occasions incidents happen which prevent your child from arriving to school on time. However, if your child is late to school, they must go to the front office to be issued with a late note. The class roll is marked first thing in the mornings and your child will have been marked as absent. The roll will then be marked as a late arrival and a justifiable or non-justifiable reason entered. This is a legal requirement.

We wish all the dads and carers who have a special role in the lives of all our Year 1 students a very happy Fathers’ Day on Sunday. We hope you like the special gift created by your child.

Mrs Jenny Cooper – Relieving Deputy Principal

Year 2

The students have been very busy writing letters, cards or poems for that special man in their life in preparation for Fathers’ Day. We hope that you will be as impressed with the quality of their work as we are.

In Weeks 9 and 10, we will be going on our excursion to Hurstville Museum. We are looking forward to seeing all the interesting toys from the past and playing games that perhaps our grandparents had played when they were younger. Any student who has not as yet returned their permission note and money needs to do so by this Friday.

Mrs Zaga Marinkovic and Mr Graham Enright - Relieving Assistant Principals

Stage 3

Year 6 OC Sharemarket Game

During Terms 3 and 4, 6B and 6H are playing The Sharemarket Game, which is sponsored by the Australian Securities Exchange. The game lasts for 10 weeks. The aim is to use their syndicate’s virtual $50,000.00 wisely, and end the game with the greatest profit.

Our OC students are competing against thousands of other students across Australia, most of whom are in secondary school already. This differentiated program caters well for the mathematical abilities of our students. They learn about economics and financial planning as well as testing their mathematical knowledge.

This collaborative, project-based learning develops the 4Cs of 21st Century Learning: creativity, critical thinking, collaboration and communication.

Mrs Rebecca Ingram – Assistant Principal
Support Unit News

The Support Unit have been busy setting up our sensory/food garden. 1/6D and 4/5H enjoyed a sustainability lesson by Debbie from Bunnings. We all named a worm to put in our new worm farm and have been collecting lots of juice to put on the vegetables we are growing. We are looking forward to eating our produce and everyone's eyes are on our first strawberry that is already growing.

Band

Next week, we will be auditioning Year 3 students for Training Band 2015. If you are interested in having your child join the Band next year, please return the audition form before Tuesday.

Unfortunately the Training band members will not be participating in Bandtastic this year due to lack of interest. The Training band will have further opportunities to perform in Term 4.

Miss Danielle Scott - Relieving Deputy Principal

Band Camp

Ten students from the Concert Band and Wind Orchestra attended Band Camp last Monday and Tuesday. They had a memorable time staying at Stanwell Tops.

We worked really hard to make wonderful music. We have learned 6 new pieces in two days!
We also had so much fun doing different activities such as the Giant Swing and Survivor. The boys were really brave at Giant Swing, and girls did great team work during Survivor.

We ate yummy food……..

And lots of fun games after dinner to make us tired.

Mrs Elizabeth Wang – Wind Orchestra Co-ordinator
Library News

Thank you to everyone who purchased books from our Scholastic Book Fair – once more this year it has been a very successful event. More importantly, it has given our students the opportunity to see the wide variety of books that are available outside the Library, and to encourage their enthusiasm for reading.

Congratulations to the students who won our Book Week competition, and therefore received a voucher to spend at the Book Fair:

Liligrace – KP
Jason – 1/2K
Kevin – 4A
Sonia – 6K

Kristy – 1A
Prasun – 3P
Aaron – 5K
Rakan – 5/6M

Ms Leslie Hyde – Teacher/Librarian

Botany Bay Athletics Carnival

Congratulations to the students who attended the Botany Bay regional athletics carnival on Wednesday. These students were selected to participate in the regional carnival after coming either first or second in their event at the zone carnival. We are so proud of their achievements.

Student Representative Council

Nude Food

The students of the SRC have decided as responsible members of the community we are going to introduce the concept of nude food. This is a modern environmental movement which is seeking to educate our students about the importance of the environment on an everyday level. When we say nude food, we mean that food can be sent to school in reusable and recyclable containers.

Fruit is, of course, already in its own skin so it doesn’t require a container. These containers include a thermos, Tupperware style containers and the use of brown paper bags which can be recycled.

Whilst many students already do this and care for our environment and each other by bringing their lunches to school in reusable containers, the SRC would like to see the number of students doing this increase. The SRC are asking parents and students to bring their food to school in these containers as often as possible. From next term the SRC will be doing a weekly survey on
The SRC representatives are very excited about this new program and we are eagerly watching to see which classes will be the most successful over the next term. We will be publishing the results each fortnight in the Belltower.

Thank you to all the families and students for your fabulous support.

Mrs Kate Carey, Ms Chantel Taylor and the SRC students

Crazy Sock Day

This week the school celebrated the beginning of Spring with Crazy Sock Day. It was fabulous to see waves of colour throughout the playground with all the colourful and fun socks being worn in support for Crazy Sock Day.

