THANK YOU
I would like to express my thanks to the school community for their support and good wishes during my recent and unplanned hospital stay and recovery following surgery. The flowers and cards assisted the healing process and helped keep me connected to our wonderful school. I would also like to thank Mrs Jeffree who relieved as principal in my absence, Mrs Sida who relieved Mrs Jeffree as Assistant Principal, the school executive and staff who supported them. I am grateful to have such terrific staff who support one another and help keep the school moving along. I am looking forward to returning to full time duties and to make sure the great work already underway reaches its completion.

STATE SWIMMING REPRESENTATIVE
Further to our report in last week’s Highlights we need to congratulate Amy L who because of her results will be competing in the NSW State Championships at Homebush in a few weeks time. Well done Amy!

HARMONY DAY
In 2012, the Harmony Day theme Sport - play, engage, inspire recognises the important role and positive influence that sport has in our multicultural nation. Involvement in sport whether as a participant, volunteer, spectator or administrator unites people of all ages and fosters a sense of belonging, acceptance and an understanding of other cultures. Australian Government website - www.harmony.gov.au

TALE – PARENTS AND COMMUNITY TEACHING AND LEARNING EXCHANGE
I would encourage parents to visit and gather ideas, games and charts from this NSW gateway to Primary, Secondary and TAFE teaching and learning resource bank. Parents will find a treasure of useful resources to assist your child’s learning across all subject areas, ages and grades. This site contains a wealth of resources for parents to not only help their child but also to understand how technology is now integrated across all subjects and grades. www.tale.edu.au

RIDE2SCHOOL DAY
Ride2School is a national event that aims to increase the number of students walking and riding to school and encourage healthy lifestyles by increasing students physical activity levels. Ride2School 2012 is on 23 March.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS
The school has decided to have end of term one parent/teacher interviews to set the scene for ongoing dialogue between the school and home concerning your child’s learning. Parents will receive a class note indicating the times your child’s teacher will be available for interviews. I encourage all parents to take the opportunity to discuss your child’s progress this term with your child’s teacher. The school is committed to enriching the relationship between parents, teachers and students. These interviews are a wonderful way to exchange information and to further develop our professional relationship. Parent interviews will still be an option when half-yearly reports are sent home in June.

Christopher Connor
Helensburgh Public School
125th Anniversary Year

Important Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21st Mar</td>
<td>Harmony Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd Mar</td>
<td>Basketball Gala Day/Bulli HS 2013</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Academic Class Placement test/</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ride2School day</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th Mar</td>
<td>Working Bee from 9-12pm</td>
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<td>26th Mar</td>
<td>STEPS Eye Screening for Kindergarten/</td>
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<td>Young Leaders Conference Captains and Prefects</td>
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<td>4th April</td>
<td>PSSA State Swimming Championships</td>
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<td>5th April</td>
<td>Last day of Term</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd April</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>24th April</td>
<td>1st day of Term 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th May</td>
<td>Book Fair 7th -11th</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th May</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting 7pm in Staffroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th May</td>
<td>Mothers Day Stall</td>
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<tr>
<td>15th May</td>
<td>NAPLAN Language and Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th May</td>
<td>NAPLAN Reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th May</td>
<td>NAPLAN Numeracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 May</td>
<td>ICAS Computer test</td>
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</table>
**Stewart House Clothing Appeal**
Stewart House clothing bags have been sent home. Please return filled bags to the old K-6R room near the K-2 playground (NOT school office) no later than the 26th April for collection.

**Special Reading Program**
At HPS we run a special reading program called 'Hubbard St'. The program is run by volunteer tutors who have been trained by Mrs McPherson. It runs Monday to Thursday and provides much needed support for our senior students before they go to high school. This year we are in need of some more tutors so the program can be offered to all students requiring help. Training can be completed any afternoon with Mrs McPherson. No experience is necessary. If you can spare half an hour or one hour once a week, our students would be very grateful. Please contact the office or Mrs McPherson directly. A big thank you to my new tutors and my regular helpers, your time is greatly appreciated.

