NAPLAN Results

Parents and carers have received their child’s results in the NAPLAN tests which were undertaken in May. As we know, these tests are a snapshot taken on a particular day in Years 3 and 5 and give us, as teachers and parents, an indication of where our students have strengths and where we can focus our attention for improvement.

I am very impressed with the school’s results, not only because of the number of students performing very well and falling in the top two achievement bands, but also for the fewer number of students represented in the lowest bands. As a school, we encourage students of all abilities to take part in these tests and our participation rate is very high. As the purpose of these tests is to help us improve learning outcomes for individuals and groups, the more students who participate, the more information we receive about the range of students for whom we need to cater. Our executive and teachers will be looking closely at the data we have received. It will help us as we plan our programs for next term and next year to ensure further improvement.

Congratulations to all of the students who did their best, way back in May. In the last four months, they will have further developed their knowledge and understanding in the areas tested.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area Tested</th>
<th>% in Top Two Bands Y3</th>
<th>% in Top Two Bands Y5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HPS</td>
<td>NSW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grammar and Punctuation</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data, Measurement, Space &amp; Geometry</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number, Patterns &amp; Algebra</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dealing with Problems

At some point during a child’s school career, he or she is likely to experience problems with other children at school. A lucky few might get through their 13 years at school with never an issue or disagreement, but the majority will experience some problems - small or large - that will make them unhappy.

Most of the time, these issues are relatively minor and resolve themselves. Even the best of friends may experience tension, jealousy or hurt feelings. Some children find each other very irritating and frustrating, and find it hard to share the same space or classroom. They clash often and find it hard to get along.

For parents, seeing their children unhappy, or hearing their child’s version of another child’s behaviour, can make them very protective. This is natural and understandable. However, it is hugely important that parents or grandparents do not take matters into their own hands when it comes to dealing with other people’s children.

One of the things that wise and experienced parents learn is that there are always two sides to every story! Acting in haste without having all of the information about an issue is bound to lead to errors of judgement.

For this reason, it is vitally important that any issues between students are dealt with by teachers only. No parent should approach another person’s child to chastise, threaten or punish them for something they have done wrong. Such actions can lead to that parent being accused of inappropriate behaviour or even assault. Police have been called to a primary school recently because of a dispute where a parent grabbed someone else’s child by the arm, and that parent was arrested.

Threats don’t have to be physical to be unacceptable - frightening a child by shouting or standing over them in an intimidating way is also not appropriate.

No parent would want their child to be frightened by an angry adult who they don’t know and who does not have the authority or responsibility to deal with matters in accordance with approved procedures. Even children who have behaved badly have the right to feel safe at school.

At all times, if you have good reason to be concerned about the behaviour of a child at school, please speak with your child’s teacher, a member of the executive or me so that we can take the appropriate steps. This protects you against possible accusations and, more importantly, it provides our children with safety and security when they are at, or travelling to or from, school.
Term 4

In Term 4, the School Development (Pupil Free) Days are at the end of the term, not at the beginning as for the other terms. Therefore, staff and students all return to school on Tuesday 7 October.

The last day of the school year for students is Wednesday 17 December, while staff finish on Friday 19 December.

Don’t forget to refer to the calendar on our website, on which we list the important dates for the remainder of the year as they are determined.

Have a wonderful holiday! Thank you to our students, parents and staff for all of your support this term. We encourage our students to have plenty of rest and play – including a break from technology – so that they return to school refreshed and ready for a great Term 4.

Mrs Anne Hewson – Acting Principal

Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten)

On Friday 5 September, Kindergarten students and teachers dressed up as part of Book Week celebrations. Students had a wonderful time parading their costumes in front of parents and students in the hall. It was great fun!

There will be no home reading during the holidays as books need to be organised at school ready for next term. Please encourage your child to borrow books from the local library or to read books from home so that they continue to read during the holidays.

Term 3 has gone so quickly and it is sad to say, for the teachers, that we only have one more wonderful term of learning with Kindergarten students. They have worked consistently this term and we are so proud of their efforts. We look forward to a busy and exciting Term 4.

