

# Hornsby South Public School Newsletter

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(email)



Term 1 Week 5 No.5  
**25 February 2009**  
[www.hornsbysth-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.hornsbysth-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)  
(website)

## CALENDAR

Wednesday	25 February	P&C Meeting 8pm in the Yurt
Saturday	28 February	P&C Camp Out
Wednesday	4 March	Zone Swimming Carnival
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>25 March</b>	<b>P&amp;C AGM 7.30pm</b>

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT VICTORIAN BUSHFIRE RELIEF

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Victorian Bushfire Fundraising last Wednesday. Over \$1700 was raised which will be passed on to the Appeal. A fantastic effort! Thank you everyone.

### FAMILY CAMP OUT

The Family Camp Out is being held this weekend at school. This will be a great way to meet other families in the school community, and I'm sure will be a lot of fun. Please see the P&C section of the newsletter for details.

### COMPOSITE CLASSES

A number of parents have asked about class sizes and how classes are structured.

Schools in NSW are staffed according to the number of students enrolled. The state average for Kindergarten classes is 20 students, 22 for Year 1 and 24 for Year 2. Classes in Years 3-6 need not exceed 30 students.

For K-2 classes these figures are state averages only, not maximum class sizes.

At the beginning of the year our K-2 numbers were:

Kindergarten	85
Year 1	63
Year 2	66

This enabled us to form classes as follows:

Kindergarten:	21, 21, 21, 22 (over the average)
Year 1:	22, 21, 21 (on or under the average)
Year 2:	22, 22, 22 (under the average)

In Year 3, with 55 students we were able to form 2 small classes of 27 and 28.

In Years 4 to 6, however, we do not have sufficient numbers in each grade to form whole classes.

Therefore we have had to form 2 composite classes, that is, across grade classes.

Please note that many of the classes used as examples above have grown since the beginning of the year due to our continuing rapid increase in numbers.

Much work goes into the placement of children in all classes. Children placed in composite classes are generally selected on the basis of their ability to be settled and work independently in class. Other children in composite classes are so placed because it is felt the teacher of that class is best for the particular child, irrespective of the fact it is a composite.

It is important to note that all children are working towards the outcomes for their grade. All Year 5 children, for example, are following the appropriate curriculum for their grade, whether they are in a straight Year 5 or a composite. It should also be noted that because legislation allows students to start school between the ages of 4 years and 6 years there is a broad age range in every class. Teachers design programs and establish groups to cater for individual needs and ability levels in all classes whether or not they are straight classes or composites.

*Rob Stirling*

### BUSHFIRE VICTIMS APPEAL

Congratulations Hornsby South children and families. You have raised \$1706 for the Red Cross appeal. This is particularly generous as many of you had already made donations. It is a wonderful effort and will contribute to helping the victims of the fires. Thank you!

*Ms A Monro*

## **CANTEEN**

### ***Sushi Day***

#### ***Monday 2 March***

Pre-order only by Friday 27 Feb (9-10am)

Teriyaki Chicken Roll	\$3
Tuna Roll	\$3
Vegetable Roll	\$3
(and drinks & treats)	

Please order using brown paper bags with name, class, order and money included. Place in the white P&C box in the front office by Friday morning.

#### ***NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.***

Normal menu will be available for those children who do not eat sushi.

#### ***Freezer***

The Canteen freezer has now been repaired and the normal menu will be available again from this Friday.

#### ***Judith Hulme***

***Canteen Manager, 0425 252 181***

## **LOST PROPERTY**

The lost property basket is full again! Many for the items are from After School Care. Please check if your child has "lost" anything.

Any items not claimed by the end of the month will be given to the Uniform Shop for resale.

We also have a number of lunch boxes in lost property. We only keep these for a week before throwing them out, so please come in and check if you are missing one.

## **REMINDER**

The blue Family Information Sheets are now due. Please return to the school office as soon as possible.

#### ***Mrs Merryfull***

***School Admin Manager***



## **THE "ALEX" KAYAK**

Last weekend was the 20/Twenty Challenge – a big swim, kayak and walk to raise money for the Spastic Centre.

My uncle James started it 6 years ago and has raised \$2 million for the Spastic Centre.

I have been involved since the beginning and each year I sound the hooter for the beginning of the race.

I have to get up at 5.15am to be at the start of the race at Manly.

The big excitement of the day was the launch of the "Alex" kayak.

The money raised by anyone who hires this kayak goes to the Spastic Centre! What a great idea to raise money. It lives at the Spit Bridge Kayak place.

#### ***Alex***

***Year 3***



**P & C**

# **BAND NEWS**



## **Camp Out**



**Date** - Saturday 28 February

**Time** - from 3.00 pm

**Cost** - \$15.00 per family for a campsite

**Meal Deal** (optional) - \$5.00 ea

An information sheet will be sent home this week to everyone that has registered for a campsite.

If you will be joining us for dinner only (Meal Deal or your own picnic), please arrive from 4.30 pm & make your way to the back of the school. Meal Deals will be served from 6 -7 pm.

If you would like to make a last minute booking for a campsite and/or meal deals please call Caroline on 9489 8294 or Jillian on 9477 2394 (AH).

### **The Uniform Shop**

I have been informed by our supplier that there will be an increase in price with the arrival of the winter stocks. As always we will try to keep these to a minimum.

**The P&C Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 7:30pm. If you feel you would like to help out in some way, please consider being part of our small, dedicated Team.**

**Our next general meeting will be tonight February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 8pm in the yurt. Please feel free to come along.**

If you have any queries or issues you would like to raise with the P&C in relation to the school in general, please feel free to call me and have a chat.

Chris Holland 94897422 / 0404888686

### **Band AGM / meeting**

There will be a band AGM / band meeting held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March at 8pm. Please come along and find out about the band program and upcoming band camp.

### **Date for your Diary**

Please note that the Band camp will be from Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 5pm through to Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2.30pm at Sydney Academy of Sport, Narrabeen. Both Concert band and training band members are expected to attend.

### **Training Band 2009**

Training band will commence on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March. Please arrive at the hall at 7.55am. Remember to bring your instrument, Essential Elements 2000 book and a display folder.

### **Birthday Wishes**

Birthday wishes to the following band members

Ryan	3 <sup>rd</sup> February
Sebastian	27 <sup>th</sup> February