Mrs McPherson
SLST

**Engadine Zone Football Trials**
Last Wednesday five boys from our school attended the trials for the Engadine Zone Boys Football Team. Chase, Zac, Lochlan, Brodie and Jackson attended and all played very well. Chase, Brodie and Lochlan were successful and have been selected in the Zone team. Well done to all five boys for being invited to try out, you made us proud. Congratulations Chase, Brodie and Lochlan and good luck in the upcoming Sydney East PSSA Football Carnival.

![Boys at Zone Soccer Trials](image)

**BAND UPDATE**
Training band lessons will be held during performance band lessons next week (week 10). The schedule is as follows:

- **Monday** 1:45 (after recess) all Clarinet Blue Groups
- **Tuesday** 1:45 all Flutes
- **Wednesday** 1:45 all Guitars, 2:15 all Trumpets
- **Thursday** First half lunch Trombone, Euphonium and Bass Guitar, Second half lunch Bass Clarinet, 1:45 Piano, 2:15 all Saxophones
- **Friday** NO LESSONS HELD WEEK 10

Alison Garvie [agarvie@aapt.net.au]

**Homebush Regional Swimming Carnival**

**Environmental News**
Our working bee will be Sunday 25th March, anytime from 9am. Adults and families welcome. We will be having a BBQ and informal meeting for those attending.

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“Creating a firm foundation for lifelong learning”

**email:** helensburg-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au  **web** http://www.helensburg-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

**Issue 8, Monday 19th March 2012 Week 9 Term 1**
P&C NEWS

Annual Easter Raffle
The P&C will be running their annual Easter Raffle again this year. Tickets are $2 each or 3 for $5. Please return any unsold tickets to the office. The raffle will be drawn Thursday 5th April, the last day of Term 1.
Traditionally we ask Kindy to donate an Easter egg/bunny which we can use to make up prizes for our Easter Raffle. If any other children/families would like to donate eggs or a bunny please leave them at the office before Monday 2nd April. If anyone has any baskets that they would like to donate please send them to the office.

Scholastic Book Club
Book Club catalogues have been distributed to the children. If you wish to make a purchase, please send completed order/money to the school office by Friday 23/3/12, to ensure delivery prior to the end of 1st term.

Thank you for your continued support.
HPS P&C

Canteen News

Last chance! - Cheese 'n' Bacon roll day will be this Thursday 22nd March. Order forms need to be returned to the canteen NO LATER THAN Tuesday 20th “REAL” coffee is now available from the canteen for parents to purchase at $3 per cup.

We cannot accept ANY FOREIGN COIN,
Lunch orders and counter sales will be rejected if they include foreign coins (even New Zealand). Please check coins before sending them to school. Coin machine counting (v weighing) is now being done by the Credit Union therefore we must also reject what they reject.
We will also be conducting a lovely Winter Pie Drive again. Watch out early next term for order forms.

New Term 2 & 3 price list will be coming home before the end of term and will also be available on the web site. This will take effect from Monday 23rd April (Term 2). Apples are now 70c each (whole or slinky).

Breakfast options are also available:- Raisin toast 50c per slice, vegemite on toast 50c per slice and Up N Go various flavours $1.70, milo $1.00 per cup.

Bandaged Bear is here!
Items will be sold through the canteen until the end of March or sold out. We have:
- Clip on bears $3
- Notepad $2
- Pen $2
- Hacky Sack $2

SELLING FAST - We will not be ordering any more. ALL PROCEEDS GO DIRECTLY TO THE CHILDRENS HOSPITAL WESTMEAD

Uniform News
Our new HPS logo school bags are in stock. We also have some of the new microfiber jackets in stock. The uniform shop is open from 7.30 to 12 noon (canteen opening hours). Thank you for your continued support.
Jan 4294 1778 Bronwyn 4294 3568

This school is a peanut/nut aware environment.

