**Principal’s Message:**

It was wonderful to have more than thirty parents and citizens attend the first meeting of our P&C on Tuesday evening. As well as parents of current students, interested citizens also attended our meeting and it’s inspirational to see such continuing community commitment to our school.

Such keen interest will go a long way towards helping with our school improvement agenda. It was also heartening to have so many parents willingly accept roles within the P&C and its sub-committees. All positions were filled and a full list of names/positions will be provided in next week’s newsletter.

Deputy Principal, Meridee Cuthill, and I are ecstatic that many parents, who attended the P&C meeting, nominated to be parent liaison contacts for their children’s classes. We would like to have at least one parent liaison for every class so notes will be sent home soon to those classes who do not currently have a liaison parent in the hope that someone will volunteer.

The role of parent liaison involves being a sounding board for parent opinion about the many aspects of school activities and procedures, plans for the future and the like. Liaison parents could then seek opinions from other parents of children in the class. This would enable parents to have a broader say in the school that serves their community.

The annual parent opinion survey of 2013 indicated very strongly that our school is a good school. It also showed that parents wanted to have more of a say in their school.

As a result, the school has embarked on a parent and community engagement strategy. Towards the end of the 2013 school year, a team consisting of two parents and two teachers was formed to investigate ways to involve parents in our school community. This team attended professional learning about parent and community engagement.

This newsletter outlines activities to improve parent and community engagement and involvement.
Our school’s **Parent and Community Engagement Strategy** has five components:

- **Communication** –
  - Share consistent and ongoing messages of high expectations for all students and their learning.
  - Investigate use of Facebook to enhance communication.
  - Establish Parent Liaison Officer role.

- **Learning partnerships**
  - Provide parent/teacher workshops targeting areas of need or interest such as student resilience, literacy and numeracy.
  - Build relationships with local early years services - transition to school program, kindergartens and day care centres.
  - Develop local strategies to support transitions between early childhood education and care, primary school and secondary school, higher education and the workforce.

- **Community Collaboration**
  - Generate and maintain contact with relevant health professionals in the area to support referrals.

- **Decision Making**
  - Consult flexibly to reach a cross-section of students, parents and community members, not just the most confident.
  - Encourage active participation in the school council and/or the P&C and encourage student participation in decision-making processes.

- **Participation**
  - Regularly build parent engagement and/or involvement into staff meetings to strengthen commitment, knowledge and skills – KidsMatter Framework.
  - Develop a database of parent and community skills, talents and availability to draw on when required.
  - Engage community members and business in designing learning experiences and extracurricular activities.

**MARKERS OF STRONG PARENT AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

- Parents are encouraged to take a genuine and close interest in the work of the school, are acknowledged as the first teachers of their children and engage as partners in their children’s learning.
- Communication with parents provides information about where students are up to in their learning, what progress they have made over time and what they might do to support their children's further learning.
- Respectful and caring relationships are reflected in the ways in which staff, students and parents interact and in the language they use in both formal and informal settings.
- Schools have regular and ongoing ways of finding out what parents need to engage with their child’s learning.
- Parents can list the school’s key expectations for behaviour, attendance and homework.
- The principal and the teachers use many styles of communication appropriate for parents’ cultural backgrounds, availability, working conditions etc.
- The principal and teachers regularly connect with the parent/s of every child in the school. There are mechanisms to build relationships with relevant members of the community.

As you can see, there is much to achieve. **The first step is to have a liaison parent representing every class in the school.** Please keep an eye out for the note which will be sent home to classes who are without a liaison parent. A list of liaison parents will then be published once complete.
Principal’s Message Cont...

