Dear parents and students,

**Voluntary School Contributions**

Congratulations to Cody Nasko and Mohammed Chami who will be off to see the Great Moscow Circus as a result of their families paying their Voluntary School Contributions by the chosen date. I must also thank on behalf of all our students all those families who have donated some or all of the contributions so far this year. The money is critical to purchasing those extra learning resources that are vital to all students. This year we are concentrating on literacy and science resources. You can still pay Voluntary School Contributions at any time, just go to our school office. So far we have received $4475 which is fantastic but I know we can do better.

**School Tree Audit**

Most of you will be aware of the tragedy that happened with a school student being killed by a falling tree branch. Though it was an accident all schools in NSW have been instructed to carry out a tree safety audit. This audit and any safety recommendations from the audit must be completed prior to the end of term two this year. Since becoming Principal I have had several experienced arborists assess our trees and work on our trees has been recently carried out as part of our new fence program. Once the official audit has been completed I will table its findings at the next school P&C meeting.

**After School**

A reminder that once the students have been released by their teachers at the end of the day, they and their families must exit the school grounds. No students or younger children are allowed to play on our fixed equipment or in our playground even if their parents are in attendance. This is a duty of care issue and is in place for the safety of our students.

**School Procedure on Refunds**

Each year teachers plan a number of excursions, guest speakers and various activities which enhance the educational programs being offered in classrooms. These activities usually have a cost associated with them. Occasionally children are disappointed when they are unable to participate in the activity because they are sick on the day etc. In such cases parents often request a refund of the fees that have been paid. In making a decision regarding a refund one issue has to be considered: Has the school already spent money for the student to participate in the activity? If the school has already had to pay for the activity then a refund cannot be given. For example in the case of a live show, the seats had to be booked and pre-paid. In this case this money could not be refunded. When buses are used to transport children the total cost of the bus is divided by the total number of children expected to attend. It is therefore not possible to give refunds on bus travel. However some visiting performances charge on the basis of the children present on the day. Therefore, the school did not have to outlay any money and a refund would be possible. Refunds cannot be issued in cash and a request for a refund needs to be made in writing to the office.

**Food in School – Safety First**

I have written previously regarding the increasing number of students at Chester Hill who suffer from food allergies. The effect from an allergy can range from a minor rash to death in the case of anaphylaxis. To support and protect our students every school in the state has been issued with an Epipen. This pen holds medicine to provide instant first aid to any child having an anaphylactic episode. The pen was issued not to support those students we know have these allergies but for those students we do not know and in all cases neither do they.

To help reduce the risk of harm for all students I have asked parents to be mindful of what food they send to school. The food most likely to cause a serious reaction is nuts. I am also reviewing all food that is sold through our canteen as well as other food that is brought into the school for other reasons. To help support the safety of all students parents are reminded that our school with the support of our P&C has a policy of **no birthday cakes (or birthday food) being brought to school to share with other students**. This is to protect those anaphylactic students we know about but more importantly those we do not.

B. Kunkler
Principal
QuickSmart Training for Parents

Would you like to be trained in a numeracy program and gain experience volunteering in the classroom? On 24/3/14 and 27/3/14 parents and carers are invited to be trained with the skills needed to assist our students with a numeracy program called QuickSmart. The training will be run from 9:30am-12:30pm on both days. For more information contact Lina on 96441286.

Resume Writing Workshop

Are you looking to update your resume? Or maybe you have do not have one and would like to create your own? Join other parents in our school computer room on Wednesday 19th March from 11:30-12:30. You will need to bring along with you any educational certificates you have completed.

Free Child Restraint Safety Check

Did you know that all children under 7 years of age must be secured in a child restraint or booster seat when travelling in a vehicle? You can have your car child restraint harnesses and booster seats checked for safety and correct fit at our school. A qualified engineer will be visiting our school on Wednesday 19th March from 10-11am. There will be a short workshop, free morning tea, and if need be the engineer will check your car to ensure seats are installed correctly.

Naplan Workshops

Parents of students in years 3 & 5 are invited to attend a workshop to find out more on this assessment that students will complete early term 2. You will find out info on the assessment, ask questions and receive sample tests to take home. A note will coming out soon with more information.

P&C NEWS

Our next meeting will be on March 26th at 9am in the community hub.

