



The Hills School Newsletter No. 12 – 8 December, 2023

Principal's Message



Hello parents and carers and welcome to the Term 4 Week 9 newsletter – our last one for the year. We are wrapping up what has been an incredible 4 terms filled with joy, learning and of course the challenges and opportunities that make our school such a great place to be.

Staff Recognition

At this point in the year we have been able to also celebrate some achievements and significant milestones for our staff. On behalf of our school community I would like to thank these incredible professionals for their dedication to public education.

- *30 Years of Service: Gary Clayton*
- *20 Years of Service: Sally Jackson*
- *20 Years of Service: Andrew Petersen*

Staff Awards

- *Metropolitan South Performance Network Award for 2023: Neale Rudland*

This award is presented by the Director Educational Leadership for the Girraween Network and recognises significant contributions to the education sector, the citation reads;

Neale holds responsibility for all aspects of student learning and wellbeing at The Hills School. He is a gifted teacher and exceptional special educator with a wealth of knowledge and experience in the field. Neale is instrumental in the development of teacher quality and strives to improve how the school meets the needs of all students at every opportunity. Neale is known for his tireless pursuit of solutions for the most complex and unique learners. His deep listening and focused consideration leads to immeasurable successful outcomes for all students. He is a passionate advocate of knowing students well and recognises this as the foundation for exceptional education.

Neale is known to all and by all students, staff and families because he makes a point of connecting and deeply understanding each individual. He has a determination to find solutions in any circumstance that meets the collective need of each stakeholder. He combines wisdom, experience, care and service to diligently address the needs of the school community. Neale's expertise is sort out by schools, networks and professionals to help guide and shape great teaching and leading practice. Neale is a worthy recipient of the Metropolitan South School Performance Network Awards for 2023.

Year 12 Graduates

We would like to congratulate our graduands of 2023; Joshua, Amelia, Riley, Farzad, Ethan and Habel.

As with all of our graduands, there are many support people that ensure their journey has been a success and we are grateful for the contribution of family members, therapists and other support networks that all have made an indelible difference in the lives of this amazing group of young adults. Graduates of 2023, we wish you all the very best for the future.

Year 6 Graduates

Congratulations to Naomi, Curtis, Brady, Lochlan and Mustafa for successfully completing Year 6 and primary school. We wish you all the very best as you formally move into our senior school and look forward to ongoing outstanding achievement from you in the future.

2024 School Captains

Each year we run through a process of selecting student leaders and while the task is daunting we have such a brilliant group in our new senior cohort that we are genuinely spoilt for choice. After a significant process of nomination and voting our staff have determined our school leaders for 2023 will be:

- Captain Taiana Kenny
- Captain Samuel Haddad
- Vice Captain Kelly Cheung
- Vice Captain Dakshya Giri
- Prefect Aaron Bush
- Prefect Luke Takacs
- Prefect Krishnan Venkataraman
- Prefect Siara De Silva
- Prefect Christian Capple-Lomano
- Prefect Nilesh Srikanthan

Congratulations to our student leadership team for 2024 – we expect great things from you all and we know you'll do a wonderful job.

Class Allocations 2024

After much work the staff have put together the classes for 2024. Parents and carers will soon receive a letter that will indicate your child's room number, teacher and their School Learning Support Officer for next year. Please be aware that there are occasions where adjustments need to be made at any point in the year. We have a number of new students joining us in 2024 and, as a result, expect some change to occur.

End of Year

I would like to extend my thanks to the staff and community of The Hills School for the tremendous cooperation we have experienced this year. We are indeed very fortunate to have such a connected and collaborative school community. We are very much looking forward 2024 and seeing the fruits of ongoing work in developing even better teaching, opportunities for our students and improving community cooperation and partnership.

School will resume for students on

Thursday 1 February 2024. I hope you all have a enjoyable holiday break. We look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Mark Gosbell
PRINCIPAL

The Hills School Christmas Festival

We had the most incredible time at our Christmas Festival on Friday 1 December! Thank you so much to all of our students families, staff and friends who came along to join in the fun! A huge thanks to our organisers, our P&C and everyone who contributed in any way towards making this event such a spectacular success.



Celebration of Learning

On Tuesday 5 December we celebrated our annual presentation day assembly. This event is always a great opportunity to celebrate the successes of our students and recognise their hard work and consistent efforts in their learning throughout the year. I was delighted to see the proud smiles of students (and parents) as they received their awards. Congratulations need to be shared with everyone for a great year of learning. Well done!



Room 8

Dean Triffitt (Teacher) **Marlee Rutledge (SLSO)**

Room 8 has enjoyed this year. We have had the opportunities to not only learn in the classroom, but outside. We have had the pleasure of purchasing goods from the canteen, as well as local businesses. We have had the opportunity to use flying foxes, ride bikes, sail, and fly in planes. Room 8 has also enjoyed playing music and doing athletics. We would like to thank the school for these opportunities, and we look forward to enjoying more opportunities next year.



