Dear Parents,

Welcome to the final newsletter for the year.

It has been a busy two weeks and there is still much to do before we close for the Christmas break.

Report Cards are in their final checking stage. There is a huge amount of work that goes into these with some very useful information about what students have achieved and what they can do to improve for next year. PLEASE take the time to read these. The year 6 students will receive their report cards electronically as part of a trial to have all 2016 report cards e-mailed to parents who have such access.

Year 6 Graduation is rapidly approaching. It will be a first in the sense that the students will be the only graduating year level this year and the first Year 6 cohort to graduate as top of Primary school. We are looking forward to a great evening!

School Leaders have been selected. Thank-you to all involved for the effort and the ethical way in which the process was conducted. I saw some of the speeches and was impressed with their quality. I was very pleased to see that children had a go and put themselves into a situation that many people find difficult - public speaking.

Parking and drop off areas were reviewed recently by the Moreton Bay Regional Council and the Transport Department. This was part of an arranged meeting to look at the current situation and the potential impact of the opening of the Kippa-Ring railway station as the end of the line. The ladies who visited have gone away to collect more information and will communicate with us in the near future. Some of their decisions will have to wait until after the opening of the railway head.

Please be aware that assembly will move next year to an afternoon time so that key learning times are not interrupted. We will advise next year of the day and time.

Farewell to Suzanne Porter, Scott Hautitz and Jessica Lewis who have been transferred to other schools. We thank you for your contribution over the years.

Christina Casperson, Jeanette Treweek, Kerren Melrose and Kelly Currell are taking leave for 2016, so we wish them all the best until their return.

Thankyou to all staff who work at Hercules Road for their work this year. There are many of us who work here and everyone does their bit to ensure the school is a place of learning. The classrooms and yard are really well kept and the fact the children are involved in working in some gardens is a wonderful feature of the school. I have been impressed with the dedication and effort of staff since my arrival and this is a major part of the positive reputation of Hercules Road School. Thanks also to the support staff who make the various processes of our school, work (sometimes going unnoticed).

Finally to all families on behalf of all staff Merry Christmas and happy new year. We hope your holidays are safe and relaxing and that we see all of you next year.

Take care

Stephen

NEW START DATE FOR THE 2016 QUEENSLAND SCHOOL YEAR:
A new start date for Term 1 of the 2016 school year will see Queensland students return to the classroom on Wednesday 27th January 2016 – the day after the Australia Day public holiday.

The previous start date of Monday 25th January 2016 will become a flexible professional development day for school staff only.

ENewsletter:
Please note our first enewsletter will be sent out within the next few days.
RESOURCE FEES:
All 2015 student resource fees are overdue and payable as soon as possible. Prep fee $45.00 – Yr 1 – 6 $40.00 for all classroom requisites purchased by the teacher. Non-payment or provision of these items by parents may exclude your child from extra-curricular activities eg. swimming carnival, graduation etc. Please pay at the office between 8am – 9am.

SENIOR GRADUATION – WEDNESDAY 9TH DECEMBER:
Senior Graduation will be held on Wednesday 9th December in our school hall commencing at 6.30pm. Students have been given information regarding the night. Forms and money are to be returned to the office by Tuesday 8th December.

ARTS NEWS

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC CONCERT
On Wednesday 18 November the students in the Senior Strings, Junior Concert Band and Recorder Band performed in the second Instrumental Music Concert. Thank you parents, administrative staff, teachers, Arts Captains, Sound Room operators and groundsmen for your encouragement, support and assistance on the night.
A special thank you to the Dadd family who provide us with trophies for the Music Awards.

Congratulations to the following students who received Music Awards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Most Outstanding</th>
<th>Most Improved</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior Strings</td>
<td>Jayda Davidson</td>
<td>Riley Vafiopulous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Concert Band</td>
<td>Rhianna Patrick</td>
<td>Ariel Lyon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recorder Band</td>
<td>Paige Kamholtz</td>
<td>Elias Glover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choir</td>
<td>Crystal Dalglish</td>
<td>Sophie Small</td>
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The WOW Award went to Elias Glover from the Recorder Band.
All the students who performed in the Concert received a certificate at parade on Friday.
The students in the Junior and Senior Choir will receive certificates of participation next week.

