Helping Hands - Out of School Hours Care (OOSH)

I am very pleased to let you know that Helping Hands Network will be starting up before and after school and vacation care from early January 2016. Their aim is to be up and running for January vacation care and then begin before and after school care from the beginning of the school year. An introductory package will be sent home next week detailing how they operate, hours and costs. When you look at full fee costs keep in mind that substantial government rebates are available which will lower the costs to families. A pamphlet with more information is attached to this newsletter. Helping Hands was selected through a competitive tender process and I am confident that they will provide an excellent and affordable service.

Student Well-being Framework Continued

In this newsletter we look at the second key concept underpinning the Department’s Well-being Framework – Succeed. The implementation of the framework ensures that students will be respected, valued, encouraged, supported and empowered to succeed. School policies and processes that support students to succeed include:

Student behaviour and discipline

Schools support the learning, wellbeing and safety of all students. Collaboration between staff, students and parents/carers is fundamental to maintaining positive student behaviour and effective discipline in public schools.

The school discipline policy should include:

- school rules that set out expected standards of behaviour consistent with the Behaviour Code for Students
- strategies and practices to promote, recognise and reinforce appropriate student behavior
- strategies and practices to manage inappropriate student behavior
- clearly defined responsibilities of teachers, students and parents
- strategies and practices consistent with the Wellbeing for Schools Framework
- the principles of procedural fairness.

Protecting children and young people (child protection)

Schools are required to provide a protective and caring school environment that ensures student safety, welfare and wellbeing. Principals must ensure that all staff:

- have participated in initial child protection induction and annual updates
- are aware of the indicators of abuse and neglect of children and young people, their obligations to advise the principal of any concerns about their safety, welfare and wellbeing, and the mandatory obligation to report suspected risk of significant harm and the procedures for doing so.
**Principals must also:**

- establish workplace systems for coordinating services for families and children in ways that strengthen and support them and exchanging information with other agencies as permitted by law
- escalate concerns if serious safety issues remain after a report has been made
- continue to support and promote the safety of the child or young person who is the subject of concerns
- comply with record keeping requirements, including staff completion of induction and annual updates, and reports to the Helpline.

**Out-of-home care**

Successful schooling contributes to an adult life that is personally rewarding, socially connected and economically sustained. Schools have an important role in supporting children and young people in out-of-home care to maximise their life outcomes.

**Principals must ensure that children and young people in out of home care who are attending government schools, including preschools:**

- are able to access and participate in education on the same basis as all other students, regardless of their gender, disability, cultural and linguistic background, and religious or spiritual beliefs and access the full range of school activities
- are accurately recorded on the enrolment registration number database (ERN) as being in out of home care and the record updated as necessary
- have an education plan developed within 30 school days of notification that the child or young person has entered or is in care and that this plan is updated and reviewed at least annually or when there are changed circumstances impacting on the student's ability to participate in learning do not have their care status disclosed to others unless this is required by legislation or necessary for the safety, welfare and wellbeing of the child or young person or necessary under the information exchange provisions of part 16A of the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998*.

Next newsletter we will look at how schools support students with disability and positive behaviour for learning.

Mrs Binns
Principal

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**Stage 1 News**

Welcome back to Term 4. We hope the children are well rested and ready for all the exciting things planned for this term.

Congratulations to all those children who have been moving up the PBL merit system and received their stars at the PBL assembly last Friday. Many children are working hard and trying to get to bronze level which is the minimum level required to attend the ‘Great Soaking Blast’ reward activity this year.

Kindergarten Orientation will begin Monday 19th October for the next 3 Mondays. If you know of any 2016 Kindergarten students who haven’t enrolled as yet please notify their parents or caregivers so we can accommodate them.

As the weather warms up it is essential that all our children are sun safe and wearing a hat. Please ensure your child has a labelled hat in their school bag each day.

Mrs McKinnon
Mrs Copeland
Year 1 Supervisor
Year 2 Supervisor
Welcome Back Stage 2!!!!!!

We have a very busy term, full of lots of fun things. In week 3, with have some of the Year 4 students are attending CARES (Community and Road Education) in St Marys. In week 6, we are performing at our end of year concert and classes are busily organising routines, notes should be coming home soon if your child will need a special outfit. Not to mention reports are going home at the end of term, Great Soaking Blasts, Big Day Outs (Bowling for Stage 2), Presentation assembly, Extra-curricular assembly, talent quest and much more.

On the academic side of things, we are starting a poetry unit which is lots of fun. Drug Education is also happening this term and this covers things like, what is a drug, medicines and safe use and storage, anti-smoking messages and reading labels on drink containers. HSIE is covering all different types of celebrations from Australia and around the world.

Thankyou
Mrs Scott
Stage 2 Supervisor

Preschool News

Welcome back to Term 4. The Frogs and Joeys went to the big school this week to see what happens in Kindergarten. On the way up we saw the bubblers, boys and girls toilets and spoke about how it's different to preschool. The Kindergarten classrooms were set up with the kind of activities that they start with. There was playdough, dominoes, drawing, reading and tracing in one classroom and Math activities in the other. The Kindergarten children then wrote letters to the preschoolers about what they do in Kindergarten and came to the preschool and shared them with the children. These activities provide a connection between preschool and the big school and give the children a taste of big school.

