I hope everyone has had a fabulous week. Week 9 has been a particularly busy one at HRCS with students and staff looking forward to the upcoming holiday.

**Starstruck 2015**

Last Friday an excited group of students headed off to watch the matinee performance of Starstruck. Everyone had a wonderful time and loved the dancing, singing and lights. Jessica and Brodie-Lee had front row seats and particularly enjoyed being able to reach out and almost touch the performers.

After the show had finished, some of our students were lucky enough to be able to get a picture with performers from Maitland Primary school. Their song from the movie “Cars” proved to be a huge hit.

Congratulations to all the performers. Many of our student’s siblings were involved and their efforts were amazing. If you have never been to Starstruck, put it in your calendar for next year, it really is an incredible tribute to the talent of young people in our Public Education system.

**School Reports**

Semester One reports will be sent home during next week. It has been a privilege to read each child’s report and the learning opportunities offered to every student highlights the commitment of all my fabulous staff. Teachers will be coordinating a midyear Learning Support Team Meeting with each family early in Term 3.

**New School Shirts**

The new HRCS school shirts have been worn proudly this week. The shirts and jackets look wonderful and thank you to those parents who have purchased them.

A big thank you to the P&C who have worked extremely hard to ensure the new uniform has become a reality.

**Administration of Medication**

There have been several changes to the guidelines around administration of prescribed medications in schools. There is no concern regarding staff administering medications, however our systems and processes need to be updated.

From Week 1 term 3, students who have medications at school will require a “Medication Administration Plan”. This plan resembles a health care plan but has details describing administration procedures. An example if this may be “Tracey takes her medication in a spoonful of yoghurt”.

Staff will transfer current information onto the new proforma and send it home for you to review and change. If your child’s medications DOES NOT come to school in a Webster Pack, then medical personnel will need to sign the plan. All medication that is not in the Webster Pack will need to come to school in the original box.

Blooms Chemist Greenhill’s & Cessnock have indicated that they will “make up” Webster Packs with no additional charge, Blooms Raymond Terrace has a small surcharge. If you are interested in using the Webster Packs, please contact the chemist for further details.

If you have questions about these new guidelines, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Work Experience Students**

This week we have been very fortunate to have 2 work experience students from Maitland High School working in the Junior School. Isabella and Samara have been assisting in Room 5 & 6 and have enjoyed interacting with the students and staff.

I would like to thank the girls for all their fabulous help this week and wish them all the best for the future.
Teaching Interns

HRCS particularly enjoys hosting teaching interns from several universities. This term we have been fortunate to have Dominique complete her 4th Year Internship in Room 10. Many of our current teachers have been past interns and we hope that Dominique will be able to follow the trend. I would like to thank Dominique for all her contributions and wish her all the very best for a successful teaching career.

Attendance

Thank you to everyone for you cooperation regarding the new Attendance Guidelines. I appreciate that the new changes are different to past procedures and may be confusing. To assist, I have summarised some of the regulations:

1. If your child is unwell, contact the school on the first day of absence. This can be done via telephone, email, text or Skoolbag App.

2. If your child has not returned after 2 days, contact the school again, outlining the absence. Staff may contact you if the follow up call is not made.

3. If your child is ill and you visit a doctor, please try to get a medical certificate that indicates that he or she is sick. If the illness is long term, an exemption can be granted with the supporting documentation. Please contact the school so an exemption form can be sent home.

4. Written explanations regarding absences are preferred. An electronic note can be located on the Hunter River Community School Skoolbag App. If no contact has been made regarding absences, staff will call you after the 2nd day.

5. Part Day exemptions may be granted with supporting documentation. If your child is regularly arriving after 9:30 or leaving before 2:30 you may wish to apply for a part day exemption. Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss this matter further.

Last day of Term

The final day of Term 2 will be next Friday 26th June. That Friday will be a “PJ” and fun day. School will resume for students on Tuesday 14th July.

Have a great week
Tracey
Room 9

This term Room 9 have been learning about the ‘Living World’ in Science. We have planted lettuce, spinach and radishes in our class garden to help understand how things grow. We took photos to record and measure the growth of our vegetables.

We also created an artwork in our classroom to replicate the garden we planted. We included other living things that can be found in the garden such as butterflies, ants, lady beetles and spiders.

