PRINCIPAL’S ADDRESS AT THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY
DINNER HELENSBURGH PUBLIC SCHOOL
HELENSEBURGH WORKERS CLUB SATURDAY 21 JULY 2012
Councillor Gordon Bradbery Lord Mayor Wollongong City Council, Councillor Leigh Colacino, School Patrons, P & C President Sandy Szewcow, school staff, 125th Committee, Ladies and Gentleman.

Tonight we are gathering to celebrate the 125th anniversary of our school, our children’s school, our grandparent’s and great grandparent’s school. We have people gathered here, from far and wide tonight to celebrate their school – our school – HELENSEBURGH PUBLIC SCHOOL.

LET’S TALK SCHOOL.
Schools by their very nature are time machines, for each of us gathered here represents a moment in time, a period of history of our school. Locked in our collective memories are our experiences, friendships made, victories and defeats, accomplishments and failures – laughter and fun. All of which makes us the people we are today. Our school has been part of our personality and character building that makes us uniquely who we are today. Schools are places of firsts – the first book I had read, the first goal I scored, my first deep friendship, the first time a girl smiled at me and she wasn’t my sister. The first time someone outside of my family really believed in me, my potential, my hopes, my dreams.

TEACHERS

What makes someone want to become a teacher – it was certainly not the pay and it’s not the holidays, for you quickly fill them with school work, it was ideally the notion of wanting to make a difference. Teaching is truly one of the last great vocations, callings to public service. Teachers past and present we thank you tonight because you are the heart and soul of a great school. Many of us can pinpoint that time in our childhood when THAT teacher really believed in me, encouraged me, challenged me. I am sure you remember. Teachers we salute you. As I have previously said, you are truly involved in the business of Nation Building. Personally, in my 36 years of teaching, the students who stop you in the street in adult life to thank you are the rogues and villains. The kids from tough backgrounds for whom school was their oasis, their opportunity to excel, to be loved, to be challenged to rise above the cards life had dealt them. Schools like ours have always been places where children from all backgrounds could have equal opportunity and a fair go.

PUBLIC

Public means open to all and our school has in the strong tradition of public taken all comers from the bare footed railway children of the 1880s to the children of miners, storekeepers, farmers, labourers, managers and company CEOs. Throughout its history our school has been a melting pot of humanity cutting across the class divide and has steadfastly served the whole community. I should make mention of principals, headmasters, and infants mistresses.

Their leadership and management has been on the most part an inspiration to generations of staff, students and parents. Many of our principals have been real champions of the school giving their all for our children and families. I feel honoured to be the 20th principal at Helensburgh Public School. I would like to acknowledge Mr Gary Royston – principal before me, who passed to me a healthy and strong school with all the ground work done for new buildings and facilities. I don’t believe my jokes are as good as yours as yet but Bev Clarke has a way of bringing the cheekiness out in people. Thanks again mate.

Did You Know…..

In 1917 Mr Alfred Southwell was the new Principal of the school with enrolment of 383 -average attendance of 260 children.

In 1919 Helensburgh was affected by the “Bubonic Plague”. The school was closed for six weeks with infants rooms turned into a makeshift hospital with two local teachers Nellie Read and Georgina Hunter volunteering to stay and serve as nurses at the school. Most residents were inoculated but there was a high death toll. Any family who was contagious had their house roped off and a red cross was painted on their front door so people knew that members of that family were contagious and to prevent contact with the family.

The local branch of the Red Cross was started with caps, gowns and face masks being distributed to the local community to try to prevent the spread of the disease.

We would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which Helensburgh Public School is situated. We pay our respects to the Dharawal people and to elders past, present and the future.

11 Fletcher Street, Helensburgh, 2508 Ph: (02) 4294 1332 or (02) 4294 1050 email: helensburg-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au web http://www.helensburg-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Issue 22, Monday 23rd July 2012 Week 2 Term 3
FINALLY, HELENSBURGH

People down south believe Helensburgh is a tough town, many of our southern cousins only memories of the Burgh are the blood thirsty encounters on the open battlefield of the windy, cold and icy Rex Jackson Oval. It is a resilient town, steeped in its own history, proud of its heritage and defiant when challenged. But it is also a town that respects hard work and welcomes new comers who contribute and support the cause.

