Calendar of Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 27th July</td>
<td>NAIDOC Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 28th July</td>
<td>ICAS – English competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 29th July</td>
<td>OPEN DAY – Come and visit your child’s classroom.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 30th July</td>
<td>Athletics Field events 9-11am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 31st July</td>
<td>PSSA</td>
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<td>Yr 3 Swimming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 4th August</td>
<td>SPAF Concert A – Hurstville Entertainment Centre Matinee 12.15pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Evening 7pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday, 5th August</td>
<td>SPAF Concert B – As above</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 6th August</td>
<td>SPAF Concert C – As above</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, 7th August</td>
<td>Year 3 Swimming</td>
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Principal’s Message

On Wednesday of this week, I had the pleasure of accompanying four of our Year 6 students - Angela, Isaac, Justin and Olivia - to Connells Point Public School where they were competing in the Ultimo Network’s *Number Crunchers* mathematics competition. Representatives from 30 schools took part in three competitions: *Number Crunchers*, which tested students in a range of mental computations involving addition, subtraction, division, multiplication, time, fractions and measurement; the *Golden Pi* competition, where students recited Pi to as many decimal places as they could; and the *Rubic’s Cube* competition, where students raced to complete the puzzle in the shortest time.
I was very proud of the way in which our students conducted themselves during their time on stage. All did their best and handled their eventual eliminations with maturity. Isaac made it right through to the Grand Final before making an error. At Hurstville Public School, we encourage students to enjoy learning and to challenge themselves. This competition was a great opportunity for students to display their talent and interest in different aspects of mathematics, and to have fun.

The Secretary of the Department of Education, Dr Michelle Bruniges, wrote an article this week for the Sydney Morning Herald on the importance of mathematics. In part, Dr Bruniges wrote:

“There is debate nationally and internationally about how to reignite student interest in mathematics and make it more relevant to their world where learning happens anywhere, at any time. Instant and unlimited access to information means students increasingly need critical thinking and problem-solving skills…….Research tells us people often feel negative about maths and students report anxiety about the subject. In 2012 the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) … highlighted the link between low maths anxiety and high performance and, conversely, higher anxiety and lower performance. Australia plots just above average on the PISA mean mathematics performance score and above average on the anxiety measure….

We need to teach tools, not just topics, and encourage students to use their common sense to understand assumptions. We need to be more explicit about some of the simple rules in maths. To increase relevance for students, we need more emphasis on fun mathematics for younger students and a renewed focus on statistics, probability and applied mathematics…

The future will demand teaching practices that engage and inspire students so they can relate to this crucial discipline. The tools and methods that should be emphasised include estimation, logic, computer-based animation, linkages to the real world, and a progression from concrete to abstract concepts.

Above all, as educators we should highlight the fun and beauty of mathematics so students are driven by curiosity and not by anxiety and fear.”

At our School Development Day this term, we were excited to have Professor Robyn Ewing, from the University of Sydney, present a session to staff on developing students’ creative thinking skills. Curiosity, as both Dr Bruniges and Professor Ewing highlighted, is a crucial component in developing a love of learning and higher order thinking skills. It is the spark that ignites children to want to learn; to question; to wonder; to imagine. These are the qualities our children need to be inventive and creative and to use their knowledge for more than just recalling information. It is what children do with what they know that allows them to excel. Simply recalling information will get them only so far. They need to interpret the information and use it in new ways to show their true ability and reach the highest levels of achievement.

I was at the University of NSW last year, listening to an address to award winners – outstanding students from around the state. The highly esteemed professor who delivered the address told the audience: “You are all good at answering questions; what you need now is to be good at asking the right questions. Answering questions is the easy part; asking the right questions is hard and vitally important. Even if you’ve got good questions, keep asking more. Find better ones. Keep trying to ask the right questions.”

Again, it’s that curiosity – wanting to know more, wondering why, or what if – that we need to develop in our children. I saw a sign in a window the other day which I quite liked: *Logic will take you from a to b. Imagination will take you everywhere.* This semester, as we continue to explore 21st Century Learning, our staff will be focusing on creative thinking and how we can develop this curiosity in our students.

Mrs Anne Hewson – Principal
We are now starting to plan and organise for Kindergarten in 2016. Currently, interviews are being scheduled with students and their parents or carers who have enrolled into Kindergarten for 2016. These are being conducted on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. It has been lovely meeting some of our new students already.

- If you have enrolled your child but do not have an interview organised, please contact the school office to organise a time.
- If you have a child who turns 5 before 31 July 2016, and you wish them to enrol into Kindergarten next year, please contact the school office as soon as possible to complete an enrolment form.
- If you know of a friend or neighbour who lives within our school boundary area and has a child who is intending to enrol at our school in Kindergarten in 2016, please advise them to contact the school office as soon as possible.

