



# MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## TERM 2, 2018

### IMPORTANT DATES

Power of One - Anti Bullying performance	Friday 27 April
Mother's Day Stall	Thursday 10 May
NAPLAN (Year 3 only)	
<i>Writing</i>	<i>Tuesday 15 May</i>
<i>Language Conventions / Reading</i>	<i>Thursday 17 May</i>
<i>Numeracy</i>	<i>Tuesday 22 May</i>
Presentation Assembly	Friday 18 May
Education Week	21 - 25 May
Open Afternoon and Evening	Tuesday 22 May
House Cross Country	Thursday 24 May
District Cross Country	Tuesday 5 June
Presentation Assembly	Friday 8 June
Queen's Birthday	Monday 11 June
Curriculum Day	Tuesday 12 June
3-way Conferences	Wednesday 27 June
Last Day of Term 2	Friday 29 June

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome back! We hope you were able to have a wonderful break and enjoy some special time with your families over Easter.

We have a few exciting things to look forward to this Term – House Cross Country, Athletes Day and of course NAPLAN!!! Again it will be a busy term in the Middle School at Croydon Hills.

**Please ensure you know what is happening by reading the Croydon Hills weekly newsletter and checking Compass.**

Term 1 saw all classes getting to each know each other and adjusting to life as either a Year 3 student or a Year 4 student, as well as getting to know their teachers!

### ***CURRICULUM – Middle School***

In Years 3 and 4, students continue to build on the knowledge and skills developed in earlier years. They develop a deeper understanding of the relationships between school, home and the community.

They are becoming more capable of concentrating on tasks for longer periods of time. Students are encouraged to be confident in discussing ideas, expressing opinions and listening to others at home and in the classroom. They understand that they need to work with others and be part of their class and school.

### **Reading and Viewing**

Students will be looking at a variety of text structures, the language features. They will identify literal and implied meaning connecting ideas in different parts of a text. They will select information, ideas and events in texts that relate to their own lives and to other texts.

### **Writing**

Students will learn how to write persuasively, using emotive language and some supporting evidence to express their opinion. They will continue to develop their understanding of grammar, use of accurate spelling and punctuation and how to edit their work to improve meaning. They will continue to look at spelling patterns and endeavour to learn personal spelling words from their own writing.

### **Reminders**

**Student Belongings** - Please ensure all student belongings are clearly labelled and encourage your child to be responsible for them.

**Rubbish Free Lunches** - We encourage students to have rubbish free lunches whenever possible - but especially on Mondays.

**Water in the Classroom** - Drinking plenty of water is essential for keeping minds alert. We encourage children to have a water bottle on hand to sip from during the day.

We would prefer that children used a water bottle with a pop top or similar.

**Reading Logs** - These are a great tool to encourage your child to read regularly and to record their efforts. Please read with your child at least four nights a week and together, complete their reading log.

**Compass** - If you need any assistance with logging on, please ask at the office for assistance. Please record any absences for your child on Compass. All student absences must by law, be approved by parents.

We also use Compass to facilitate payment and permission for many school activities.

### **Clothing and Uniform**

Please ensure that your child has the correct school uniform. A note is required to cover a temporary situation. **Sun smart policy applies to free dress days and camps.**  
**PLEASE REMEMBER TO NAME EVERYTHING!**

### **Supervision**

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**Students are not supervised before 8.45am and after 3.45pm.**

Middle School students should not be playing on the Foundation and Junior playgrounds at anytime during the day.

### **Speaking and Listening**

Speaking and listening is an integral part of our literacy program. In Writing sessions, during Author's Chair times, students are encouraged to develop their speaking and listening skills. To practise persuasive language, students will be involved in both formal and informal debates. The expo at the end of the term will showcase their Inquiry task and will also require the students to make a formal presentation to their class and other members of the school community.

### **Mathematics**

We will continue to develop the students' recall of number facts using all four processes. Some of the main areas we will focus on during the term are; Multiplication and division; including the use of algorithms to solve problems with larger numbers, fractions and decimals and area.

We are also continuing to develop the students' skills in problem solving, developing their knowledge of the strategies and applying them to a variety of problems.

### **Integrated Studies**

#### **Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow**

*Students will be investigating Australian History this term with the aim to give the students an understanding of Australian celebrations and why we have them, and to understand the important events in Australian history and how they have shaped us as a country.*

- Some key questions of investigation will include:
- Who lived here first and how do we know?
- How and why do people choose to remember significant events of the past?
- Why did the great journeys of exploration occur?
- What was life like for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples before the arrival of the Europeans?
- Why did the Europeans settle in Australia?
- What was the nature and consequence of contact between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and early traders, explorers and settlers?



### **Library**

**Please ensure that your children have their library books and library bags on their library day.**

## NAPLAN

**YEAR 3 ONLY - will be on May 15, 17 & 22 May**

Year 3 students participate in the national NAPLAN tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions and Numeracy.