Our school reflects these values. All those present tonight have in their own way contributed to our school, in different depths and degrees, but you have all made the school what it is today. Many of you are ex-students, parents and are now grandparents – you are the living heritage of our school. While you were parents you served on P & C, Mothers’ Auxiliaries, coached sporting teams, helped in the canteen, helped on excursions, in the classroom and library. You have truly helped over the decades to make HPS a community school.

Many of you present are teachers, ex-teachers, ancillary and support staff. All of you have demonstrated over the years a commitment to form partnerships with parents in the nurture, training and education of the children of Helensburgh. I want to thank you for your service to the families of Helensburgh. I know we have striven to effect change and to prepare generations of children for the world they would inherit, thank you.

In conclusion, I want to thank P&C President Sandy Szwecow and her 125th Committee, particularly Bronwyn Charman for the great job they have done organising tonight.

I would like to thank the Helensburgh Workers Club for providing this venue free of charge, Scott and Michelle Chambers for providing our Anniversary Cake and Sue Dowling for the wonderful historical powerpoint display we have been watching throughout the night. I need to also mention Stephen McQueen, Bev Taunton and Bev Clarke for their work presenting the photographic history of our school. It is important to thank tonight our wonderful school office team lead by Trish Bannister, who have undertaken additional duties and responsibilities to make our 125th year the success it is. Thanks Trish, Donna, Kim and Bev. I would like to also thank Roger Hendry for his deep commitment and dedication to the children and families of Helensburgh through his work at the school. Finally, we are part of history tonight, enjoy the rest of your evening, and make sure you tell that story and spin that out.

Thank you, it’s been an honour.

ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
This year our annual Athletics Carnival will only be for students in Years 3 to 6 and competitive 8 year old Year 2 students. Kindergarten, Year 1 and all the other Year 2 students will have their sports/athletics day during our school Open Day for Education Week on Tuesday 31 July.

EDUCATION WEEK
This year, given our deep involvement in additional activities for our 125th celebrations the school will be holding a low key Open Day on Tuesday 31 July.

Activities planned for Education Week Open Day include, a picnic lunch and special canteen menu, open classrooms and displays of student work K-6.

A special feature of the day will be Infants Olympic themed Sports Afternoon. This will involve all students in K-2 in a variety of sports events and age races. Parents and relatives are most welcome to visit the school on this day.

Christopher Connor
Helensburgh Public School 125th Anniversary Year

Important Dates to Remember

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<tr>
<td>25th July</td>
<td>OC Placement Test</td>
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<td>26th July</td>
<td>School Athletics Carnival</td>
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<td>27th July</td>
<td>3-6 Assembly 2.10pm</td>
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<td>30th July</td>
<td>Education Week</td>
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<td>31st July</td>
<td>ICAS English</td>
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<td>1st August</td>
<td>Choral Festival Performance</td>
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<td>9th August</td>
<td>Song World Combined Workshop 2H &amp; 2S</td>
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<td>14th August</td>
<td>ICAS Mathematics/P&amp;C Meeting 7pm</td>
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<td>15th August</td>
<td>Zone Athletics Carnival 1/2 day Sylvania</td>
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<td>17th August</td>
<td>Zone Athletics Carnival full day Sylvania</td>
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<td>29th August</td>
<td>Fathers Day Stall</td>
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<td>Summer PSSA starts</td>
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<td>13th Sept</td>
<td>125th Anniversary Grandparents Day</td>
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Principal Award

- 3S Maya, Jade, Macey, Kalani, Dylan, Landon, Harri, Noah, Jack, Joseph, Hugo
- 3M Liam
- 3J Aleisha, Tess, Jasmin
- 4L Shannyn, Max
- 4/5B Ava, Lara, Ella
- 5T Kathryn, Amy, Jiah

125th Anniversary Dinner Photos
Photos have been posted on our website What’s New page for your enjoyment.
University of New South Wales
International Competitions and Assessments for Schools 2012
We have been pleased with the number of children participating in the competitions and assessments this year.
The school has received the results of the Computer Skills Assessments with some very pleasing academic results by Helensburgh Public School students.
As always it is an achievement just to participate and complete these assessments and we would like to congratulate every child who undertakes each exam. Some of the outstanding results in the Computer Skills assessment are:

Year Three       Year Four       Year Six
Olivia M Credit  Max H Credit   Isaac G Credit
                         Ewan R Distinction

Congratulations to all our participants.
Mrs Sida
UNSW ICAS Co-Coordinator

Woolworths Earn and Learn
Please return any sticker cards or stickers by Tuesday 24/7 at the latest.