Enrolments

**Enrolments total 640**, one class fewer than last year. As a result, the 26 classes established at the start of the year have been reduced to 25 by distributing Year 1 and 2 children across classes and converting a Year 1 class and a Year 2 class to form Junior A (1 / 2 class). The new configuration of classes commenced this week. Thanks to all Year 1 and Year 2 parents for their understanding and support of this difficult transition which was conducted, without drama, thanks to the efforts of Mrs Cuthill and the Year 1 and 2 teachers. We are delighted to have more than one hundred children starting school for the first time in our Prep classes. **An early start to quality learning is vital in having children be the best they can be at school.**

Thought for the week

**At Collingwood Park State School we are not satisfied with being what we should be. Our aim is to be what we could be!**

Jon Simpson
Principal

Parking in Burrel Street

Please remember that a bus zone has been designated outside Collingwood Park Dental Clinic on Burrel Street. This means parents/carers cannot park in that area between 2 and 4pm.

I appeal to all parents to be careful when driving around our schools, please obey road rules and demonstrate patience. There have been a number of incidents reported to the office regarding driver behaviour on Burrel Street in the afternoon.

**Please do not exit your vehicle or stay longer than two (2) minutes in the drop off zone.** Staff on duty are concerned for the safety and well-being of students. Please do not abuse staff who ask you to move on or obey road rules. It would be disastrous if any of our children were to be hit by your car.

**Please see the attached map which clearly identifies the Loading and Bus Zones.**
2014 Choirs
The following children have successfully auditioned for the Chorale. The Chorale rehearses on Monday morning at 8.00 a.m. and Wednesday afternoon at 1.15 p.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zala Adighibe</td>
<td>Micaela Anstey</td>
<td>Nikita Armstrong</td>
<td>Wylen Collins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beyonce Daly</td>
<td>Kimberly Finch</td>
<td>Elouise Goode</td>
<td>Charlotte Griffiths</td>
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<tr>
<td>Istella Kenyi</td>
<td>Naomi Looke</td>
<td>Talitha Looke</td>
<td>Laura Nicholls</td>
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<tr>
<td>Florence Nifasha</td>
<td>Olivia O’Neill</td>
<td>Alyssa Potter</td>
<td>Olivia Reed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caltanian Seualuga</td>
<td>Meagan Siddel</td>
<td>Juliette Singleton</td>
<td>Bianca Sunley</td>
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<td>Steve Williams</td>
<td>Aaliyah-Jade Wright</td>
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</table>

These children below have successfully auditioned for the Chorus. The Chorus rehearses on Monday afternoon at 1.15 p.m. and Wednesday morning at 8.00 a.m.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Libby Delaney</td>
<td>Charlize Halamoana</td>
<td>Grace Reed</td>
<td>Emma Cantle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chloe Norbisrath</td>
<td>Kayla Nunn</td>
<td>Caitlin Patterson</td>
<td>Eduarda Arauio Ferreira</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chloe Chanhaseng</td>
<td>Liya Filipo</td>
<td>Lily Stumkat</td>
<td>Jessica Swan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marissa Vedredi</td>
<td>Tiheiwa Waikato</td>
<td>Trinity Wright</td>
<td>Catherine Marle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brook Needham</td>
<td>Blake Stokell</td>
<td>Gary Taylor</td>
<td>Kiraleah Willis</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mariana Belandria</td>
<td>William Tighe</td>
<td>Chloe Morris</td>
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There are still some places available so if anyone missed out on the tryouts, please come to any choir practice for an audition.

The Piccolos Choir for years 1, 2, and 3 will be conducted by Miss Anna Polomski and Ms Maria Santiago. No auditions are necessary. A choir consent form needs to be signed by a parent/guardian and returned to Miss Polomski by Friday 14th February. Please see Miss Polomski if you need a consent form. First rehearsal is Friday 14th February 2014.

2014 Instrumental Program
Students will not be able to take their hire instrument home until the form is returned and the $100 hire fee (or $60/semester) is paid.

Students are reminded that Senior Band rehearsals are each Thursday morning commencing at 7.45 a.m.

