Dear Parents and Carers,

The High School Information Evening will be held on Tuesday 10 March at 6.15pm in the hall. Year 6 parents are invited to attend and find out how to fill in the 2016 High School application form and to ask questions relevant to the application process. I will be joined by Mr Tim Kay and Year 6 teachers for this presentation.

Harmony Day is fast approaching and will be held on Friday 20 March. Students may wear orange mufti on the day. This day is also the National Day for Action Against Bullying and Violence. This annual day provides a focus for our school to say Bullying, No Way! and to strengthen our existing everyday messages that bullying and violence at school are not okay at any time. A K-6 Harmony Day assembly will take place at 11.05am and our Senior Choir will be delighting us with songs. Parents are welcome to attend. The P&C have organised a special disco in our hall for K-3 students from 5.00-6.30pm and Years 4-6 from 6.30-8.30pm on this day.

Tickets available at the door - $5 entry
There’ll also be a Hair Styling Station, Glowsticks, BBQ, Gelato and more!
Parents and carers are very welcome and encouraged – you’ll have your own area outside with chairs and tables provided so you can mix and mingle. Please note this is an alcohol-free event.

All stage three students and their parents are invited to a Camp Information night and sausage sizzle on Wednesday March 18 from 6pm in the school grounds. Staff from The Great Aussie Bush Camp will be in attendance to show a short DVD about the camping program and answer any questions that you might have about our upcoming Years 5 and 6 camps. Come along and meet new parents and students from our school and find out everything about our camp programs for 2015. As well, there will be sausage sandwiches and cold drinks on sale.

School Photo Day will be on Monday 16 March. Notes will be sent home soon.

On Thursday 2 April at 1.30pm we will be holding our Easter Hat Parade. Students will be making their hats at school with their buddies. This will not only strengthen the bond between the students, but will encourage creativity and imagination, which are integral to developing successful 21st Century learners. As we get closer to the date, teacher may ask for parents to donate some items for decorating the hats. Parents are welcome to join us for this event. We look forward to seeing some great creations!

We will be holding 3 Way Interviews between parents, teachers and students at the end of Term 1. This will provide parents with the feedback on their child’s learning early in the year, as well as opportunities to discuss with teachers the best way to support students in their learning at home. Please note, as interviews are held at the end of Term 1, parents still have the option to request a meeting with their child’s teacher after receiving the Semester 1 reports. Notes will be sent home soon to inform you of interview dates for each class and parents will be able to book their interview time online.

Child Safety Issues
There has been an increase in students being dropped off to school before 8.45am each morning. No staff are supervising the playground before 8.45am. Please book your child into Before School Care rather than leaving them unattended on school grounds. Also please ensure that all students have a hat at school, as per our Sun Safety Policy. If students do not have a hat, they must remain in the shade. During recess and lunch. Thank you for your support.

Karen Shehata
Principal

Please Note: Our next newsletter will be in Week 8

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S OFFICE

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THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU
To all the parents who have paid the Term 1 Statements as well as the user pay programs - the school has appreciated you adhering to the payment timeline set down.
To those parents who have not yet paid for Term 1 activities, please contact the school office to make further arrangements regarding a payment plan or request financial assistance.
The school admin team is now preparing the Term 2 statements which will be available later this term. Look out for them!
In the meantime, a reminder statement will be posted out next week.

STUDENT EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS (YEARS 1, 3 AND 5)
Parents of Years 1, 3 and 5 have received a letter requesting to update contact details for their child.
Please return this letter to the office only if changes have been made by this Friday, 6th March.

2015 CLOTHING APPEAL
Stewart House bags will be sent out to all students next week (Week 7). Please fill these with any clean, unwanted clothes and return them to school on Monday 23 March. Drop off location is outside the Staffroom Door.

Harmony Dance Party – Dance for Diversity
Fri 20 March
Get ready to groove and celebrate 15 years of Harmony Day.

When: Fri 20 Mar
Where: In the Hall
Who: Junior Dance Party – Years K-3 – from 5.00 – 6.30 pm
      Senior Dance Party – Years 4-6 – from 6.30 – 8.30 pm
Dress: In your finest rainbow colours

Tickets available at the door - $5 entry
There’ll also be a Hair Styling Station, Glowsticks, BBQ, Gelato and more!
Parents’ Zone - parents and carers are very welcome and encouraged – you’ll have your own area outside with chairs and tables provided so you can mix and mingle.
Food and drinks available or bring a picnic. Please note this is an alcohol-free event.
Volunteers greatly appreciated – we need helpers to set up and pack away, work on the door, style (spray) hair, cook the BBQ - even if you can spare an hour – please contact Anita Finlayson on 0401 032 659 or anitafinlayson@yahoo.com.au
**DO YOU HAVE A CHILD DIAGNOSED WITH AD/HD?**

**ARE YOU LOOKING FOR POSITIVE STRATEGIES TO HELP MANAGE YOUR CHILD’S BEHAVIOUR?**

Is your child between 6 and 12 years old?

You are invited FREE OF CHARGE to attend a well-known parenting program at Macquarie University.

The program is designed to assist parents to manage challenging behaviour and build a positive relationship with their child.

The program is part of an evaluation study and participants will be asked to attend evening sessions and to fill in questionnaires (anonymously).

For more information or to express interest in this study please contact:

Julie Chesterfield (Department of Psychology, Macquarie University)
E-mail: julie.chesterfield@students.mq.edu.au
Phone: 0412 414 114

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**If your child talks to you about bullying:**

1. **Listen** calmly to get the full story.
2. **Reassure** your child that they are not to blame.
3. **Ask** your child what they want to do about it and how you can help.
5. **Contact** the school.
6. **Check-in** regularly with your child.

**BULLYING NO WAY!**


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**A SUMMER HILL MOTHER IS TAKING IT ALL OFF.....**

...and she would love your support.

Please support Sarah Tari in THE WORLD’S BIGGEST SHAVE on the 13th of March.


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**RIDE2SCHOOL DAY FRIDAY MARCH 13**

Preparations are well under way for our active travel day to encourage and celebrate riding, walking and scooting to school. Our volunteer helpers will meet riders in the morning to:

- check bikes and helmets
- assist bike parking
- give out stickers and raffle tickets

All students on wheels are required to wear helmets (this includes skaters and scooters). Parents are encouraged to join in the fun by walking or wheeling with the students.

We support our students to walk or wheel to school because:

- Students feel fresh and alert at the beginning of a school day.
- There are fewer cars around the school which eases ‘drop off congestion’.
- Students are more likely to reach the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity they need each day.
- Students feel happier, healthier and perform better in the classroom.

Contact Graham Newling on [gnewling@bigpond.com.au](mailto:gnewling@bigpond.com.au) or 0417 227 974.