Scholastic Book Club
Catalogues for Book Club are being distributed to the children early this week.
Please ensure that the correct money is sent with the order, esp: If the child is paying out of their own money.
Orders and payment are due by FRIDAY 3RD AUGUST, 2012.
Thank you

Library News

Term 3 is a very busy one in the library. Year 5 and 6 debating is on Monday lunchtime, Tuesday after school we have Lego robotics club. Every second Wednesday Student Parliament meets in the library at lunchtime and all other lunchtimes the library is open for students to utilise.
Added to this we have book week in week 6, a grandparents day donate a book fair, a photo exhibition in the library for education week and the end of the Premier's Reading Challenge at the end of August. Keep reading the Highlights to keep up to date with what is coming up next.

New Library Monitor
All the library monitors were sad to lose Taylor T to another school at the end of last term. The good news is that Layla has replaced her as library monitor. Congratulations to Layla, I'm sure she will do a great job.

Mr McQueen
Teacher Librarian

Yr 5 Excursion to Canberra
What a fantastic excursion! For the last three days of last term our lovely Year 5 students visited the nation's capital, Canberra. Whilst on this excursion we participated in a variety of educational programs focused on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

On the first day we visited Questacon and The Australian War Memorial where we saw the Close of the Day Ceremony. We then checked into our modern and cosy accommodation at the Australian Institute of Sport. Quite a few Australian Olympic teams were there at the same time as us. On the second day we took a tour of the AIS (we saw the female gymnasts training and heard the boxers enjoying their last night before they headed out to London). We then participated in the Sportex program at The AIS where we got to see what it's like to train for the Olympics. Next we went for a bike ride around the shores of Lake Burley Griffith and then had pizza for lunch in the park. The afternoon session was a visit to New Parliament House. The Government and the Opposition were in discussion about border security and refugees arriving by boat. It was a very long discussion that didn't finish until 4.00am the following morning! Helensburgh received compliments from the security men at Parliament House about our lovely behaviour. After dinner we visited the CSIRO Discovery Centre where we saw a 3D movie about products the CSIRO is developing, met a group of long-neck turtles, made DNA and got up close with some phasmids (stick insects). On our final day we visited Old Parliament House where we learnt about democracy and its beginnings in Australia and participated in an election of our favourite fruit. We then toured the building and saw Bob Hawke's office, which has been kept exactly as it was before he moved in to be the first Prime Minister in New Parliament House. We finished our visit with some games in the gardens beside Old Parliament House and then it was all aboard for the long trip back to Helensburgh! Mrs Butterfield and Mr Tuxford were very grateful to have the assistance of Mr Dipple and Mrs Short, who both volunteered their time to help make the excursion as successful as it was. Full credit must also be given to the Fantastic Fives, who showed maturity, cooperation and a high level of respect at all times.

To ensure all students have the opportunity to attend this excursion, The Australian Government contributes funding of $20 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) program. We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this program.

Lisa Butterfield
Assistant Principal

Fathers Day Stall
The stall will be held on Wednesday 29th August. The form for gifts is located in this highlights.
125th Anniversary Dinner
Wow! What a night! We hope everyone enjoyed the night. Whether you had the chance to catch up with old friends, former teachers or simply enjoyed the meal, we would like to thank everyone for their attendance and remind them that the Fete and Art Show are just around the corner. If anyone took photos on the night could you please send them to the school on disk or flash drive etc so that we can collate a wonderful photographic collection of the night (a copy of which we would like to include in the time capsule when it is reburied).

Special thanks to everyone who had a part in the planning, setting up and running of the night. It was a great team effort. We would also like to thank the following businesses for their contribution:- Helensburgh Workers, Sports and Social Club for the hire of the Venue for the night, La Local Bistro for the donation of $300 worth of vouchers (table prize won by table 28), Tumbling Waters “Dinner on the Edge” voucher valued at $270, Sunrise Nursery Voucher to the value of $100 donated by Sandy and Nick Szewcow and The Golden Dragon Restaurant for a $30 dinner voucher. Without the support of local businesses like these our local schools and community groups would not be able to do the great jobs they do for the youth of Helensburgh.

