



# Helensburgh Highlights

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### Teacher Meetings

In Weeks 3 and 4 we will be holding Stage Parent Information Sessions. I encourage all parents to attend these information sessions and, should you have any concerns about your child, speak to your teacher. The best time to make an appointment is after school as teachers may be preparing lessons, attending meetings and supervising students in the playground before classes commence. As mentioned in the last newsletter, we understand that meeting face to face with your teacher can be challenging if you are working full time. If you cannot speak to your child's teacher, please call or email the school during work hours to make an appointment. All teachers want to do the best for your child, and through positive collaboration, we can ensure that your child is happy, engaged and challenged to continually improve.

### Swimming Carnival Success

Swimming carnivals require outstanding leadership, time and organisation. I would like to thank Mrs Redfern as carnival organiser, teachers, parent volunteers and the office staff for the fantastic joint effort. Being my first swimming carnival, I was very impressed with the professionalism of our teachers and the large number of parent volunteers and spectators who cheered on our swimmers. The students' behaviour was excellent and was easily the best I have witnessed. This year's carnival had a positive atmosphere and was a great way to start the year!



### Snake Safety

The school cleaners sighted a snake before school last Thursday morning. In accordance with Department of Education safety procedures, teachers reminded the students if they see a snake to move away and report to their teacher. Without alarming your child, please remind them of this safety procedure.

### Professional Learning

Evidence shows that professional learning focused on high expectations for student achievement, literacy and numeracy data analysis, differentiation, explicit teaching and formative assessment positively impacts on student learning. These teaching strategies are central to the school strategic plan and this week Stage 1, Stage 2 and Stage 3 teachers will be jointly planning differentiated lessons and assessment tasks. Additionally, several teachers and executive will be participating in the Embedded Formative Assessment professional learning course on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February. Dylan William, known worldwide for his research and practical strategies in this field will be presenting in Wollongong.

### Formation of Classes

Class formation took a significant amount of time in Term 4. The process involved teachers and the school executive taking information from several sources to form classes based on students' academic, social and emotional needs. I would like to thank all the parents who spoke to me on the phone or in person for the respectful way you conducted yourself and the care that you showed for your child. There have been a number of enquiries about composite classes. The school does not place lower achieving students in a composite class so they can consolidate the previous year's work. Within every class, there are a range of abilities and every teacher aims to effectively differentiate their teaching and learning programs. The research indicates that there is no difference to students' learning outcomes if they are placed in a composite or straight class.

Another area to clarify is that the school is provided a staffing allocation based on the total number of student enrolments. This year we were close to forming 18 classes but did not have quite enough students. This meant that 441 students were spread across 17 mainstream classes and 1 multi categorical class. In addition, there is a class size policy that all NSW Department of Education schools have, on average, a maximum number of: 20 students in Kindergarten, 22 in Year 1, 24 in Year 2 and 30 for Years 3-6. Having very large cohorts of students in particular grades and a maximum number of students for specific grades also impacts upon the number of straight or composite classes.

### Mathematics

This year our school will be trialling Stepping Stones, which is an award winning K-6 Mathematics program developed by specialists for primary schools. Stepping Stones provides teachers with one central location to assist with their lesson planning and resources. Many of the strategies that have been developed for the program are grade based and as a result, students will participate in grade based groups comprised of mixed abilities. Later in the term, I will arrange a mathematics session for parents.

### Reminders:

- Please do not walk through the carpark with your child, as it is a safety issue.
- A note pack will be sent out to give permission for a range of things, please ensure you bring it back as soon as possible.
- Sentral SMS will be sent this week to remind you to provide a reason for child's absence. (link to Department's Student Attendance Policy: [https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/school-attendance-policy#School attendance policy](https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/school-attendance-policy#School%20attendance%20policy))

### Welcome Back Lesley Matthews

I am attending professional learning in Week 4, Monday 18<sup>th</sup> to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Lesley Matthews, who knows Helensburgh Public School very well and relieved as Principal last year, will again assist by relieving as Principal.

I really appreciate Lesley coming back to help, especially given that she has been enjoying her retirement!

Ewen Neild  
Principal

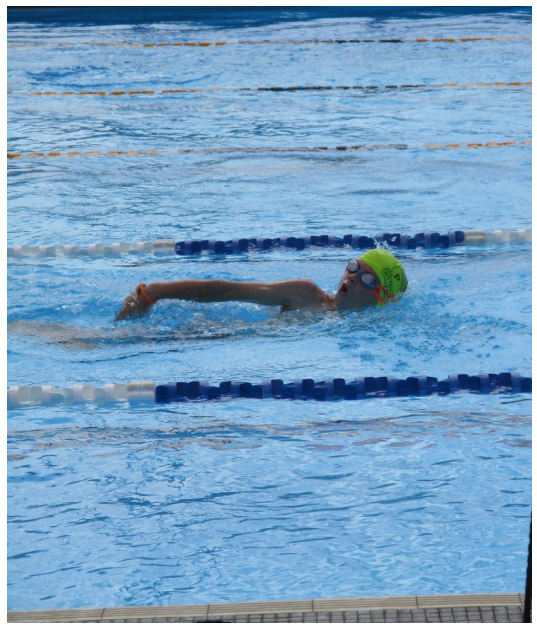
We would like to Acknowledge the Wodi Wodi people who are the Traditional Custodians of this Land on which our school stands upon. We would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present of the Dharawal Nation and extend that respect to all Aboriginal people.