The school boundary area and information about documentation required to enrol a child at Hurstville Public school is available on our website www.hurstville-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Our Kindergarten Transition dates in 2015 for students starting Kindergarten in 2016 are:
- Tuesday 13\textsuperscript{th} or Thursday 15\textsuperscript{th} October
- Wednesday 4\textsuperscript{th} November
- Wednesday 11\textsuperscript{th} November
- Wednesday 18\textsuperscript{th} November

You will be notified by mail with more information about our Kindergarten Transition program later this term.

Mrs Jenny Cooper – Relieving Deputy Principal

This week, Mrs Cooper, Mrs Ingram and Ms Daniels presented information about Higher Order Comprehension to a number of parents at the P&C meeting. It was an informative presentation which included a number of strategies parents could use at home to help develop their child’s comprehension skills. To see the presentation, please follow the link to our school website.

One of the most important things a parent can do to help their child’s reading and comprehension at home, is to read to them. Even if your child is a fluent reader, reading aloud to them helps develop their comprehension, creativity and imagination, and provides them with a rich language to draw on. It also provides an opportunity for them to talk about their ideas and thoughts about the text. Reading to a child in their first language is also important and helps to develop their comprehension skills.

Keep reading,

Miss Danielle Scott - Deputy Principal
Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten)
Kindergarten students have settled in well to another busy term. Please continue to read with your child each night and complete homework activities. It is an expectation that students prepare news each week and present to their class. A note was sent home last week outlining the news topics and a reminder of when your child’s news day is. Please see your class teacher if you have any questions.

Mrs Jessica Maakaroun-Assistant Principal

KE Report
Kindergarten students have been learning to write recounts. Here are some work samples from KE students about their school holidays.

Miss Maria Elia-Class Teacher

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In the school holidays I went to two parties. I played with my friend Jayson. We had fun rock climbing. I didn’t climb too high. It was fun. By: Ethan</th>
<th>In the school holidays I went to my mum’s friend’s house to eat pizza. I had two pieces. I felt happy. I had a lovely day. By: Raymond</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In the school holidays I went to the zoo with my mum and my sister. I saw a giraffe and went to eat. I had a good time. Then I went home. By: Eric</td>
<td>In the school holidays I stayed at home. I played with my brother and watched T.V. By: Grace</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Stage 1
Year 2
Recently, all Year 2 students participated in various activities to learn about and to celebrate NAIDOC Week. Each class rotated to other classrooms to hear Dreaming stories, learn about various aboriginal artefacts and the flag. It was a wonderful experience for all.
Would you please check your child’s pencil case to see if anything needs to be replaced? By third term, many students have used what was bought earlier in the year.

We are finding that there are several students who regularly arrive late for school. We would appreciate it if the children can be at school, no later than 8.45am. This way, they will not miss out on important messages, they are generally more settled to start the school day and the other students’ learning is not disrupted.

On a similar note, we would like to remind parents how important it is to be at school by 3.00pm to pick up their child/children. Sometimes we have students who are anxious because their parents are late and sometimes we have students who do not always know who is picking them up. In order to reduce these kinds of issues, we ask you to speak with your child so they are aware of who will be picking them up each day or to call the office as soon as you know that you are going to be late.

This way we can best accommodate your children and keep them safe. If you know in advance that you will not be able to pick up your child and have asked another parent, please send a note to the class teacher advising that you have given your permission for them to be picked up by somebody else.

**Year 2 Class Teachers**

**Stage 3**

**Year 5 and 6**

Stage 3 students have recently been working hard in Science on project based learning to produce some fantastic presentations about animal adaptations. Our talented students worked in collaborative groups to plan, construct and present a variety of multi-media projects including power point presentations, posters, models and video presentations. Students enjoyed learning from each other’s 21st Century designs, and teachers would like to congratulate students on such wonderful achievements!

**Year 5 and 6 Class Teachers**
Support Classes

Welcome back to Term 3. We hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable break. Throughout Term 3, review meetings will take place for all students in the Support Unit, except those in Year 6. This is a great opportunity for families and the school to share information about students’ needs and progress. We hope all families can attend and further information will be sent home shortly.

The students and staff in the support unit continue to enjoy the updated quiet area.

Mrs Nicole Moore - Assistant Principal

Student Representative Council News

The SRC introduced Nude Food to Hurstville Public School in 2014. “Nude” food refers to food and drink that comes to school free of disposable wrappings – all items are in reusable containers, so there is no rubbish to be thrown away. Since its introduction, the number of students participating in this program has more than tripled. Participation in Nude Food has seen a significant drop in the amount of rubbish on our playground.

Last term in an SRC meeting, the students unanimously voted to increase the number of days in which the school has nude food. As of Week 2, Hurstville P.S. will be increasing the number of nude food days to Mondays and Wednesdays.