Please support these local businesses, thank them or their staff for their donations when you visit them.

Lastly to the 125 Committee, a great job, another one down, two to go.

CAITCEEN NEWS
Thursday 26th July – Athletics Carnival. We will be operating a canteen at the ovals selling sausage rolls, pies, water, tea, coffee, donuts and some sweet treats to help our athletes run faster. Normal canteen will also be operating at school for years K-2.

Back by popular demand!
Monday 30th July to Friday 3rd August. Spaghetti Bolognaise week – Fresh home-made spag bol will be available for lunch orders. $3.50 per serve. We will also have Italian Meal Deal which includes a serving of Spaghetti Bol, 2 slices garlic bread and a popper for $4.50.

Education Day on Tuesday 31st – parents can order the Spag Bol or the Italian Meal Deal. Please place all orders at the canteen as usual before 9am.

We cannot accept ANY FOREIGN COIN
Thank you for you continued support.
Jan 4294 1778 Bronwyn 4294 3568

FATHERS DAY STALL
The stall will be held Wednesday 29th August and we ask that ALL money for presents be sent in to the class teacher by Friday 24th August. Any money not receipted before the day of the stall, (i.e. brought in on the day) may result in the child having to purchase a gift at the end of the stall as we will be monitoring the ratio of $10 to $5 gifts.

Please fill in the form below, nominating how many presents of each price range are required. Please send money and any cheques should be made out to Helensburgh Public School P&C and please do not include with any other school expenses.

Most presents will not be wrapped, because they have come to us in protective wrapping or boxes and we thought it better to send the gifts home the same way.

Your child will have chosen the item with love from our display table and we ask that you remember this when they present you with it.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE STALL – your children’s education will benefit.

Childs name:____________________________________
Class:_________________
No. of $5 presents required_________ No. of $10 presents required_________
Total $ enclosed_________

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125 Celebrations – More News, More Fun!

Thank you to all involved in organising the wonderful 125 Anniversary Dinner on Saturday past, particularly Bronwyn Charman and Sandy Szewcow for the hours of hard work, the kilometres driven and the multitude of telephone calls made to pull together an unforgettable evening.

Our 125 Anniversary Fete is fast approaching and we thank those parents who have already sent in offers of help or cash donations via the class letter that went home at the end of last term, particularly the parents of K/1G for their great response! All other classes still need parent helpers – the fete cannot not be a great event without you! Every child in the school will benefit from a successful fete; we trust every family will find a way to contribute to that success.

This week a pre-order form for rides from Camelot Amusements will be sent home. All-day ride passes are $24 ($27 on fete day) and there will be a jumping castle, mini jeeps, giant slide and more. Individual rides are $4 and $5, so your all-day pass will not only prove great value but will also stop that persistent tugging at your arm for just ‘one more turn’, allowing parents to enjoy all the other terrific stalls and activities that will be a part of the day! Pre-paid passes can be bought at any time and in any quantity until Wednesday 12 September. A note confirming receipt of your pass money will be sent home but passes will only be available for collection on fete day.

125 merchandise and wine order forms went home last week. Make your 125 memories jolly ones by ordering from both! We are still in need of donations of books, DVDs, craft items, White Elephant goods and Chocolate Wheel. Any items you are able to donate can be left at the school on Friday afternoons, and thanks!

Fete Coordinators
Sandy Szewcow - cszewcow@gmail.com or 0418 289 569
Gina Krohn - bhork@yahoo.com or 4294 1371

Community Notices

Mel and Dave Whiteside Barefoot Bowls Fundraiser
$50 family $30 couple $20 single. RSVP 24/7/12 Sue Bell 0421 247 437 Jo Trigg 0409 429 455

Helensburgh VIEW Club
are going to see Legally Blonde Saturday 20th October 2012
Lyric Theatre 2 p.m. matinee $100.00 to be paid by Friday 17th August. Bus $25.00 to be paid on the day. Correct money please. The bus will leave from the centennial Hotel midday. Lunch may be eaten on the bus, water only to drink. Bookings call Chris on 42941103

This school is a peanut/nut aware environment.

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