11 Fletcher Street, Helensburgh, 2508 Ph: (02) 4294 1332 or (02) 4294 1050  
email: [helensburgh-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:helensburgh-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au) web <http://www.helensburgh-ps.com>

Issue 2 Monday, 11 February 2019, Week 3 Term 1





## School Banking Day is changing to WEDNESDAY.

Due to work commitments, School Banking Day will be on Wednesday for the rest of the year.

Students should bring in their weekly deposit on Wednesday. They will receive a silver Dollarmite token for every deposit made. Once students have individually collected 10 tokens they can redeem them for an exclusive School Banking reward item in recognition of their regular savings habits.

If you would like to know more about School Banking you can visit [commbank.com.au/schoolbanking](http://commbank.com.au/schoolbanking) or contact me through the **P&C Facebook page**.

Thank you for your understanding.

Banking Volunteer



## BAND NEWS

The 2019 school band will start soon! If you are interested in joining there are still instruments available for hire: flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, euphonium, bass guitar to name a few. You can join the band at any time during the year, however, the best time to start is NOW, when everyone is learning together.

Also, any budding guitarists are welcome to join the guitar ensemble.

Please contact Mrs. Garvie [agarvie@aapt.net.au](mailto:agarvie@aapt.net.au) or 0408 089 262 if you are interested or have any questions.

Keep playing!



## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

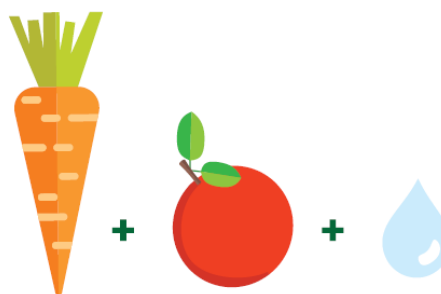
Date	Event
12th Feb	Stage 3 Parent Information Session 8.15 am
13th Feb	Stage 2 Parent Information Session 8.15 am
20/21 Feb	ES 1 Parent Information Session 2.55 pm
28th Feb	K-6 Assembly
28th Feb	Zone Swimming Carnival
13th Mar	Regional Swimming Carnival
14th Mar	Selective High School Placement Test
19/20 Mar	Stage 2 Wattomolla Excursion
27th Mar	School Photo Day
12th Apr	Last Day Term 1



This school is  
a peanut/nut  
aware environment.



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



WE ARE A  
**Crunch&Sip<sup>®</sup>**  
**SCHOOL**  
VEGETABLES • FRUIT • WATER

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THE GREAT  
ILLAWARRA  
WALK



SavingChloeSaxby.com

# SHELLHARBOUR TO AUSTINMER SAT 2ND MARCH GREATILLAWARRAWALK.COM

ENTRY \$40 ADULTS  
\$20 KIDS  
INCLUDES GREAT  
ILLAWARRA WALK TEE

100% OF FUNDS RAISED  
ARE DONATED TO  
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HEADLANDS

## Road safety



### Keeping your children safe when dropping off and picking up at school

Here are a few things you can do to help keep your children and others safer during drop-off and pick-up times during the school week:

- Make sure your children are fastened in the correct child car seat for their age and size and that it is fitted correctly.
- Stick to the 40km/h speed limit in a school zone and look out for children who may be about.
- Watch for flashing lights on buses. They let you know that there may be children crossing or about to cross the road. A 40km/h limit applies when school bus lights flash.
- Always give way to pedestrians particularly when entering and leaving driveways.
- Always park and turn legally around schools. Manoeuvres such as U-turns and three-point turns are dangerous during busy school drop-off and pick-up times.
- Drop your children off and pick them up on the school side of the road in your school's designated drop-off and pick-up area. Never call out to them from across the road – they may run to you without checking for traffic.
- It's safest for children to get out of the car through the Safety Door, away from passing traffic. This is the rear footpath side door of the car.

For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools visit the parents section on [safetytown.com.au](http://safetytown.com.au)



Lives lost on NSW roads.  
Our goal is zero.



