**Principal’s Reflections**

**REMEMBRANCE DAY**

11 NOVEMBER 2014

The role of sleep is critical for student well-being, development, and health. It is also critically important for adults and teenagers as well. The stereotypical notion of creative geniuses forgoing sleep as they scribble or paint or solve equations is not accurate. Some of the most creative minds in history went to bed surprisingly early and got up late. Notice, in the following graphic, just how much sleep people like Benjamin Franklin, Victor Hugo, Beethoven, and Maya Angelou etc had. The graphic is sourced from the “New York Magazine” by Mason Currey for those interested in reading further.

Children basically need on average, 9 hours and 15 minutes sleep per night, according to the experts. Sleep, is the recovery time for our minds and bodies and critical for our mental and physical health. Please consider.

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As a result of an analysis of our internal and external student, parent and staff surveys and data review (qualitative and quantitative), three key Strategic Directions are taking shape for our school and community. They are:-

1. Enhancing the quality of student learning.
2. Fostering quality teaching and leadership.
3. Developing strategic community learning partnerships.

**Book Awards**

Congratulations to Phoebe Magill and Stephanie Foster (X2) for this high achievement. Well done Phoebe and Stephanie!

**Merit Awards**

Congratulations to these students for achieving this high honour;

- Jett Robards-Hassall (x2)
- Sahra Brown (X2)
- Stephanie Foster (X6)
- Marnie Miller
- Cruz Thompson

**Remaining 2014 P@C Meetings**

Please come along.
- ✓ Tue 11th November @ 3:30
- ✓ Tue 9th December @ 3:30

**New Sand-Pit and Fixed Equipment Upgrade**

The “good news” is that our local “Men’s Shed” has come to the rescue to construct a new sand-pit for us. As the problem tree has been removed, the new sand-pit will be in the same place as the old to save substantial excavation and drainage costs. We are also upgrading the “soft-fall” for the fixed equipment area. A bob-cat will be on site soon to undertake the rectification work. Thank you to the P&C who are covering all costs.

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**Christopher Parkinson**

Principal
Principal School Leadership (P/T)
FOR YOUR CALENDAR

**Term 4**

**NOVEMBER**
- Mon 10th – Fri 21st Nov – Swim School
- Tues 11 Nov – P&C Meeting
- Wed 12 Nov – Kinder Orientation
- Wed 12 Nov – High School Jump Start
- Wed 19 Nov – Kinder Orientation
- Wed 19 Nov – High School Jump Start

**DECEMBER**
- Wed 3 Dec – High School for a day
- Tues 9 Dec – P&C Meeting
- Wed 10 Dec – Lawn Bowls Gala Day
- Thurs 11 Dec – Presentation Day
- Fri 12 Dec – Year 6 Party Day
- Mon 15 Dec – Y6 Farewell – Hexham Bowling Club
- Tues 16 Dec – Christmas Capers
- Wed 17 Dec – Last Day of School for Students

TERM 4 FINISH DAY FOR STUDENTS – Wed 17th December

NOTES RECENTLY SENT HOME

- Balance of or payment for swimming
- Tennis Program for Term 1 - 2015 information and cost.
- Year 6 farewell information

MAGIC SHOW
Kindergarten and Year1 had a magical afternoon at the Magic show on Thursday 6th November. There were lots to keep them occupied and intrigued, with magic tricks, singing and dancing. Some of our students were trying to work out how some of the tricks were performed. Well done Kindergarten and Year 1 you were beautifully behaved.

P & C INFORMATION

P & C Meeting
Our monthly meeting will be held this afternoon Tuesday 11th November at 3.30pm. All welcome.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE DONATIONS
We are asking for donations to help make our CHRISTMAS RAFFLE a really great one. Please leave your donations at the office. Ideas for donations: non-perishable food items, wine, Christmas decorations etc. Raffle tickets will be sent home soon. THANKS.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Understanding climate change
Is your child learning about climate change at school? CSIRO’s scientists are learning how the earth’s climate system works through observation, measurement and modelling.

Little Aussie songsters competition
The competition is now opened and will close on Saturday 14th February.

SCHOOL INFORMATION

SCHOOL SWIMMING AND WATER SAFETY SCHEME
The cost of the 10 day program is $28.00 (just $2.80 per day) operating from Monday 10/11/14 to Friday 21/11/14. All payments need to have been finalised by Friday 7th November.
Please remember students will need to be dropped off at the pool in the morning and returned to school after their lesson.

STUDENT ABSENCES
Please remember to send in a note or fill out a green slip (available at the office) when your child returns to school after an absence.

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION FOR 2015
Our new Kindergarten students have been coming along each Wednesday to familiarise themselves with school routines. There are only two afternoon sessions remaining, Wednesday 12th and Wednesday 19th November at 2.15pm.

HATS
Please remember we have a NO HAT NO PLAY policy. If your child does not have a full brim hat with them they will be asked to play under the COLA or in another shaded area. It is also required for sporting activities which is part of the curriculum. Hats are available from the office at a cost of $9.