Easter Raffle Fundraiser

On Wednesday 19th March the P&C will be holding a sausage sizzle to raise money for the Easter Raffle. Parent volunteers are needed to help out on the day. If you can help, please meet at the canteen at 9am.

Family Photo Day

Have your family portrait taken at our school for only $20. Portraits will be taken on Saturday 5th April and the invitation is also open to your friends and family. For any questions please see Ronda in the canteen.

Office Hours

Office hours are 8.30am – 3.00pm. To ensure that you receive an answer to your enquiries, please visit or telephone the office staff between these hours.

School A to Z app

Do you struggle to understand your child's homework? Does your child need to practise their spelling and times tables? Are you looking for inspiration for projects and assignments? This free homework helper app provides maths and English glossaries, assignment starters and more. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/about/mobile-applications/school-a-to-z

Wild Australia app

Your child can use this terrific app as an interactive educational tool at Taronga Zoo in Sydney or at Taronga Western Plains Zoo, Dubbo. Wild Australia can also be used at home to discover more about the zoos’ amazing animals and interesting keepers. Find out more: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/zh/homework-and-study/educational-games/taronga-zoo-wild-australia
Encouraging all students to achieve their personal best

Coming Events

This calendar of events will be updated in each edition of the newsletter. Dates are accurate at the time of publication but can be changed for various reasons.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wk</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>18 Mar</td>
<td>Open night Bass HS 5:30 – 7:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>19 Mar</td>
<td>P &amp; C Sausage Sizzle / Easter Fundraiser</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Thur</td>
<td>20 Mar</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly KR &amp; 3W</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>24-25 Mar</td>
<td>Days 1 &amp; 2 World of Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>26 Mar</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>28 Mar</td>
<td>Bass HS visit 9am Activities for all Yr 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>31 Mar</td>
<td>Day 3 World of Maths</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>1 Apr</td>
<td>Year 5 Minnamurra Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>1 Apr</td>
<td>Year 6 Antarctic talk</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Thur</td>
<td>3 Apr</td>
<td>Whole School Assembly 1S &amp; 4L</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>8 Apr</td>
<td>Parent Teacher interviews K - 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>11 Apr</td>
<td>No PSSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>11 Apr</td>
<td>Last day of term 1</td>
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School Traffic

A reminder to all parents, family and friends who drop off and collect children by car each day:
- Please be considerate of other drivers, residents and students.
- Please do not park or stop in the “NO STOPPING” zones and do not double park.
- Observe the 40K speed limit in the school zone.
- Please do not park in residents’ driveways.

Please help to keep our children safe.

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)

If your child is currently in Year 3, 5, 7 or 9, they’ll sit NAPLAN tests this May. And despite what you may have heard, there’s no reason to panic or start an intensive study schedule for your child. Find out more:

Sushi train

Brown rice sushi rolls are a nutritious change to pack for school lunches. Unlike white rice sushi, they can be made the night before, and the filling can be adapted to suit your child’s preferences. Pack in a chiller bag with an icepack and include some little soy sauce fish. Find out more:

School Website

Have you visited our school Website? The school website is a great place to go if you are looking for information about the school. It contains general information as well as a calendar of upcoming events. Copies of all of our notes and newsletters can also be found on the website. Class pages will be added soon. Go to http://www.chesterhill-p.schools.nsw.edu.au/ or Google: Chester Hill Public School.

Like us on Facebook

The school has a Facebook page where you can find up to date information about school events and important reminders. Like us to stay up to date.
**Friday 7 March Week 6**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Opposition</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Result</th>
<th>Best &amp; Fairest</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Junior Cricket</td>
<td>Georges Hall</td>
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<td>L</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Cricket</td>
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<td>Junior AFL</td>
<td>Chullora</td>
<td>58-0</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Adam</td>
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<td>46-15</td>
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<td>Tarjan</td>
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<td>8-8</td>
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<td>Lori</td>
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<tr>
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<td>8-2</td>
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<td>Tia</td>
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<td>Chullora</td>
<td>6-3</td>
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<td>Yassin</td>
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<td>6-7</td>
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<td>Gordon</td>
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**Friday 14 March Week 7**

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<td>119-129</td>
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<td>Steven</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Cricket</td>
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<td>Youssef</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior AFL</td>
<td>Georges Hall</td>
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<td>Abdullah</td>
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