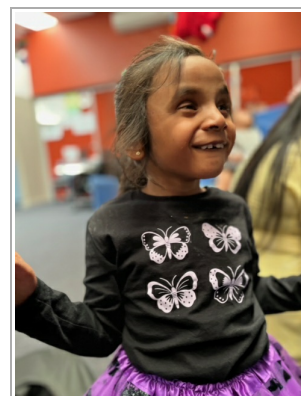
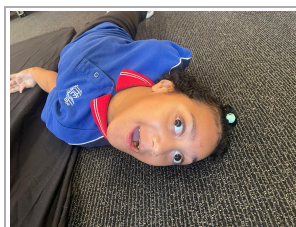
Room 10

Jess Meyer & Jisna Saji (Teachers) Dianne Hower & Anjaali Singh (SLSOs)

Room 10 has had the opportunity to experience lots of celebrations this term. We loved dressing up in fabulous outfits for Halloween;

we made pretty diyas and rangolis for Diwali; and we have begun to enjoy music and festivities in the leadup to Christmas!

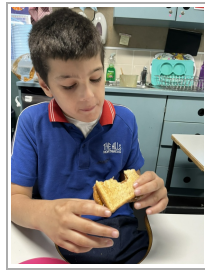
We have also had a great year of active pursuits, such as stretches, movement exercises, Step Up and dance. What a fantastic year Room 10 has had!



Room 11

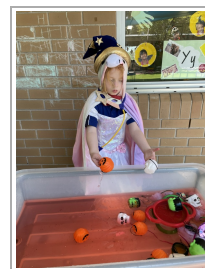
Rebecca La Plume (Teacher) Ji Young Ryu (SLSO)

Room 11 have enjoyed the last term of school with lots of fun-filled activities. We met Healthy Harold and visited the Life Education van, we performed a Bollywood dance at the school assembly and have been busy making Christmas baubles for our classroom window. We've cooked bruschetta, nachos and salsa and have been learning to make toast each morning. We learned about and celebrated Diwali and are now looking forward to the Christmas holiday season.



in using money and choosing items to buy. We loved dressing up, especially for Halloween, and in afternoon play times. We have also really enjoyed Young Athletics each week and Healthy Harold last week.

Have a great Christmas and holidays everyone from Room 12!



Room 12

Kathryn Hall (Teacher) Sophie Borazio (SLSO)

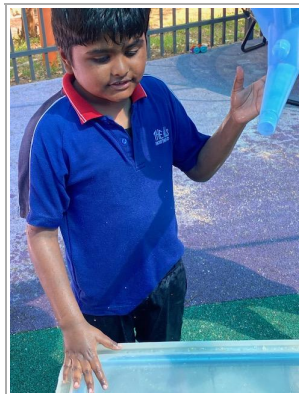
Room 12 have had a busy and fun term. We've enjoyed going each week to the canteen to order our morning tea, practising our skills



Room 13

Lauren Alley (Teacher) Kathryn Jollow, Khim Halpenny & Laura Maloney (SLSOs)

Room 13 has enjoyed the great outdoors this term. Picnicking and participating in outdoor sports, such as soft ball, bowling and soccer. We have also enjoyed the warmer weather, doing some refreshing water play on hot days. As we gear up for Christmas and the end of the year, we have enjoyed finishing off some of our learning programs and activities.



P&C News

Kaili Metani Narayan
President

John Scotting
Vice President
Secretary

Shaun
Treasurer

On Saturday 25th November, we held a BBQ at Bunnings. \$1462.18 was raised.

On Saturday 2nd December another BBQ was held and \$1519.29 was raised.

Friday 1st December, we had our annual Christmas Festival. Such a fantastic night was had by everyone! Thank you to all those who contributed and attended and made the night such a wonderful success. A magical, fun filled night and \$1755.68 was raised to support the school!

What an amazing year we have had! Thank you to the P&C, who have worked so very hard this year. Thank you to Delma, Coral and Gary and their helpers for their incredible efforts in running the Bunnings BBQ's. Thank you to the amazing staff of The Hills School, who have supported us in everything we have done and finally, thank you to you, the parents, and families, for your continued support.

The Hills School P&C wishes every family a restful break and a joyous festive season for those who celebrate. We look forward to seeing you all next year.

The P&C Executive Team

Live Life Well @ School

ACTIVE CHRISTMAS IDEAS

Active presents under the Christmas tree can help kids associate being active with having fun!

Active gift ideas:

- Toys such as balls, skipping ropes & hula hoops
- Bike, scooter, roller blades or a skateboard
- Trampoline
- Beach toys
- Basketball hoop
- Gardening tools
- Chalk for hopscotch



Create long lasting memories being more physically active in the great outdoors this year.

Search 'Family Active Living' at www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au

NSW GOVERNMENT | **Health** Northern Sydney Local Health District

Birthdays



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Notices

Last Day of Term 4 2023 for students

Friday 15 December 2023.

First Day of Term 1 2024

Thursday 1 February 2024