These national tests provide information on how students are progressing, support improvements in teaching and learning, and provide a framework to compare student performance around Australia.

<b>Writing</b>	<b>Tuesday 15 May</b>
<b>Language Conventions / Reading</b>	<b>Thursday 17 May</b>
<b>Numeracy</b>	<b>Tuesday 22 May</b>

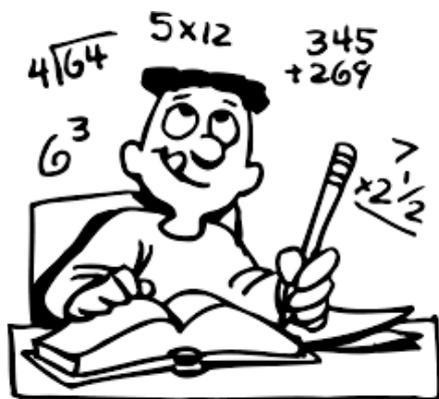
Don't stress! This is only one indicator and a snap shot of your child's progress. Your child's class work over the course of the year gives a more complete picture of their achievement.

## HOMEWORK

*Please also refer to our school's Homework Policy*

All students have regular homework requirements. A daily home reading program using texts from a range of sources including personal library, class literature, school or regional libraries is to be maintained. The Reading Log book is to be filled in and returned to school to be checked and monitored by the classroom teacher.

The learning of number facts is another ongoing requirement. Please help us by discussing with your child the homework expectations and sign the weekly homework grid and reading log. Homework is usually distributed on a Monday and shared and discussed on a Friday. ***If this is a problem at any time, please discuss an alternative arrangement with your child's teacher.***



## CAMPS - YEAR 3

**Wednesday 24 - 26 October (Term 4)**

This year we have our Year 3 camp in Term 4 and this year it will be at Toolangi. This is a fantastic camp to ease our students into their first camping experience away from home! At CHPS we are most fortunate to be able to offer a school camp at this level each year; with willing and daring teachers, supportive parents and a proven, successful camp program for this year level.

Our Year 3 Camp program has proven very successful over a number of years. Students will have the opportunity to experience a new camp in a wonderful bush land setting, with great facilities, yummy food and many fun learning activities to keep everyone busy.

The Middle School teachers will be inviting a small number of parents to assist with the smooth running of the camp.

Further information about the camps will be going home closer to the date.

## CAMPS - YEAR 4

**Monday - Wednesday, November 14-16 (Term 4)**

In Term 4, Year 4 students have the opportunity to attend Camp Manyung, which is situated near Mt Eliza, just over an hour from Croydon Hills. The program, facilities and equipment of this accredited campsite, are provided by the YMCA and Sport & Recreation, Victoria.

The wide range of challenging activities offered at Camp Manyung build on the wonderful experiences provided by the CHPS Camping Program. Some of the activities the students may be involved in throughout the week are beach education and surf life saving games, rock pooling, marine discovery, bike ed, low ropes, giant swing and initiative and environmental activities.

The activities we will participate in will be dependent on our choice and the weather at the time. Qualified Camp Manyung instructors will assist with the program throughout our stay.

More information including a detailed outline of the program and medical forms will be sent home later in the year.

# From the Specialists

## Performing Arts Amana Temple



**Classroom music:** Students will continue to create music using their voices, ukuleles, marimbas, un-tuned percussion and the other many and varied classroom instruments. They will dance, play games, perform and create ostinatos, listen to and discuss various styles of music and continue to learn rhythm and notation. Students will be learning about instruments of the orchestra, their families and how instruments work. Where possible, we will use music technology to compose music and consolidate theory and aural training.

**Choir:** We have 70 talented singers in the choir this year and they have wowed audiences with their first performances this year, well done to all members! Rehearsals are MONDAY lunchtimes and THURSDAY before school beginning at 8am. All rehearsals are in the PAC. When dropping off students on Thursday mornings please do not use staff parking as it causes problems for staff that are arriving at this time and is potentially dangerous for all concerned.

## Science Ben Burch



This term in the Middle school, the students will be studying a Physical Science unit called 'Heating up'. Throughout this unit the students will classify heat sources according to the type of energy used to produce the heat and explore heat transfer from one object to another. They will explore the insulating properties of different materials and how they can be used to slow heat transfer. Students will also explore how different energy sources can be transformed into heat energy. Throughout the year, the students will cover the four areas of Science: Biology, Chemistry, Physical Science and Earth and Space Sciences. If you would like to know which topics are being covered, the posters are displayed on the outside window of the Science room.

