

Principal's Report – School Board Meeting 3/04/2019

Enrolments

No major change to enrolments

Buildings and Grounds

Meeting scheduled for next term to discuss K and PP options for 2020.

Will advise when I've had the meeting.

We have requested the DoE close in the art room courtyard and extend to build two specialist spaces. This has been approved in principle, but we are awaiting confirmation.

We are still trying to determine a suitable site for more play equipment.

Mosaic project – two artists in residence worked in the school from weeks 3 – 6 with classes to create a large mural depicting our PBS Herons and local wetlands. Will be mounted on wall outside undercover area.

Staffing

We have recently run 5 merit selection processes for:

Education Assistant (mainstream)

Education Assistant (special needs)

cleaner

PR/Communication officer

Student Services Support Officer

Mr Dickie, our Network Support Officer will finish his contract at the end of the week.

At this stage, there are no other changes for the start of Term 2.

General

- A group of local Principals met with Yaz and the Minister for Education, Sue Ellery to discuss 'what were the issues in schools'. Parking was not on the agenda.
- Improved communication with our community should occur in Term 2 with the commencement of our PR/Communications person and the Harrisdale headlines.
- Four aspirant leaders from HPS have been taking part in an aspirant program with other local teachers in our Network of Schools (Baseden, Heal, Hildebrandt, St Quintin).

Teaching and Learning

- On-Entry assessment of PP students has conducted and we use these results to determine classroom planning and foci, to identify potential students at risk and to plan for learning adjustments or intervention.
- In lieu of the school newsletter, the Harrisdale Headlines will be videoed and sent out to students and parents to keep our community informed of the learning and school events happening in the school. This will be produced by the students.
- Senior students involved in helping to design and create a natural bushland mural for Stockland Harrisdale Shopping Centre. Again – working with artists in residence.

- The Executive Team have begun observation and feedback in classrooms. We do this to gauge how things are going in classes and also to give teachers feedback about their teaching. Impact Coaches are already working in classes with graduates or new staff to ensure connected practices and strategies across the school.
- Two teachers (Baseden and Ahern) just returned from two days @ the Future Schools Conference in Melbourne and a day at an Apple Distinguished School. They presented some very exciting ideas to staff this afternoon at our staff meeting.
- Last week all teaching staff did some further professional learning around teaching Reading Comprehension strategies as a response to last year's reading performance in NAPLAN.
- The Harmony Day in March was successful, and this year also included Francophonic Day. We would still like to grow this event in future years and have more countries represented.
- We had student and parent presentations on safe cyber usage by expert, Paul Litherland and we had very positive feedback about this.
- Swimming lessons conclude at the end of the week, ending four weeks of lessons.

Upcoming School Events

- ANZAC service on Thursday, April 11th at 7:00am. Trialling this due to swimming lessons interrupting the school day, criticism of last years' service not including a service for all year levels, lack of available space (other than oval) to hold events. Gives working parents the opportunity to attend with their family at 7:00am. Really appreciate the P&C helping out with the sausage sizzle afterwards.
- NAPLAN online in weeks 3 and 4 next term. Two classes involved in equating study to moderate between paper-based version and online. Today we had a system load test to see how our wifi and infrastructure would manage during the NAPLAN period.