Students should bring their crunch and sip, lunch and recess to school in reusable containers on Mondays and Wednesdays, without plastic or paper packaging that needs to be thrown away. This includes drinks which should be in reusable containers and not require straws.

Kindergarten students are now also invited to participate in Nude Food Days on Mondays and Wednesdays in order to make Area 1 as beautiful and clean as the rest of the school.

Thank you for your participation!

Mrs Kate Carey, Ms Erin Piper, Ms Vanessa Hoskin, Mrs Anna Kakakios and all of the SRC students
Values in Action Awards

5 Values in Action Awards = 1 Bronze Award
5 Bronze Awards = 1 Silver Award
2 Silver Awards = 1 Gold Award
2 Gold Awards = 1 Medal

The students listed below will receive their GOLD award on Monday 27 July at the whole school assembly in the morning. Parents are most welcome to see the students get their awards.

Mrs Jessica Maakaroun-Assistant Principal

From the Library

‘So many books, so little time’
- Frank Zappa (Musician)

Welcome back to a busy term in our Library. Thank you to Thomas (Year 1) and his family for their generous donation of cuddly read-to toys. They will be appreciated by our younger students.

Premiers Reading Challenge
All online entries must be completed by 21st August to be eligible to receive a certificate. At this time, we have over 70 children who have commenced, but not completed, their reading lists. With a month to go, there is still plenty of time to read those last few books.

Book Week
Book Week takes place from Saturday, 22nd August until Friday, 28th August. The theme for this year is:

‘BOOKS LIGHT UP OUR WORLD’

Our students have the opportunity to enter our Library Book Week competitions as follows:

Stage 1: Students are asked to complete a poster on A4 paper about their favourite book character. Information needs to include:

A picture of the character
The name of the character
The book in which the character is found
A few words to describe the character
Stages 2 and 3: Students are asked to create a poster on A4 paper to ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO READ. Remember to write name and class on the back.

Things to consider are:

- Simple Illustration
- Catchy slogan
- Strong colours
- Bold text

Entries are due by Friday, 7th August.
Please note that these competitions are NOT compulsory. A small prize will be awarded to the best entry in each year group.

Book Club
Issue 5 Book Club brochures have been distributed to students this week. Orders must be returned to school on Wednesday, 29th July. LOOP orders must also be completed by that date.

Book Fair
Our annual Scholastic Book Fair will take place from 1st to 10th September this year. You will receive further information about this event over the next few weeks. Start saving your money for some great deals.

Ms Leslie Hyde – Teacher Librarian

**St. George Performing Arts Festival - known as SPAF!**

Tickets for the St George Performing Arts Festival, held at the Marana Auditorium Hurstville are on sale. Our school will be performing at all three concerts. This year we have about 140 students performing across the three concerts.

They have worked hard all year for this special event and are very excited to show their performance to their families and friends.

Tickets for these concerts can now be purchased online. To book, simply go to: [www.trybooking.com.au/128411](http://www.trybooking.com.au/128411). The online booking will close on July, 31st 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concert A - Tuesday 4th August 2015</th>
<th>12.15pm Matinee &amp; 7.00pm Evening</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students performing:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Stage 2 Choir</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Year 5 Girls’ Dance Group</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Year 4, 5, &amp; 6 Boys’ Dance Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Chinese Dance Group</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Concert B - Wednesday 5th August 2015</th>
<th>12.15pm Matinee &amp; 7.00pm Evening</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students performing:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Stage 1 (Year 2) Choir</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Year 6 Girls’ Dance Group</td>
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<tr>
<th>Concert C - Thursday 6th August 2015</th>
<th>12.15pm Matinee &amp; 7.00pm Evening</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students performing:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Stage 3 Choir</td>
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Mrs Zaga Marinkovic & Mrs Jane Muir -St. George Performing Arts Festival School Co-ordinators
MindQuest 2015

We have received brochures advertising courses for the MindQuest program which will be held at St George Girls HS on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th September. The program is for gifted and talented Primary students in Years 1-6. Brochures are available from the front office.

Road Safety Posters

21st Century Learning Corner

Welcome back to Term 3! This semester, we are continuing with our focus of the ‘4Cs for 21st Century Learning’ by looking specifically at Creativity. Our aim with this “C” is to develop students’ creative thinking skills to further their academic success. As an introduction, I have provided an excerpt from http://www.palgrave.com/studentstudyskills/page/creative-thinking-skills/ which explains this skill in more depth:

“Creative thinking skills are as much about attitude and self-confidence, as about talent. Creativity is often less ordered, structured and predictable. As you are not looking for 'one' answer, you are likely to come up with lots of suggestions that are not 'right'. This can be difficult if you are more used to analytical and logical approaches. It can also be experienced as 'risky', as the prospect of making a mistake or not coming up with an answer is more likely.”
Creative thinking skills involve such approaches as:

- Looking for many possible answers rather than one (divergent thinking)
- Persevering through challenges.
- Engaging in open-ended tasks.
- Making mistakes
- Tolerating ambiguity
- Learning from what has not worked as well as what did.

