Welcome Back!

To both our new & current families. We have had a busy but organised and calm start to the 2012 school year. There are a number of new staff members:

Pia Licciardo – Prep
Di Schmidt – Grade 1 / 2
Debra Beacham – Grade 2 (0.5 with Angelique Lowe)
Michelle Evans - Grade 3
Emily Coomber – Grade 5
Marnee Wills – Leadership Team – Curriculum Development & Management

Please say hello and make these staff members welcome.

Our new Preps have begun the school year with many smiles and little if any concerns or tears. This is a credit to Bernie Pepper and her Prep team comprising Pia Licciardo and Luke Aldred. I would like to thank them on behalf of the school community for the many hours spent during January to ensure a smooth transition for the new team. I would like to formally thank Bernie Pepper on behalf of the School Council for her commitment to CHPS and its new Prep students and families.

The new school year marks the need for School Council Elections and our Annual General Meeting and the Principal’s Report to the Community.

Accompanying this newsletter is a letter from me inviting you to consider joining School Council and or one of our sub committees. We all want the very best for your children both educationally and socially. We are working hard to create a school that offers learning to support the needs of all students and to create and maintain a physical environment that is exciting and inviting. Your ideas and support will make this process far better and happen far quicker. I am looking forward to seeing many new faces on these committees in 2012.

Key Dates
Notice of Election & Call for Nominations 16/02/12
Closing of Nominations 23/02/12 4:30pm
The date by which the list of candidates, nominator and seconder will be displayed 24/02/12
The date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed 27/02/12
Close of Ballot 05/03/12 4:30pm
Vote Count 06/03/12
Declaration of Ballot 07/03/12
AGM 13/03/12 6:30pm-9:00pm

Jane Satchwell
Principal

p 03 9772 4139 e chelsea.heights.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au
UNIFOM SHOP

Welcome back to school everybody, and a big welcome to all new preps and other new students.
The uniform shop is open each Monday and Friday morning from 8:45am – 10:00am.
If you need any uniforms, hats, school bags etc come over and see me.
Thank you
Donna Parker

STUDENT BANKING

Student Banking is starting back on Friday 17th February, so all you need to do is find your bank books and start saving for the year!
The coupon saving scheme starts again with some great prizes to be collected throughout the year.
All Prep Parents should have received a Dollarmite banking envelopes. If you would like your child to bank through the Commonwealth Bank fill in the form and return it to the office.
Donna Parker

“Parents learn a lot from their children about coping with life”.

LEVEL ONE REPORT - PREP

INQUIRY - Our topic for the Term is “I can be safe”. We are concentrating on revising the “Setting the Climate” themes of respect, responsibility and cooperation and how rules at home and school keep us safe. We are also introducing games and talking about rules of games and how rules help us enjoy games by making them fair. We will also discuss how rules with physical games keep us safe e.g. No rough play, tackling, etc. At the conclusion of the unit we will be having a Games Day and inviting our buddies, parents and friends to play games in and out of the classroom.

MATHS - In weeks 1 to 5 we are introducing numbers to 20 - reciting, recognising, writing, hands on counting, and one-to-one correspondence. In the applied areas of Maths we are talking about the days of the week, using vocabulary such as today, tomorrow and yesterday. We are introducing measurement - height (of the children and constructions), length of our arms and feet and things we have made, and capacity using the sand tray e.g. How many cups of sand fill this bucket? We are talking about location language and playing games using terms such as behind, next to and in front of. We are introducing names of shapes and talking about open and closed shapes. We are developing spatial awareness through the use of jigsaws and computer games.

LITERACY - In weeks 1 to 5 we are introducing the letters of the alphabet and their common sound. This includes recognising, saying the name and sound (e.g. Ants on apples aaa), and tracing, copying or writing the letters according to each child’s developmental ability. We are introducing the M100W words (100 most used words) and helping the children develop sight vocabulary of the first 12 words (Gold words). We are writing sentences based on interests, topics and student experiences in their morning investigations. We are practising writing names using capital and small letters. We are reading big books to develop concepts about print and recognition of letters in words and sentences. We are reading individually with children to develop successful strategies and skills for reading. We are providing opportunities for the development of speaking and listening skills during investigations time, sharing and reflection time, and classroom discussions.