All Choir and Band rehearsals are in the Music Room.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rehearsal Times</th>
<th>Monday 17 Feb</th>
<th>Tuesday 18 Feb</th>
<th>Wednesday 19 Feb</th>
<th>Thursday 20 Feb</th>
<th>Friday 21 Feb</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:45am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senior Band</td>
<td>Piccolos</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00am - 8:45am</td>
<td>Chorale</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chorus</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:10pm - 2:00pm</td>
<td>Chorus</td>
<td></td>
<td>Chorale</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Deian Pang
Music Specialist

Scott Bignell
Instrumental Music Teacher
Who Am I at CPSS?
I was born on the other side of the world.
I love all things scientific
I live a long way from Collingwood Park
I’m going to be a grandma soon.
I’m a gadget person

Who Am I at CPSS?
I used to be a professional tennis player.
I lived in America for three years.
I have many talents.
I am a jack of all trades.

Who Am I at CPSS?
I went to school in NSW.
I have plant operator tickets.
I have a level 1 sports coaching certificate.
I served in the Qld Fire and Rescue Brigade for 8 years.
I help the Jack of all trades (see clues above)

Last Week’s Answers:
I am a mirror image (SHHHHH I am a twin)
I am a chocoholic.
I am a Bayside girl.
I am a lover of food.
I have a front line position in our school.
I am a lover of roses.
I am Ms Julie Crowther — Administration Officer.

I played the clarinet when I was in Primary School.
I am a qualified PE teacher.
I love to play and coach netball.
I have been teaching at Collingwood Park State School for 8 years.
I am due to have my 2nd baby in March 2014.
I am Mrs Tiffany Street — Year 1 Teacher

I went to Ipswich SHS and finished year 12 in 1987
I am a Cub Scout Leader
I love Purple
I have 2 boys
Dogs are my favourite pet
I am Mrs Jo Herron — Business Services Manager
GREAT NEWS! Ipswich UP is returning to facilitate playgroup at Collingwood Park State School in Term 1, 2014. Aimed at 0-5 year olds there will be a fun new theme every week with stories, songs, games, crafts and lots of other fun!

Starting in the hall THIS WEDNESDAY (5th February) at 9:15am we’re kicking off with...

**INSTRUMENTS & SOUND**

We’re exploring rhythm and music as well as making our own instruments to take home - we’ll even hold our very own concert!

Gold coin donation appreciated to go back into the playgroup. Please bring a piece of fruit for the kids to share.

This playgroup is not restricted to parents within the school so please feel free to share with parents in Collingwood Park, Redbank and surrounding areas.

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**Kruger Parade Baptist Church**

**Kids Club & Hype**

**Grades 1-5 $2 each**

**Grades 6-7 $2 each**

**Friday 6-8pm (term time only)** Ph 3814 0144

Cnr Kruger Pde & Henderson St, Redbank
Successful schools start with healthy minds

KidsMatter Primary is a mental health and wellbeing framework for primary schools and is proven to make a positive difference to the lives of Australian children.

KidsMatter Primary provides the proven methods, tools and support to help schools work with parents and carers, health services and the wider community, to nurture happy, balanced kids.

About KidsMatter Primary

KidsMatter Primary is a flexible, whole-school approach to improving children’s mental health and wellbeing for primary schools. It can be tailored to schools’ local needs.

Through KidsMatter Primary, schools undertake a two-to three-year cyclical process in which they plan and take action to be a positive community; one that is founded on respectful relationships and a sense of belonging and inclusion, and that promotes:

- Social and emotional learning (including evidence-based social and emotional learning programs).
- Working with parents, carers and families.

Support for students who may be experiencing mental health difficulties.

When schools take on KidsMatter, they build on the work that they are already doing in these areas.

As a national initiative, KidsMatter Primary, through its national and state and territory teams, provides a range of resources and support to all interested primary schools. These are provided free of charge. KidsMatter is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing.

KidsMatter Action Team

Collingwood Park State School have an Action team of 6 who will help with the implementation of the framework.

John Simpson – CPSS Principal  Meridee Cuthill – CPSS Deputy Principal
Peter Gollagher – CPSS Teacher
Grace Herrera – CPSS SEP Teacher
Melissa Dowsett – CPSS Teacher Aide & Parent
Melissa Patea – CPSS Student Welfare Officer

We’re on the Web…….

www.collparkss.eq.edu.au