This week we have had Samarra and Isabella from Maitland High on work experience, we have really enjoyed having the girls here at school!!
Pragmatic Organisation Dynamic Display (PODD)
Introductory Workshop

Two-Day Workshop presented by Harriet Korner
Newcastle
23 & 24 July 2015

Time: 9.00am – 4.30pm (Registration: 8.30am)
Venue: Ability Options
224 Pacific Highway, Charlestown, NSW 2290
Enquiries: admin.hunter@abilityoptions.org.au

A two-day workshop for speech pathologists, teachers, parents, carers, and professionals specialising in Augmentative and Alternative Communication.

This workshop is also a great opportunity for Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Psychologists, Behaviour Support Clinicians and Case Coordinators to learn about communication to support work in a transdisciplinary team.

This workshop provides participants with an understanding of the theory and practice related to PODD communication systems. PODD systems assist people with complex communication needs to learn language and communicate.

This workshop will provide:
- Creative and practical solutions through videos and case examples
- Hands on supported practice using PODD communication books
- Ways to use PODD communication books for initial language learning
- Ways to customize PODD generic templates to suit individual needs
- Ways to enable genuine communication in all daily environments

PODD communication books:
- Enable quick access to predictable messages
- Provide a broad range of vocabulary for spontaneous, unpredicted messages
- Are designed for varying communication, language, sensory and physical access needs
Pragmatic Organisation Dynamic Display (PODD)

Two Day Introductory Workshop


Earlybird Rate: $450 for bookings paid by 2 July 2015
Agosci Member Early Bird Rate: $430 for bookings paid by 2 July 2015
Full Rate: $500 for bookings paid by 18 July 2015
Agosci Member Rate: $480 for bookings paid by 18 July 2015

Please note: There is no additional charge for GST.

Cost includes lunch, morning and afternoon teas and a PODD Workshop Manual

To register online visit:


Numbers are limited, so book early to avoid disappointment.

If you are unable to book online or have any questions please contact:

Ability Options on 1300 4 22454 admin.hunter@abilityoptions.org.au
AGOSCI NSW Catriona 49338694 AGOSCINSW@gmail.com


Follow Us On:
2015
Hunter
School Leavers Expo
For Students with Disability/Ongoing Medical Conditions
Thursday 23 July | 9.00 am–1.00 pm

Our Venue - Hunter Stadium
Kindly sponsored by Hunter Venues

WHERE
Level 2, Hunter Stadium, 294 Turton Road, Broadmeadow | http://hunterstadium.com.au/location

Enter through the main entrance pictured above where you’ll find our Welcome table and musical entertainment! The lifts go straight from this foyer to the Expo at Level 2. We’ll have lots of helpers moving around with “Ask Me” badges to point you in the right direction.

ACCESSIBILITY
There are multiple lifts to Level 2 to ensure students, families, staff and providers can access the Expo with ease.

PARKING
Lots of parking! If they can handle a Knight’s game they can handle us.

WHO SHOULD COME?
Students with disability or an ongoing medical condition, families, carers, staff who support students/clients/participants with disability or ongoing medical conditions, and anyone involved in career and transition planning.

www.facebook.com/HCCExpos

HELP TO PLAN YOUR LIFE AFTER SCHOOL!

ABOUT THE EXPOS
You may not think of yourself as having a ‘disability’ but the definition under the Disability Discrimination Act is broad and includes learning disability, Autism Spectrum Disorders, medical conditions, mental illness, physical conditions, sensory impairments, intellectual disability, and much more. Do you have to put in extra effort at school because of your disability or condition? If so, then this Expo is for you.

WHO WILL BE THERE? Apart from the Knights!!
We have lots of services booked and you won’t find them together anywhere else!

- University of Newcastle disability staff
- TAFE & other training providers
- Australian Apprenticeship Support Network providers
- Employment Services – DES/jobactive
- Australian Disability Enterprises
- Disability Services
- National Disability Insurance Scheme
- Ability Links
- National Disability Coordination Officer Program (NDCO)
- Health Transition Care
- Aboriginal Employment Strategy staff
- NSW Companion Cards
- Plus many more… it’ll be a full house!
Check our Facebook page for updates

ENQUIRIES
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