## Expo Evening

THURSDAY 21 FEBRUARY

Year 6 Parents and Students are invited  
to attend WHSPA's Expo Evening

There will be 2 sessions: 5pm and 6.30pm

Bookings Essential | [www.trybooking.com/BAQMJ](http://www.trybooking.com/BAQMJ)

WOLLONGONG HIGH SCHOOL OF THE PERFORMING ARTS

5

SERVES OF VEGGIES

60

MINUTES OF PHYSICAL  
ACTIVITY

2

SERVES OF FRUIT

+

WATER AS A DRINK



KEEPS CHILDREN  
HEALTHY!



Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District

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CEMETERY RD,  
HELENSBURGH

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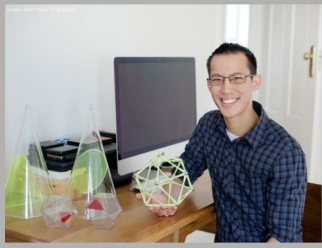
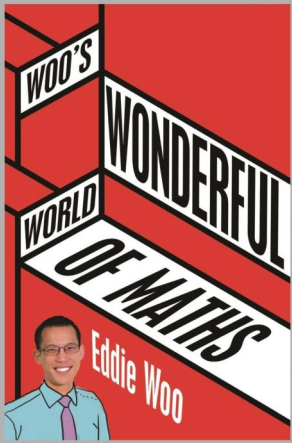
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# GUEST SPEAKER



**WHEN**  
Thursday 14 February  
6 - 8pm

**WHERE**  
Dapto Library  
Ribbonwood Centre  
93 - 109 Princes Hwy

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**  
Book online via our website or Eventbrite

Wollongong City Libraries is proud to host:

## EDDIE WOO

Australia's favourite maths teacher is on a mission: to show us that maths is everywhere and for everyone!  
Shortlisted as one of the top ten teachers in the world, maths teacher superstar, Eddie Woo, will be joining us to talk about how to get yourself or your kids into maths.

Copies of his book, *Woo's Wonderful World of Maths* will also be available for purchase.

For more information please contact Dapto Library on (02) 4227 8555



**WOLLONGONG CITY LIBRARIES**

[www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/library](http://www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/library)

*Your library your place*

# Commit to your child's online safety

Free event

Children are exposed to online content in their preschool years. Behaviours like cyberbullying begin at primary school. Peer pressure can cause poor online decisions for many teenagers.

- Hear from the Office of the eSafety Commissioner on empowering young people, parents and carers to manage online issues.
- Commit to your child's online safety by attending this presentation from one of Australia's leading online safety experts.

## eSafety is important for every child from ages 1 to 18

### Learn how to:

- Reduce accidental exposure to inappropriate content
- Initiate conversations about online stranger danger
- Identify age appropriate apps and websites

1-7



- Deal with online stranger contact
- Have a conversation about online issues including cyberbullying
- Manage apps and privacy settings
- Support your child using online safety resources

8-12



- Report serious cyberbullying and image based abuse
- Manage screen time and excessive use
- Have a conversation with your child about their online brand

13-18



**WHEN:** Thursday 21 February, 6 - 8pm

**WHERE:** Wollongong Library  
41 Burelli Street

**BOOKINGS:** Book online via our website or Eventbrite



For more information please contact Wollongong Library on (02) 4227 7414  
[www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/library](http://www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/library)



Office of the eSafety Commissioner



## JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB 2019 JUNIOR REGISTRATION

Come play Rugby League with one of the Illawarra's most experienced clubs

2018 WAS A SUCCESSFUL YEAR WITH 4 GRAND FINALISTS AND 3 ILLAWARRA PREMIERSHIPS!

*Come join the Cougars!*

### Rego & Gear Collection Day

Saturday 2nd March 2019 | 1pm to 3pm

Corrimal Bowling Club

Rugby League teams all ages 5-17

Girls League tag teams in U8, U10, U12, and U14s

Registration is \$120 which includes CRL Insurance and playing kit (Active kids vouchers accepted)

Returning registrations must register online:

<http://corrimalcougars.com.au/juniors/juniors-registration>

*New regos welcome*

Turn up to rego day for assistance registering for first time



**2019 AFL REGISTRATION**  
NOW OPEN ONLINE VIA PLAY AFL  
Select Northern Districts Australia Centre (players aged 5 to U9)  
OR Northern Districts Junior Tigers (players U9 to U17)  
Open to Junior males and females and all skill levels.  
Juniors play on Sundays Homeground Hollymount Park WOLLONGONG  
Requiting for three new female teams U12G, U14G and U17G.  
Registrar: 0429 910 774 / [northerndistrictsjuniortigers@gmail.com](mailto:northerndistrictsjuniortigers@gmail.com)

[Tndtjafc.teamapp.com](https://tndtjafc.teamapp.com)



[www.facebook.com/NDTJAFC](https://www.facebook.com/NDTJAFC)



[www.ndtjafc.com](http://www.ndtjafc.com)



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