SPORTS NEWS

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC CONCERT
On Wednesday 18 November the students in the Senior Strings, Junior Concert Band and Recorder Band performed in the second Instrumental Music Concert. Thank you parents, administrative staff, teachers, Arts Captains, Sound Room operators and groundsmen for your encouragement, support and assistance on the night.

The school swimming carnival was held on Thursday 20th at the Redcliffe Pool and what a great performance we saw from many students. District swimming nominations will be sent home next year in preparation for the Redcliffe District Trials, to be held on Wednesday 17 February 2016.

Congratulations to the following students for achieving age champion or runner-up:

9yr girls – Mikayla       runner up – Mia
9 yr boys – Bailey       runner up – Kaleb
10 yr girls – Hannah     runner up – Beau
10 yr boys – Jarrod      runner up – Ben
11 yr girls – Kyra       runner up – Paige
11 yr boys – Ethan       runner up – Harrison
12 yr girls – Tinishya   runner up – Amelia
12 yr boys – Ethan       runner up – Jordan

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS:
Come along to Beach House on Suttons, Marine Pde Redcliffe, opposite Suttons Beach to view this year’s Christmas Lights.
You will see an 8 storey building lit from top to bottom and all in between! Santa, the Christmas Elf and the Christmas Fairies will be in attendance between 7pm and 8pm on Friday, Saturday and Sunday 11-13 and 18-20, and Wednesday and Thursday December 23-24.

CREATIVE GENERATION:
Children who would like to be a part of 2016’s Creative Generation Show need to have their completed forms back to Mrs Cousens this week.

Where people make the Difference
HERCULES ROAD STATE SCHOOL

HOURS
OFFICE CASH COLLECTION: 8:00 TO 9:00AM
TUCKSHOP: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
8:00AM TO 2:15PM
UNIFORM SHOP: Monday (Term 1 and 4 only) 8:00AM TO 9:00AM
Wednesday 8:00AM TO 9:00AM
and Friday 2:00PM TO 2:45PM

P & C EXECUTIVES
President: Laraine Law
Vice President: Kellie Judd
Secretary: Sandra Sparrow
Treasurer: Ross
Assist Treasurer: Ross

P & C News
Tuckshop News
A big thank you to all the volunteers who have helped out this year.

TUCKSHOP WILL BE CLOSED ON THURSDAY 10TH AND FRIDAY 11TH DECEMBER

Commonwealth Banking
As of 2016 school banking will be on a Tuesday. This means the first banking day for the year will be on Tuesday 2nd February 2016. Also any prizes ordered over the last two weeks of this year may not arrive before the end of the school year; this is why I ask that they are not ordered. Tokens do roll over to the new year.

Thank you for banking this year, have a Merry Christmas

Amy Swalwell
School Banking Co-ordinator

HERCULES AWARD WINNERS 27th NOV
Honesty  Zakary (2B)
Effort    Jack (3L)
Respect  Amy (2T)
Co-operation Harrison (2T)
Safety    Abbey (4O)

DENTAL CARE:
Metro North Oral Health Services is committed to improving the oral health of our children. If your child is starting school in 2016, or is finishing school at the end of 2015 please contact our friendly staff to book your child’s free check-up.

Our dental clinics are open over the school holidays so call to arrange a free dental appointment today.

Simply call 1300 300 850 to arrange a free dental appointment at a location near you.

Who is eligible for free dental care?
All children age 4 through to grade 10
2-17 year olds who are eligible for the Child Dental Benefits Schedule

Children (or their parents) who hold a current:
o Centrelink Card
o Health Care Card
o Pension Concession Card
o Seniors card

Make an appointment at one of our clinics that specifically focus on treating children and adolescents by telephoning 1300 300 850. These clinics are located in the grounds of the following schools:

Humpymbong State School  Ernest Street, Margate
Kallangur State School  Old Gympie Road, Kallangur
Kippa-Ring State School  Elizabeth Avenue, Kippa-Ring

Where people make the Difference

ROSS’ ON COURT TENNIS
Tennis coaching for Hercules Road State School students
Taking new enrolments
Classes starting Week 2, 2016
Coaching open to all from Prep – Yr6
Small class sizes.
Sign on now
Phone Ross on 32643976

“CO-OPERATION – Always be back to class on time after lunch and play. Be considerate to everyone around you by looking after yours and their property!”

Hercules’ message for this fortnight is