Mrs Jessica Maakaroun - Assistant Principal

**FRIENDLY REMINDERS**

Some Term 4 dates for your diary:

- **Monday 6 October**: Public holiday. School closed.
- **Tuesday 7 October**: Students return for Term 4
- **Tuesday 14 and Thursday 16th October**: Kindergarten Orientation Session 1
- **Thursday 13, 20 and 27 November**: Kindergarten Orientation Sessions 2, 3 and 4
- **Tuesday 21 October**: NRMA Road Safety Day
- **Monday 8 December**: Year 6 Farewell
- **Tuesday 9 December**: Stage 1 and Stage 2 Presentation Assemblies
- **Wednesday 10 December**: Stage 3 Presentation Assembly
- **Thursday 11 December**: Kindergarten Presentation Assembly
- **Wednesday 17 December**: Last day of 2014 school year for all students

If your child is leaving school for an extended overseas holiday before the end of Term 4, please advise your child’s class teacher and the front office.

If you know that your child will not be returning to Hurstville Public School in 2015, please advise the front office as soon as possible.

If you are buying new school shoes for your child during the holidays, please make sure they are black, or white for sport days.

Enjoy spending time with your child during the holidays and spending some quality time together.
Stage 1
Year 1

It’s hard to believe that Term 3 has finished, and our students, your children, will be returning after the holidays for their final term in Year 1. All students have grown in many ways over the past three terms, and we look forward to a busy Term 4 of learning and enjoyment.

Starting on the first day back after the holidays, Year 1 will line up at the 9.00am bell under the blue shade cloth near the Assembly Hall. This is where they line up at the end of recess and lunch every day, so it will not be different for them. We think this will be easier for them to hear announcements. During the holidays, please restock your child’s personal classroom equipment, such as pencils, glue sticks and whiteboard markers, so that they are ready with everything they need for next term. We hope you enjoy having your child home during the Spring holidays and that you take the opportunity to visit some interesting places together.

In technology this term, Year 1 students have created PowerPoint presentations; used the internet to create vocabulary and spelling Wordles and characters from stories; and used word processing skills to publish their writing and insert pictures. Below are some samples of work that two students have completed as part of their technology learning.

Elizbeth
Elizbeth is a superhero that I created on the computer.

Elizbeth is tall and skinny. Her hair is long and red. She has a yellow mask. Her nose is small and cute.

She has thick, red lips. Her clothes are yellow, black and blue. She has aqua gloves. She has pink pants and black boots. Her whip is red and white.

Elizbeth can fly and whip bad people.

by Jessica

Stage 2
Year 3 and 4

It has been an exciting term for Stage 2 students. Year 4 students have learnt many new athletic skills at Got Game and Year 3 students have greatly improved their swimming skills through their participation in the wonderful swimming program at Col Jones.

Last week, Year 4 students had a fantastic time at The Big Dig Excavation Centre at The Rocks. We learnt about the historic people of the area and even got to dig in our own archaeological site.
**Stage 3**

**6H and KP Buddies**

During the past few weeks, we have been writing narrative stories together. KP students are very clever. They can talk about the parts which make a good story and make exciting complications.

6H big buddies helped by typing and photographing the little buddy writers. All the stories are being made into a Buddy Book.

---

**Selective schools**

Selective high schools are government high schools that cater for highly-achieving, academically talented students by offering an educationally enriched environment.

Application for entry to a selective high school in Year 7 in 2016 will be **online only** through the High Performing Students Unit website. Application for entry to a selective high school in Year 7 in 2016 will open on 14 October, 2014.


---

**Mrs Rebecca Ingram – Assistant Principal**

**Support Unit News**

On Tuesday 9th September the students in the Support Unit went on an excursion to Wildlife World at Darling Harbour. First we went on a bus ride to Darling Harbour. Then we got off the bus and ate recess. It was a beautiful sunny day at Darling Harbour. After recess, we went into Wildlife World to look at all the different animals. We saw lots of different animals including snakes, frogs, koalas, kangaroos, birds and Tasmanian Devils. But our favourite animal was Rex the crocodile. After we finished looking at the animals, we ate our lunch and got back on the bus for the ride back to Hurstville. It was a great day!
On Tuesday 9th September the students in the support unit went on an excursion to Wildlife World at Darling Harbour. First we went on a bus ride to Darling Harbour. Then we got off the bus and ate recess. It was a beautiful sunny day at Darling Harbour.

