Welcome back to HPS for 2013. I hope that you had a great Christmas and New Year and of course a chance to relax over the holidays. As our student numbers have increased from last year, we have started the year with some new staff members and an additional classroom. I would like to welcome Mrs Faulkner who is a new permanent staff member from Caves Beach PS. She will be working with our year 1 children in the lower classroom near the library. Miss Christensen, who has worked with us on a casual basis last year will be working on a 1/2 class this year in our new demountable building. We also have Mrs Holt who will be undertaking the role of Technology Assistant Principal for 2013 as we complete the final year of our Centre for Excellence program.

Not only do we have new staff members but we also welcome many new families to HPS through each of the year groups and of course our new kindergarten children. Kindergarten children have just completed their Best Start testing over the last three days and have arrived today for their official first day of school. This can often be a time of mixed emotions for parents and children alike. There was much excitement as our new kinders settled into their new classrooms and parents waved goodbye. The morning began with relatively few tears as our newest students began their educational journey. Welcome to the school.

Classes have been formed this year with the following

TERM CALENDAR

WEEK 2
Monday, February 4th
First day for Kindergarten.

WEEK 3
Thursday, February 14th
Swimming Carnival
Friday, February 15th
Learn to Swim School K-2.

WEEK 4

WEEK 5

Kindergarten children will be finishing at 2.30pm until the end of week 5, And from week 6 the normal time of 3.00pm. Please wait on the silver seats for your children.

IMPORTANT DATES / EVENTS

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>14th</th>
<th>February</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Venue:</td>
<td>Wallsend Pool</td>
<td>3-6 depart school 9.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>K-2 depart school 11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Children depart pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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teachers and year groups KL – Mrs Littlewood  
KP – Miss Pleash  
1F – Mrs Faulkner  
1C – Miss Christensen  
2D – Mrs Devoy  
4/5S – Mrs Magennis  
5/6M – Mrs Magennis  
6B – Mr Bryant  
2/3M – Mr Magennis (Assistant Principal).  

Classroom letters will be sent out this week to let parents and carers know what will be happening in their child’s classroom this term as well as a list of classroom specific resources to allow parents to take advantage of the back to school promotions that are currently underway.

Once again, welcome back and I look forward to another great year at HPS

M Freeman  
Principal (Rel)

School Fees

Kindergarten Book Pack - $15  
Years K-6 photocopy levy and school contribution $25  
Please note, maximum family payment (for multiple enrolments) is $50 if paid before the end of Term 1.

Anti-Bullying Program

As you know Heaton Public School is trialling the Friendly Schools and Families Anti-Bullying Program. It is a whole school program which means that staff, students and parents need to contribute to maintain the friendly and safe culture of our school.  

We have formed an Anti-Bullying committee made up of Mat Freeman (Principal), Mandy Harborne (LAST/RFF), Geoff Bryant (Year 6), Keith Smith (Parent Rep) and Melissa Travan (Parent Rep).  

This committee will meet regularly to formulate the new Anti-Bullying policy for our school. Teachers will begin implementing the Friendly Schools and Families program this week.

The modules for Weeks 1 and 2 are:  
Kindergarten – ‘Being friendly’ and ‘Unfriendly Behaviour’  
Stage 1 – ‘Being friendly’ and ‘What is Bullying?’  
Stage 2 – ‘What is Bullying?’ and ‘Who is involved in Bullying?’  
Stage 3 – ‘What is Bullying?’ and ‘Why do people bully?’  

We encourage you to discuss these topics with your child at home. Some weeks your child will have homework to complete. This is another opportunity to talk with your child about what they are learning.

If you are looking for some advice and information about bullying, go to the Bullying. No Way! website at www.bullyingnoway.com.au

Thankyou for your cooperation!

Mandy Harborne  
(LAST/RFF)

Eight ways to get your kids organised

Are you ready for morning madness, late assignments, yesterday’s half-eaten lunch sweating in the schoolbag? Just like adults, children cope much better if they can manage their time and their environment wisely.


Smart foods to boost learning

Mother Nature is full of foods that help us think and feel better. What do you give your child to help them think more clearly, and enhance concentration and memory?


Sport Report

Swimming Carnival

The school swimming carnival will be held on Thursday 14th February at Wallsend Pool. All children from Year 3 up to Year 6 including Year 2 from 2/3M will depart school at 9.15 by bus. Children in Kinder, Year 1 and 2 will depart school at 11am.

All children and staff will be attending on the day. There will be races and activities to suit all children. Parents and family members are welcome on the day.

A permission note will go out this week. Please return as soon as possible with the money.  

A House meeting will be held on Friday to elect House Captains and Vice Captains.

Learn To Swim

The Learn to Swim Program will commence on Friday 15th February for all children from Kinder to Year 2. This has been a very popular program at Heaton Public School. All the children will need to attend as their teachers will also be at the pool.

The children will travel by bus to Balance at Mayfield. A

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will be opening this Tuesday 5th February and Friday 8th February from 8.45am – 9.30am.

From next Monday 11th February they will only be open on a Monday afternoon from 2.30pm – 3.15pm. When leaving uniform orders a 50% deposit must be paid.

Thank you  
Uniform Shop
Wallsend Shortland Parish

The Sacramental Team of Our Lady of Victories Church Shortland, wishes to advise parents/guardians of Catholic children who are in Year 3 (or older), that enrolments are now being taken for the current Parish Sacramental Program, preparing children for Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion during the year. The program will begin with a Parent Information Night at 7.00pm on Monday evening 18th February at St Patrick’s Hall, Wallsend, (please note that venue; we are combining with the St Patricks parents for this meeting.) You are then asked to bring your child to the Formal Enrolment Mass at 8.00am on Sunday Morning 24th February. Enquiries and enrolment forms are available from Reg Baldock 49512847. Please make contact as soon as possible and certainly before February 18th.

ICAS (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) 2013

Once again this year our students in Years 3 – 6 have the opportunity to enter these competitions. The relevant information in regards to dates and fees is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICAS Subject</th>
<th>ICAS Sitting Date</th>
<th>Closing Date</th>
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<td>Computer Skills</td>
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From the Library
Welcome back everyone. We are looking forward to another happy and successful year in the library.

Book Club
Students received their Book Club booklet on Thursday last. The closing date for orders is 13th February. Please ensure all orders have filled in with the student’s name and class. (Sometimes this doesn’t happen!!)

Borrowing
All students need a library bag to be able to borrow from the library.

The borrowing days are as follow:
KL Tuesday       KP Wednesday       1F Monday
1/2C Wednesday   2D Wednesday   2/3M Tuesday
4/5S Tuesday     5/6M Monday    6B Wednesday

In addition to these times, students can borrow at lunchtime Monday to Wednesday. Loans are for one week but can be extended.

Overdue Books
Some students have not returned books borrowed last year. Ours is a small library with a finite budget and as such, cannot afford to lose books. Would you please ensure that any outstanding books are returned to the library as soon as possible.

Are you caring for a grandchild?

NEWCASTLE CITY GAPS
Grandparents as Parents (GAPS)

Is a support group for grandparent carers in the Newcastle city and suburban areas working in partnership with Samaritans Foundation.

Meets In School Terms on Mondays
11:00am-12:30pm
St. Andrews Anglican hall
Church St. Mayfield

You are welcome to join us
Phone 49 533616 or 0429 914 553 for further details.

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