For our childrens safety, no peanuts/nut products please!

Community Notices

For Sale
Nintendo DS including all accessories and 2 chips - 100 games Pink coloured case $50 Ph 0416 264 157

Helensburgh Junior Rugby League
HJRLFC is holding one last rego day on Friday the 23rd of March from 5:30-7:30pm at the football ovals. All new regos need to bring either birth certificate or passport. Any questions please call 0407. 516457. Rachel Shoemark 0407 516 457

Robotics Lego League
Robotics Lego League uses Mindstorms Lego, which is Lego, robot components and computer software. The Robotics Lego League teaches design, construction, robotics principals and basic computer programming. It is aimed at children between the ages of 8 and 12 years old. Go to http://firstlegoleague.org/ for further information.

Classes will run one afternoon per week for two hours. The cost will be $15 per child. This is a purely volunteer and non-profit venture. All money collected will go toward the purchase of insurance, replacement Lego and further kits or challenges. (If your child is interested in becoming a participant or you are interested in becoming a mentor please contact me - lilli@thestoryline.com.au) We will be meeting soon and looking for a Term Two start date. Please let me know what time/day is best for you for a meeting and your contact details.

Playgroup Stanwell Park
Stanwell Park Children’s Centre. Contact Monique 0425 320 597
The University of NSW - International Competitions and Assessments (ICAS) 2012

These competitions are open to all children in Years 3-6. They aim to challenge the more capable students, but any student from Years 3 - 6 may enter. They are conducted at school during school hours under exam conditions. The tests are set and marked by the University of New South Wales. Each competition has a fee and the price increases for the spelling and writing tests as these are hand marked. Tests are conducted in the areas of: Computer, Science, Mathematics, Spelling, Writing and English. The payment for competitions must be paid at the time of registration and it is **not refundable**. Please look at the table below for costs and dates for the competitions. If your child / children wish to enter you must complete the registration form found below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competition</th>
<th>Date of Exam</th>
<th>Costs Involved</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Skills</td>
<td>Tuesday 22nd May</td>
<td>$7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Wednesday 6th June</td>
<td>$7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Tuesday 19th June</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>Week of 18th-22nd June</td>
<td>$15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Tuesday 3rd July</td>
<td>$7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Tuesday 14th August</td>
<td>$7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Each child will require a 2B or B lead pencil (no pen) and an eraser for each exam. Students sitting the **Science Exam** will also require a ruler marked in millimetres and they are also permitted to use a calculator.

Please note the **Computer Exam** is a written/paper exam it is not undertaken using a computer.

Practice questions are available on the Educational Assessment Australia (EAA) website if you are interested go to www.eaa.unsw.edu.au and follow the link to “Prepare”.

To enter, please fill out the form in this week’s Highlights, together with the correct payment, **in a clearly marked envelope**. If paying by cheque, please make it payable to the school. Please do **not** include competition money with other money. Competition money must be in a **separate** envelope. Entries must be in to Mrs Sida by **Friday 30th of March 2012**. Please hand them directly to **Mrs Sida** straight after morning assembly.

**Late entries will not be accepted.**

Mrs Sida
Competition Coordinator

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**The University of NSW International Competitions and Assessments 2012**

**Student 1:** ___________________________________________  **Class:** __________

I wish to enter the following Competitions (please circle):

- Computer
- Science
- Maths
- Spelling
- Writing
- English

Total: $____

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<tr>
<td>English</td>
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</table>

**Student 2:** ___________________________________________  **Class:** __________

I wish to enter the following Competitions (please circle):

- Computer
- Science
- Maths
- Spelling
- Writing
- English

Total: $____

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<tr>
<td>English</td>
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</table>

**Parent/Guardian signature:** ___________________________  **Date:** ________
**Fun 4 U Helensburgh April Vacation**

Yes it is that time again! If you require care for the April vacation please come and book your child in or ring 0431 099 608 or 0431 199 150 by the 16th March.