Creative thinking skills can develop new perspectives to assist with problem solving. They help students to apply and build on knowledge across the curriculum, to deepen and create new meaning and understanding.

Over the course of this term, I will be providing more information on creativity and creative thinking skills and how we will be developing these in the classroom to extend students' learning.

Mrs Amy Mortimer - Teacher

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**HPS Education Week OPEN DAY**

**Wednesday 29th July**

9.00 - 9.30am  **“21st Century Learning Skills at Hurstville Public School”**
A parent presentation in the hall.

9.30am – 10.30am  **Open Classrooms**
Visit your child’s classroom to see 21st century learning in action.

10.30am – 11.00am  **Recess**
Enjoy sharing morning tea in the playground with your child.

11.00am – 11.30am  **Dance Showcase**
You may like to watch our Dance groups perform in the hall.

We look forward to seeing you at Open Day during Education Week.

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**Schools A-Z**  A great resource for parents.
Follow the link:  http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/
Birthday Celebrations at School

It’s a special time when a child celebrates a birthday. On these occasions some parents like to provide party food for the class to share at school.

With many children suffering from allergies, we need to minimise the risk of them having an allergic reaction at school. One way we do this at Hurstville Public School is to encourage children NOT to share food.

Therefore, we do NOT allow students to share cakes and other party food at school for birthday celebrations. We distribute the food at the end of the day for the students to take home.

If you would like to send along something to celebrate your child’s special day, please ensure that it is food that is sealed or wrapped, and can be sent home in the child’s schoolbag. That way, parents can make the decision about whether the food is appropriate for their child. Some examples are lolly bags, cupcakes, donuts or lollipops. Please provide bags or serviettes for ease of distribution. Large cakes that need to be cut up are NOT suitable.
VISIT US ON OPEN DAY
Thursday 20 August, 9.30 – 11am
85 Willarong Road, Caringbah
(Parking on Taren Point Road)

For Year 5 students wishing to sit the Selective High School Test in March 2016 to enter Caringbah High School in YEAR 7 in 2017

Interested students and parents are invited to attend this information morning with displays and activities for students

Be part of our community today

For more information visit www.caringbah-h.schools.nsw.edu.au
This is an eight-week program for children aged 6 to 12 years that have experienced grief and loss in their lives due to a significant change such as death, separation of parents or a natural disaster.

Children will learn:
- to understand and talk about the normal range of emotions experienced during major change, grief and loss
- how to build positive relationships with family and friends
- how they can participate in a caring and confidential network of peers and adults
- about resiliency
- how to plan for a realistic and hope-filled future

Monday afternoons, 4:00pm to 5:00pm
20 July – 14 September 2015
(includes party week)

Venue: Interrelate, Shop 1C
383-385 Port Hacking Road, Caringbah NSW

Cost: $50 per child

Bookings essential - Phone 8522 4450

interrelate
relationship experts since 1926
Triple P - Course Schedule 2015

A 5 week course for parents of children 2-12

Georges River Life Care

Location: Georges River Life Centre
23 Stanley St Peakhurst 2210

Ph: 9153 6300
Fax: 9584 9406
Email: bronwyn.t@grlc.org.au
Web: www.grlifecare.org.au

Manager: Glenn Power

Course Description

The Triple P – Positive Parenting Program is one of the most effective evidence-based parenting programs in the world, backed up by more than 30 years of ongoing research.

Triple P gives parents simple and practical strategies to help them confidently manage their children’s behaviour, prevent problems developing and build strong, healthy relationships.

Triple P is currently used in 25 countries and has been shown to work across cultures, socio-economic groups and in all kinds of family structures.

Course Content includes
- Positive Parenting
- Helping Children Develop
- Managing Misbehaviour
- Handling High Risk Situations
- Future Focus
IS YOUR CHILD STARTING SCHOOL IN 2016?

Come and find out more about

How to enrol your child in school and who can support you with this

“Getting Ready” our transition to school program for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander families

MONDAY 27TH JULY 2015
10AM - 12PM

MENAI COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE
32 ALLISON CRESENT, MENAI, NSW, 2234

Call 9543 1111 if you have any questions, or just turn up!

Sharon Simms, Aboriginal Education and Engagement Officer, Public Schools

Talk to the Aboriginal Community Liaison Officers covering your child's school

Jane Bridges, Leader of Learning, Aboriginal Education, Catholic Education

Have a yarn with

Parents who have taken part in the “Getting Ready” program

Narran-Booris team who will be running the “Getting Ready” program

Narran-Booris
Building Strong Foundations

NSW Government Health
South Eastern Sydney Local Health District