Bernadette Pepper  Level One Leader

SPECIALIST REPORT

This Term the Specialist Team welcome Cass Strachan to the role of Performing Arts Teacher, we are very excited to be working with her.
The Team are excitedly trialling their Power Standards. Last year the team worked hard to determine the main non negotiable learnings for each Specialist area across each level.
The Power Standards are being discussed with the students and will be on display in child friendly language to ensure that everyone understands the learning expectations in each class.
These Power Standards will be used for assessment and planning of all work undertaken in Specialist Classes this year.
Raelene Major
Level Leader Specialists.
LEVEL TWO REPORT - GRADES 1 & 2

This year we are lucky enough to have five grade 1 and 2 classes, with no more than 20 in each! We have a very dynamic and enthusiastic team made up of experienced staff, returning staff and graduates. Our two grade 2 classes are job shared (teachers .5 each)

Heading into week three we are thoroughly enjoying and appreciating the Setting the Climate program. Students and staff are working together setting up processes that will help guide them to a successful, smooth, positive and consistent year. With the use of Y charts and various other activities we are looking at our school values of respect, responsibility and cooperation.

We are also learning about what a successful learner and teacher looks like, developing class agreements (rules) and the staged responses when agreements are not adhered to.

Currently grade 1s are completing the Observation Survey and grade 2s, Running Records. This data will give us the student’s prior knowledge and their needs in literacy. We have begun to introduce M100w and M200w within our grades. We are incorporating Numeracy into our Setting the Climate in the form of games. Our Inquiry topic “My Connection to our Community” and formal literacy and numeracy will begin next week (wk 4).

Thank you,
Alison Lough & Jackie Sell          Level 2 Leaders

LEVEL THREE REPORT - GRADES 3 & 4

INQUIRY UNIT – Term 1

Essential Learning Question: How can we be positive citizens in our school community?

Big Idea: To be a good community we have to help each other.

Key Understandings:
- Our actions have consequences
- Consequences can be good or bad
- Consequences can affect me or others
- To have a great community we need to look after each other
- To look after each other we need rules, responsibilities, respect and accepting our differences.

Culminating Event:
Present a how to guide & media campaign to be a positive citizen at our school.

In literacy we are developing a process for answering comprehension questions that can be found on the page by identifying key words and then locating these words in the text. We are also looking at reading skills such as responding in full sentences and using prior knowledge. There will be a strong focus on vocabulary and using words in different contexts. All of the reading texts in Term one will be relevant to the inquiry topic as in Level 4. Students are encouraged to build on and consolidate their reading skills through reading at home every night. Our main writing genre for Term one is exposition (persuasive text). This is the genre that the children will need to use in years 3 and 5 for Naplan (Early Term 2)

In numeracy, Level 3 will be focusing on place value to 1000 and beyond for the first 3 weeks. Pre assessment will be collected so that the teaching can be tailored to each individual student. Students will be required to read, write and explain the value of various digits in a range of numbers. We will then move on to addition, subtraction and graphing: analysing and data collection. Level 3 will participate in the ‘Rocket Tables’ program which requires students to answer as many times tables facts as possible in under 5 minutes.

Michelle Thompson    Level 3 Leader
TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR SISTER

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in July 2012 for their 3, 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Austria, Spain, Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our little booklets of international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

PARENT TO PARENT

SUPPORT GROUP TO HELP OUR KIDS WITH LEARNING DIFFERENCES (e.g. Dyslexia)

Moira Training Room
920 Nepean Hwy, Hampton East (Opposite Moorabbin railway station)
7.00pm – 9.00pm
Next meeting:
22nd FEBRUARY 2012

Come and meet parents that understand and learn about a new initiative BEYOND THE SCHOOL GATES that aims “To enhance the employability, further education and social outcomes for... students with additional learning needs”

Future meeting: 28th March 2012
Please e-mail dwi46566@bigpond.net.au if you can attend

LEVEL FOUR REPORT - GRADE 5 & 6

The inquiry unit for Level 4 in Term 1 is based around Government and our roles and responsibilities as Australian citizens. Our essential question is: How do we have an effect on the laws of Australia? As we investigate this, students will develop skills such as researching, presenting, problem solving, time management and working in a team. We will be looking specifically at the 3 levels of government, our leaders and how laws are developed. Students will be required to create their own speech in response to “If I were the Prime Minister I would.....” The aim of this is to convince their classmates that their ideas would be beneficial for our country and to demonstrate what they have learnt in the lead up to this presentation.