After recess we went into Wildlife world to look at all the different animals. We saw lots of different animals including snakes, frogs, koalas, kangaroos, birds and Tasmanian Devils. But our favourite animal was Rex the crocodile.

After we finished looking at the animals we ate our lunch and got back on the bus for the ride back to Hurstville. It was a great day!

Mrs Nicole Moore – Assistant Principal

Congratulations to all the Year 3 students who auditioned for the Training Band in 2015. We hope you enjoyed trialling some of the instruments. Students will be notified of their acceptance into the program over the next few weeks. For students accepted into the Band program for 2015, we will be holding a Parent Information night in Term 4. We look forward to seeing you there.

Miss Danielle Scott – Relieving Deputy Principal

Reduce, reuse, recycle
Australians throw away 3.3 million tonnes of food every year – up to a quarter of the country’s food supplies - mainly because we purchase too much. Consider planning your meals and only buy what you need. Reduce packaging in your child’s lunchbox and use re-usable containers rather than plastic wrap where possible. It also leaves our school grounds much cleaner!

Mobile Maths Games
Channel your child’s interest in playing mobile apps into a chance to improve their maths skills and recall. The free School A to Z app has a Maths Monkey game to help test times tables and the follow-up app, Maths Monkey’s Quest ($1.99), challenges kids from Yr 2 to Yr 8 with addition, subtraction, ratios and percentages. Both apps are created by the NSW Department of Education and are available for Apple iPhones and iPads, and Android phones and tablets. You’ll find links to both here: http://bit.ly/oSREyV

Selective schools
Are you already thinking about your child’s Year 7 placement in a selective school in 2016? Selective high schools are government high schools that cater for highly-achieving, academically talented students by offering an educationally enriched environment. Application for entry to a selective high school in Year 7 in 2016 will be online only, from 14 October, 2014. You’ll find more information about selective schools and dates for examinations here: http://bit.ly/selectiveHS

Kindergarten Enrolment for 2015
Our Kindergarten Transition Program begins in Week 2 of next term for all children being enrolled into Kindergarten for 2015. If you have a child who turns five between 1 August, 2014 and 31 July, 2015 and you wish to enrol them at this school in 2015, please visit the school office to complete an enrolment form as soon as possible. Please check our website for the relevant documents that you need to bring with you.

If you know of a neighbour or friend who lives within the school boundary area and is intending to enrol their child into Kindergarten in 2015 at Hurstville Public School, please pass on this information.
On Tuesday 21st October, our school will be hosting an NRMA Science & Road Safety Day, a new road safety program that will be delivered free of charge to our school by the National Roads & Motorists’ Association with the aim of helping our students stay safe of the road. This program involves students participating in road safety shows in the hall and completing road safety workbooks in the classroom to help the road safety messages stick.

The shows combine important road safety message with science. Messages such as “Wear their seatbelt” have a greater impact when children have a stronger understanding of the forces they experience when travelling in a car and what could happen to them should the car stop suddenly in a crash. In the science show, a crash test dummy – an egg – memorably shows children how a seatbelt works to restrain passengers in a crash and more importantly why a seatbelt must be worn on each trip.

Parents play a vital role in keeping their children safe, and so we would like to invite you to come and watch the first show of the day to see what your children are learning and how you can reinforce these road safety messages at home.

After the day, your child will be bringing home the NRMA road safety workbook they have completed in class so take the opportunity to speak to them about what they have learned and what they can do to help keep their friends and family safe. Within each workbook is a 4-page parent insert on child road and bike safety for you as a handy reference guide at home.