## Physical Education Noreen McMenaman



The focus for students in the Middle School this term is learning the skills and rules associated with Winter Sports being Football and Soccer. Students will also be taking part in the annual Beep Test to assess how their fitness is going. The children are aiming to improve on their past performance for those in Year 4, and the Year 3's to score their first test. Another Beep Test will be run in November / December for another comparison. On Thursday 24th May, we have our House Cross Country, which all students are expected to participate in. The top 10 participants will qualify for the District Cross Country on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June in Park Orchards. Students will be practicing their Cross Country running during PE in the next few weeks. If you are able to help out for a couple of hours with supervision during the House Cross Country, please fill in the form when it goes live on Compass. Drink bottles are also essential as is wearing the sports uniform for PE lessons so that children can play safely and hydrate during their activities even though the weather will eventually become cooler. Thank you to the many parents who assisted with the House Athletics Sports last week. The District Athletics Sports are not on until September, in Term 3.

## Visual Arts Claudia Michielin



In term 2 students will be taking inspiration from the environment to create a landscape painting. Students will explore concepts in colour theory such as; colour mixing and colour values (light and dark tones). Students will explore and incorporate a variety of painting techniques and observational drawings to assist in their landscape painting.

It is a requirement in art that all students have an art smock. This does not need to be a store bought smock; an old jumper or t-shirt will suffice, as its main purpose is to protect students' clothes from paint and other materials.

## LOTE Michelle Collins

In Term 2, Middle students will watch the film 'Naik apa?' (What are you travelling by?) and learn transport vocabulary.

They will compare common forms of transport in Indonesia and Australia and talk about transport in their local area.

Students will practise stating their address and describing the weather.

## eSmart Practices

Technology is great but every time you use it, you leave a trace of yourself. It could be in an email, a text or an uploaded image so take care with these simple hints.

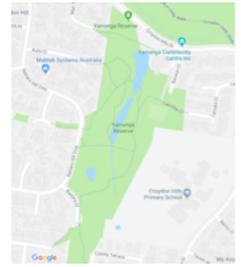
Almost everything you do with technology leaves a trace: something called a digital footprint. Digital footprints are very hard, in fact almost impossible, to erase.

Text messages and emails can be saved by the person you sent them to, and forwarded to many more people than you ever intended.

Technology is great, but you do need to take some care about how you use it.

## Running Club

Running club is also on this term for those who would like to train for the House Cross Country. However, students who wish to keep fit and have some fun are also welcome. They will be running through Yarrunga on Wednesdays at lunch with Mr Brock and Mr Gamble.



## Junior Rockers Instrumental Lessons

For those students wishing to learn an instrument you can go online and enrol directly at [www.juniorrockers.com](http://www.juniorrockers.com).

Lessons are offered in drums, guitar, piano/ keyboard, and singing.

## Student Citizenship Award Winners CONGRATULATIONS!



### February:

Year 4 - Luke Manini  
(MSH)

Year 3 - Charlotte Kennedy  
(MDG)

### March:

Year 4 - Emma Lindsey  
(MAP)

Year 3 - Jake Hetrelezis  
(MTC)



## Stagestruck

This was our annual concert celebrating the talents of our Performing Arts students.

Students have been rehearsing and refining their acts over the past month and were provided the opportunity to perform their acts on the night of Stagestruck.

It was amazing to see our students perform with such confidence and skill. It is a credit to Mrs. Temple and the Junior Rockers program, for helping nurture such talented performing artists.

Well done to all those students who came up with an act and who performed! Congratulations to the Choir and Rock Band who also performed.

## Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge



The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is now open and Croydon Hills Primary School is excited to be participating.

The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by 7 September 2018.

Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or 'experience' 30 books with their parents and teachers. Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and can choose to have their name included on the online Honour Roll. If you would like your child's name to appear on the Honour Roll, please provide consent to this event on Compass.

To read the Premier's letter to parents, view the booklists and for more information about the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge, visit: [www.education.vic.gov.au/prc](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/prc)

## Hooptime



### Maroondah Rings Stadium

Notices asking for an expression of interest to attend Hooptime were sent home last term. There will be final notices sent home closer to the dates and students will then be allocated to teams.

Remember that **Rookies** teams are for our beginners who have never played basketball and are mixed teams.

**Future Stars** are for our players who have some experience, (play B Grade domestic or lower or any grade in After School Basketball and some who play A grade), and are also mixed teams.

**All Stars** are for children who play at a high level of basketball, (some 'A' grade domestic and all children who play representative basketball), and these are either all boys or all girls teams.

Due to the high volume of boys who have expressed an interest in playing Hooptime and the competition requirement of having mixed teams we may need conduct a ballot of the Year 3 boys and some boys may miss out this year. Any students who miss out this year will be guaranteed a place in Hooptime next year.

As we try to keep the teams as small as possible, to encourage maximum participation, it creates problems if children change their minds. Please ensure that your child has committed to participating in Hooptime if they returned the notice last term.