In literacy we are looking at reading skills such as identifying key words, responding in full sentences, using prior knowledge and questioning what is read in order to build understanding and prompt further research. There will be a strong focus on vocabulary and using words in different contexts. All of the reading texts in Term one will be relevant to the inquiry topic. Students are encouraged to build on and consolidate their reading skills through reading at home every night.

STUDENT WELFARE

The Welfare meeting will again be held on a Friday morning at 8.00am with representation from all levels and specialist teachers.

1. The services of a school funded speech pathologist – Bracha Tsap – will continue this year on Friday 9.00 – 1.00. Students need to be referred through me if speech therapy is required on a regular basis. The DEECD Speech Pathologist – Sandra Cooke – will also be attending the school for ½ day per fortnight. Her case load is currently full. The demand for speech therapy at school may mean that some parents will need to look elsewhere for this type of support for their children.

2. Harold will be visiting the school 6th – 13th March. The Life Education Van visits the school every year much to the delight of our younger students. If you know someone who would be willing to dress as Harold and go into the yard during a recess, please let me know.

3. We are currently using an out sourced company for counselling for students who require it. The company is OnPsych which has been recommended by our Student Support Services. The psychologist attends the school to work with students. This is funded through a Medicare rebate and requires a GP referral to be completed. It allows for 6 sessions initially, with another 6 sessions if required.

4. This year we have 17 students on the Integration program from Prep to Grade 6. We also have two students with support under the Visiting Teacher Program – Visual Impairment, and four students with support through the Visiting Teacher Program – Physical Disability. The yard had contrast markings added during the holidays. This will be revisited because the guidelines from Vision Australia were not followed. Glare reduction blinds have been installed in one of the Prep rooms and the specialist building following a success application under the Accessible Buildings Program.

Our main writing genre for Term one is exposition (persuasive text). This ties in extremely well with our topic of government. We will be looking at following the steps in the writing process, including using a variety of planning tools to produce a strong argument.

Level 4 are starting the year in numeracy by looking at place value, in particular numbers up to one million and decimals down to thousandths. The main targets for the course of this unit are to ensure students can read, write and explain the value of various digits in a range of numbers. They will be required to order and compare figures and apply their knowledge to real life situations. Later in the term we will move on to studying multiples and prime and composite numbers. To support the fast recall of times tables facts all level 4 classes will complete a weekly times tables challenge known as ‘Rocket Tables’ which requires students to answer as many times tables facts as possible in under 5 minutes.

Aleesha Wood
Level Four Leader

Lyn Wright. PSD/ Wellbeing Coordinator
SCHOOL SPORT VICTORIA

School Sport Victoria (SSV) actively promotes school sport for all Victorian school students, years 4 to 12, as a means of supporting schools in developing their students’ health and well being. SSV operates under the auspices of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. Membership of School Sport Victoria is open to all Victorian schools, providing the opportunities to participate in programs that extends from grassroots intra and inter school sport, to district, division, region, conference, state and national levels. Students attending schools affiliated with SSV are eligible for selection in Victorian Teams to compete in 2012 School Sport Australia National Championships. Further information is available from your School’s Sport Coordinator or on the School Sport Victoria website, www.ssv.vic.edu.au. Parents and teachers are encouraged to regularly visit the site.

PARTICIPATION IN THE CLASSROOM

Parent/Guardian Participation in the classroom
Could Parents/Guardians who wish to assist within their child(s) classroom please return the ‘Parent Participation Form’ to their child’s classroom teacher by Tuesday 21st February. This is to ensure we can notify all interested parents or guardians as soon as possible.

TEACHERS IN ACTION

Over the school holidays we had sixteen teachers who participated in various professional development courses specifically aimed at improving specific learning in our school. Congratulations and thank you to those Teachers for giving up their time. The beginning of the year has also been busy for a number of our Teachers as they have been required to attend further professional development courses. Courses such as Mentoring and Induction, and Wilson McCaskill’s ‘Play is the Way’ are pivotal programs. Unfortunately these Teachers are out of the classroom but it is for the schools benefit.