Thank you to all of the community for your continued support in the SRC fundraisers. We do not have a final count of money raised, but so far we have counted just over $855. Part of this money will be spent on the playground baskets that each class utilise each day and the remainder will be placed towards the upgrade of the school playground as part of the whole school plan.

Once again, thank you for all of your support.

Mrs Kate Carey, Miss Chantel Taylor and all of the students from the SRC.
Public Speaking

As part of the English curriculum content, all students from Early Stage 1 to Stage 3 are taught the skills of delivering an oral presentation to an audience. This is a skill which all students require throughout their years of schooling and beyond.

This term, students have been demonstrating these skills in their classrooms by presenting speeches to their peers. From each class, a representative was chosen to present their speech to a grade or stage audience. Below are the names of the class representatives who were chosen to present speeches, with content that engaged the audience, and who spoke clearly and loudly without a microphone.

Congratulations to these students, and to all students across the school who gave their best effort when presenting their speeches in their classrooms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KM</th>
<th>Ivy X</th>
<th>3P</th>
<th>Bianca T</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stephanie S</td>
<td></td>
<td>Philemon W</td>
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<tr>
<td>KL</td>
<td>Kaylyn C</td>
<td>3S</td>
<td>Sindy Z</td>
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<td>Sophie Y</td>
<td></td>
<td>Michelle L</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Marcus W</td>
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<td>KW</td>
<td>Sophie T</td>
<td>3R</td>
<td>Jason W</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Daniel S</td>
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<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>Elena W</td>
<td>3D</td>
<td>Maggie Z</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Thomas L</td>
<td></td>
<td>Isabel S</td>
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<tr>
<td>KE</td>
<td>Jacqueline L</td>
<td>3/4C</td>
<td>Vanessa W</td>
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<td>KP</td>
<td>Vincent Y</td>
<td>3/4C</td>
<td>Dennis L</td>
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<td>Anya B</td>
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<td>Louise B</td>
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<td>KC</td>
<td>Leo C</td>
<td>4B</td>
<td>Arnold T</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Xixi L</td>
<td>4G</td>
<td>Jayden W</td>
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<td>4A</td>
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<td>1M</td>
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<td>5I</td>
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<td>1H</td>
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<td>5M</td>
<td>Sophia D</td>
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<td>1C</td>
<td>Emily O</td>
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<td>Davina H</td>
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<td>5K</td>
<td>Hongliang G</td>
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<td>1/2K</td>
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<td>5/6F</td>
<td>Cindy F</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/2K</td>
<td>Stanley G</td>
<td>5/6F</td>
<td>Mohammad N</td>
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<td>2M</td>
<td>Daria P</td>
<td>6C</td>
<td>Hayley Y</td>
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<td>2T</td>
<td>Olivia H</td>
<td>6B</td>
<td>Jordan Z</td>
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<tr>
<td>2C</td>
<td>Jonathan N</td>
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<td>Matthew C</td>
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<td>Isabella Z</td>
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<td>Andrew Y</td>
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<td>Adrian T</td>
<td>6M</td>
<td>Helen N</td>
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<tr>
<td>2E</td>
<td>Liam C</td>
<td>6D</td>
<td>Vivian N</td>
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The stage representatives selected to present their speech at the Georges River Network Public Speaking Competition next term will be in the next issue of the Belltower.
**P&C**

**Cookbook Parent Workshop**

A parent workshop will be held on Wednesday 10\(^{th}\) September in the main hall at 9am.

Parents who would like more information, or help in submitting their fantastic recipes for the Hurstville Public School Cookbook, should come along. We would love to see you there.

**Ms Meimei Chau – President Hurstville P&C Association**

Helping your child with primary school maths

Some helpful tips:

- Maths today is about understanding **number patterns**, not learning by rote.
- Saying "**I was bad at maths too**" is one of the **worst things** you can do as it lowers their own expectations of themselves.
- There is always more than one way to get the right answer.
- Children are taught mental strategies, like using **number lines**, to figure problems out in their heads.
- Ask "What is the question asking you?"
- Practise the times tables
- Don’t jump in with the answers.
- Talk to the teacher if your child needs more help with the homework.
- Stay positive

*Watch teachers talk about how parents can help their child with maths homework at a primary school level in a short video. Click on the link below:*  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=E3fLp0QADUU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=E3fLp0QADUU)

**September homework planner**

Kids and families run more smoothly when there's a plan. The September 2014 homework and study calendar includes key dates, school holidays and the number of each week in the term. You can print it out this month’s calendar here: [http://bit.ly/1pkC3fK](http://bit.ly/1pkC3fK)
Happy Father’s Day to all the special men in our children’s lives! We hope you enjoy your special day as much as your children enjoyed making their special gift for you.
We also say a very special thank you to our teachers, for helping our students to be so creative, and to our P&C, for arranging this Father’s Day event and for wrapping the gifts so beautifully.