Some dates for your diary:
Wednesday 18th November- Closed for 2016
Preschool orientation
Wednesday 25th November - Whole school Christmas concert
Wednesday 2nd December - Preschool Graduation and Christmas Party - 10am onwards

Friday 11th December - Last day for Wed – Friday children
Tuesday 15th December – Last day for Mon – Wed children

Preschool Educators
Dance 2015 and 2016

Another successful dance year has come to a close. The 56 children involved, performed at both the Cambridge Learning Community Performing Arts Festival and at the Blue Mountains and Nepean Dance Festival. Not only were they wonderful on stage but also off stage, their behaviour was impeccable at all times. Well done to both the senior and junior dance groups.

Thank you to the parents involved with dance that help us to make it a success each year. A special mention to Rae-Maree Williams and June Martinson who have taught me so much about sewing and how take my ideas and turn them in to realities and to Mrs Mulholland who kindly volunteered to wash all of the costumes.

I would also like to thank Steven Brown for helping to choreograph the routines for both dance groups. We could not have done this without you.

Thankyou to the admin and teaching staff for their flexibility in programs and their support.

In order for us to begin dance practice as soon as possible in 2016 we will be holding auditions this year. Auditions are open to ALL children in Year 1 to Year 5. In order for your child to audition a signed permission note must be returned. The audition note will be sent home soon. All children will go through a dance class and will be chosen from this. In addition, if your child wishes to perform their own routine we will include this in the audition.

If you ordered photos from Joan Sutherland you should have received these from Mrs Lodge. If not please see her as soon as possible.

Thankyou and as I always end my notes

Keep Dancing

Anaphylaxis and Us

As mentioned in previous newsletters we have several children and staff members at our school who are anaphylactic. If you are sending food to school to be shared with other children eg: birthday cakes or cakes for sale, please be very careful to read the ingredients and ensure that they do not contain peanuts, tree nuts and nut products. Some of our children are also allergic to eggs and milk. Please send in the packet ingredients so that we can check them for ourselves.

Other ways to support us to keep everyone safe are:

1. Talk to your children about allergies and how serious they can be for some people so they must not ever share their food with other children. Its not mean to not share food its keeping people safe.

2. Discuss how important it is to wash hands before and after eating so that food allergens don’t get transferred onto other people or their food.

Thank you for working with us to keep our children safe.

Stewart House and The Smith Family Clothing Appeal bags have been given to students today. If you have any unwanted clothing, shoes, manchester or blankets in good, clean, wearable condition, please consider filling the bags and returning to school by Tuesday 22nd October, 2015.

The bags can be left at the office each morning.

Your donation helps both Stewart House and The Smith Family to raise much needed funds to continue to support disadvantaged families.
Diverse educational programs that challenge and inspire students

Orbit has arrived at CPPS!
Orbit is a new operating system in our school library! It is a visual and engaging tool that puts our students in the driver’s seat of their library experience.
Even better, students can access Orbit from home or anywhere they have internet access. To access their student portal from home students can go to:

http://student.det.nsw.edu.au

Orbit allows students to:

- Personalise their background, theme and avatar
- Look back through their loan history
- Check to see what books they currently have on loan – including overdues
- Reserve books that they are interested in reading

- Discover what new books the library has purchased
- Access digital ebook stories and other educational website links
- Write book reviews for other students to read and enjoy

Mrs Thompson
Teacher/Librarian
Diverse educational programs that challenge and inspire students
Diverse educational programs that challenge and inspire students.

SERVICES

LOCATION
The service is located on site at Cambridge Park Public School.

PROGRAMS
We tailor our programs to meet the local school community needs and provide much more than child minding.

Our Programs are designed to develop stronger, healthier and happier children and to provide an environment that is like a "home away from home".

Programs are developed in consultation with children, parents, the school community and staff. They are tailored to cater to the child's age, skill, interests and abilities through a variety of challenging and recreational activities.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE
Available 5 days per week, from 6.30am–8.30am and 3.00pm–6.30pm Children can walk straight to and from their classrooms. We pick up and drop off the Kindergarten and Year 1 students and escort them to the Out of School Hours Care Room.

VACATION CARE & STUDENT FREE DAYS
A full day program is available, 5 days per week, and on Student Free Days from 6.30am–6.30pm Children who do not attend Wyraallah Road are welcome to attend.

FOOD
We provide breakfast at Before School Care and afternoon tea at After School Care. In addition to these meals the children also have the opportunity to participate in cooking activities and the occasional special treat.

COST

GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES
There are a number of schemes available to parents including:

Child Care Benefit (CCB) - the percentage benefit is determined by criteria including the number of children in care and household income. Helping Hands Network automatically lodges claims on behalf of parents and only bills for the difference.

Child Care Rebate (CCR) - not means tested (also available to families with high incomes), this rebate entitles families to receive 50% of their out of pocket child care costs up to $7,500 per child per year. Parents can either claim this directly or HHN can claim this for families.

COST TO PARENTS
The costs per child after CCB & CCR, per session for a permanent booking ranges from:

Before School Care - $3.33 - $15.00 (Full Fee)
After School Care - $3.75 - $20.00 (Full Fee)
Vacation Care - $0 - $46.00 (Full Fee)

*The minimum fee includes the 50% rebate on out of pocket child care expenditure through CCR and is based on 1 child at 100%.

CALL FOR A QUOTE
Parents are able to call at anytime to get a quote for using the service. Please call:

Or Central Office: 1300 612 462
Email: accounts@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au
For your convenience when your child is absent from school please complete the note below and return to your child’s teacher.

**ABSENCE EXPLANATION NOTE**

STUDENT’S NAME ................................................................. CLASS .................................

DATES OF ABSENCE .............................................................

REASON ............................................................................................

......................................................................................................

PARENT/CAREGIVER’S NAME ....................................................

SIGNED ........................................... DATE .....................................

Diverse educational programs that challenge and inspire students