PARENT TEACHER ‘MEET AND GREET’ SESSION
WEDNESDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

Yesterday every Level Two parent will have received some information regarding Parent Teacher ‘Meet and Greet’ sessions. These sessions will take the form of 10 minute conversations where the teachers can introduce themselves, explain some of the procedures which may be new to their grade this year and most importantly, gain a more comprehensive picture of your child; what they like, what they think of school and how best they learn.

Please be aware that these sessions are informal and are NOT for the teachers to report on your child.

The sessions will run from 3:40pm to 6:00pm next Wednesday 22nd of February.

Parents are asked to complete the time preference slip and return it to their child’s teacher this Friday 17th February.

LEVEL THREE AND FOUR INFORMATION EVENING
WEDNESDAY 22ND FEBRUARY

Next Wednesday 22nd February will be the Level Three and Level Four information night. This evening is to replace the traditional parent/teacher interview.

The information evening will be broken into two sessions.

First Session:
- 6:00pm
- Level 3 (Grades 3 and 4) parents

Second Session:
- 7:15pm Level 4 (Grade 5 and 6) parents

Venue:
- The Green Learning Zone Hall (new building).

To assist us with seating and to establish an effective and relevant evening for you, parents will need to complete the slip attached to the form they received yesterday and return it to their child’s teacher as soon as possible.
ARE YOUR CHILD’S MOTOSKILLS UPTO SCRATCH?

We are conducting a research study examining why some children have difficulty developing motor skills at an age-appropriate level. We are looking for children aged 8-12, who may not be developing motor skills as quickly as other children their age, to participate in our research study.

What does participation involve?

Parents/guardians will be asked to complete some questionnaires about their child’s motor development and developmental history.

Children will complete a motor skill assessment and some tasks where they are required to imagine movements.

Eligible children will undergo an MRI (magnetic resonance image) scan whilst imagining movements, to allow us to look at brain activity during these tasks.

After the assessment, we will provide you with a written report outlining your child’s performance on the motor skill assessment compared to other children their age.

If you would like more information about the study or would like to participate, please contact Dr Jacqueline Williams on 9919 4025 or email jacqueline.williams@vu.edu.au

WHOLE SCHOOL HOUSE EVENT 30/03/12

During 2012 in response to Parent input we will be reintroducing the school house system at Chelsea Heights Primary School. The four houses will consist of Wells, Beasley, Boardman and Robinson. Students from Prep to Grade 6 will be placed into one of the four houses. Students who have been assigned a house in the past will be put into a new house this year. Students with siblings at Chelsea Heights will be placed into the same house as their brother or sister. Students will stay in their same house team each year as they move on to the next grade. The idea behind the house team system is to have students from Prep to Grade 6 working together during events that involve the whole school such as Tabloid Sports Day, Athletics and Fun Run etc. The house teams will incorporate the school values of Cooperation, Respect and Responsibility as well as other important values. The 1st whole school event will take place on Friday 30th of March in conjunction with Fun Food Day where students will be taking part in Tabloid Sports. Further information regarding parent involvement on this day will be available closer to the date.

Thanks for your support,

Travis Stevenson
PE & Health Coordinator

Piano and theory lessons available in Patterson Lakes by accredited fully qualified music teacher.

Private one-to-one lessons, all ages, beginners to adults and may choose to study music for leisure or for exam purposes. All lessons include basic music theory.

First Lesson Half Price until the end of March
Carolyn Cecere Dip of Ed and Grad Dip of Music
97762474 (M) 0409131961

TERM 1 TENNIS COACHING

* MLC hot shots 5-12 yrs * Junior group lessons up to 18yrs. * Adult classes* Incl. a free racket 5-8 yrs. rackets provided all other lessons. All group lessons $99 per term. To register call 0439616748 or online @www.chelseahadfieldtennis.com.au

Chelsea Heights tennis club.

Art Evolutions Dance School

Classes held in Chelsea. We provide expert tuition in jazz, tap, ballet and hip hop. Catering for boys and girls ages 3 and over. Annual concert, exams (AATBD Inc) and competitions. Beginner adult classes available. Ring 0401468173 or email jessicagregor@artevolutionsds.com www.artevolutionsds.com - First lesson free!!