The program is now in its second season and 40,000 students already enjoyed the program while learning more about road safety. We are one of 100 schools across NSW and ACT to be chosen to host a day in Season 2 and with your help we aim to make it a great success.

Further information will be sent home next term, with regards to the time of the show which we encourage all parents to attend.
Achieving School Success: Information Sessions for Parents

Would you like to find out...

How the Australian Education System works?
Brain development of your child & how this affects learning?
How you can support your child’s learning & school success at home?
How you can help prepare your child for school, university & beyond?

A FOUR SESSION PROGRAM FOR PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS AND CARERS OF 6 – 12 YEAR OLDS

WHEN: 10am – 12pm Wednesdays 15th, 22nd, 29th October and 5th November 2014
WHERE: Hurstville Entertainment Centre (MacMahon Street, Hurstville)
Speaker: Mr Xue Feng Zhang, Ph D candidate, Sydney University
Former Community Information Officer of NSW Department of Education.
Language: Mandarin
COST: FREE
MORNING TEA PROVIDED

For information and to register please call Chinese Australian Services Society (CASS) on 9789 4587, press ‘2’ for reception

Child care is available, but must be pre-booked at the time of registration

CASS Settlement Services assist recently-arrived Chinese-speaking migrants during their early settlement period.
The service is supported by the financial assistance from Australian Government Department of Social Services.
学有所成：家长讲座系列

孩子的教育是广大家长极为关心的问题，您是否对以下话题感兴趣...
澳洲教育体系如何运作？
孩子大脑发育及如何影响学业的发展？
如何帮助您的孩子学习和成长？
如何为孩子进入中学及大学做准备？

免费讲座，机会难逢，内容丰富，茶点供应，欢迎家有 6-12 岁学童的家长踊跃报名参加
时间：上午 10 時 – 中午 12 時 10 月 16 日，10 月 22 日，10 月 29 日，11 月 5 日 (逢星期三)
地点：Hurstville Entertainment Centre (MacMahon Street, Hurstville)
语言：普通话
主讲：张学丰先生，悉尼大学英才教育博士生，新州教育部前社区资讯员
咨询及报名请联系 华人服务社：(02) 9789 4587 电话接通后按 [2] 钮
提供托儿服务，请务必报名时预约

新移民定居服务协助新移民定居澳洲，该项服务已得到澳洲政府的拨款资助。
St George and Sutherland Shire Table Tennis Assoc.
Website: SSTT.org.au

October & November 2014
Table Tennis Training at HALC
Hurstville Aquatic Leisure Centre
Johnny Warren Stadium
Cnr. Kings Georges Rd & Forest Rd, Hurstville NSW 2220, Australia

St George Sutherland Shire Table Tennis Association is offering an 8 week table tennis training program for players of all levels from beginners to competition players.

When: Friday evenings  
Date: 10th October – 28th November  
Time: 7:30pm – 9:30pm  
Cost: $25 per evening / $180 for full 8 week program  
Book By: 30th September, 2014

Group Training Program Features:
- Training provided by one Australia’s most successful coach’s Peter Masen
- Training program is open to all ages and standards
- Well structured training according to your ability
- Fun and friendly atmosphere
- Games played during training sessions
- Contact Peter Masen on 0419 388 830 for any questions about the program

Register Now!
Email info@ssst.org.au your name, address, contact number, full program ($180) or casual ($25 per evening, please specify evenings) and email a copy of your payment receipt.

Payment: EFT to CBA  
Bank Account Name: Sutherland Shire Table Tennis Association  
BSB: 062 177  
Account: 1009 8361  
Reference Details: [Put Your Name]

---

2014 Australian Junior Table Tennis Championships 28/9/14 – 4/10/14
Hurstville Aquatic Leisure Centre, Cnr King Georges Rd & Forest Rd Hurstville

Come see the best Under 18 Table Tennis Players in Australian compete for the Australian Title in U18 Boys and Girls, U15 Boys and Girls, and U13 Boys and Girls Singles, Doubles, Mixed Doubles.

On Daily from 9.00am until approx 8:30pm

Entry Ticket (Bring this ticket for FREE entry for 2 Persons)