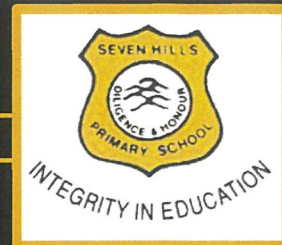


Seven Hills STAR

Achieving a quality education for all students in a caring environment

2A Lucas Road, Seven Hills NSW 2147
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T: 9624 3441 F: 98384893
Website: <https://sevenhills-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>



Term 1 Week 4

Friday, 22nd February 2019



Dates for your Diary

Week 5

Monday, 25 th February	Stage 3 Smooth Walking
Wednesday, 27 th February	Leaders Induction Assembly at 9:15am
Thursday, 28 th February	Sports in Schools K-6

Week 6

Monday, 4 th March to Wednesday, 6 th March	Restorative Practices Australia Staff Professional Learning, student lessons, Parent Workshop (time TBA)
Thursday, 7 th March	Sport in Schools K-6
Friday, 8 th March	K-6 Assembly (all K-6 parents are welcome to attend)

Canteen: Wed- Fri
8.45am - 1.40pm

OOSH: Mon-Fri
6.30am – 8.30am &
3.00pm – 6.00pm
0421 058 783

Principal's Message

Welcome to the end of week 4. Where has the time gone! The last two weeks have been extremely productive, with students settled into their 2019 classes and class programmes are now well underway. I have been privileged enough to be invited into our classrooms to see the type of tasks that the students have been involved in. I have observed the use of engaging 'hands-on' activities, the shared reading of quality picture books and the authentic integration of technology, all of which is underpinned by quality teaching practice. Having an opportunity to go into classrooms has allowed me to get to know the staff a little better. I see positive relationships being established, resilience being built and achievements being celebrated. As you drop your child at the school gate each morning, know that they are in good hands, with the dedicated and caring staff at Seven Hills Public School.

Meet the Teacher Afternoon

This year's 'Meet the Teacher Afternoon' was a huge success. We had an average of 56% of families from our school attend, and to those that did, I thank you for taking the time to come along to meet your child/ren's classroom teacher and discover a little bit more about your child's learning in 2019.

I had the pleasure of meeting a number of our families; answering questions, communicating some of the events/plans for 2019, enjoying a sausage sizzle and an informal chat. There was such a nice feel across the school and I am proud to be part of such a welcoming and friendly school community.

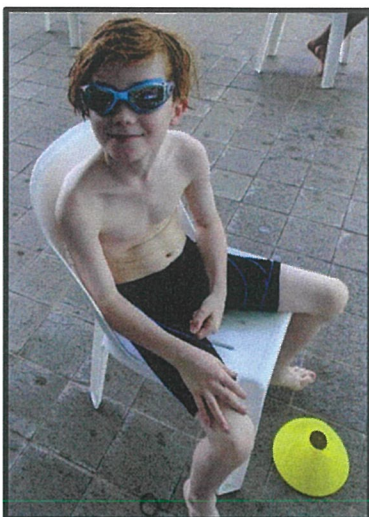
The Director of Educational Leadership, Toni Kember, met with me earlier this week to discuss my professional development goals. Maximising community engagement and establishing effective relationships with each and every one of you is one of the goals that I have identified as it is of great importance to me. Working alongside you, in partnership, will ultimately assist in guiding our students (your children) to connect, succeed and thrive at school and maximise their learning outcomes.

Please feel free to pop in and see me to have a chat. I value suggestions and feedback from students, parents and families, to ensure that we continue to provide the best

educational opportunities for the children at Seven Hills Public School.

Swimming Carnival

This year, we had seven students participate in the combined swimming carnival. Their behaviour and team spirit was impeccable. When I popped in to visit them, the students were cheering on their peers and were thoroughly enjoying the day. I would like to thank Mrs Bernardi and Mrs Vowles for accompanying our students to the event, helping them to get organised for their races, timekeeping some of the events and transporting some of the students to and from the venue. Your organisation of this event ensured that our students had a great day.



STEM- Innovative Learning Environments are coming!

During the Meet the Teacher afternoon, parents who attended had the pleasure of meeting Mrs Christie Blatch. As I mentioned in the previous newsletter, Mrs Blatch is currently taking the RFF classes for STEM, using quality picture books as a springboard for collaborative design and make tasks.



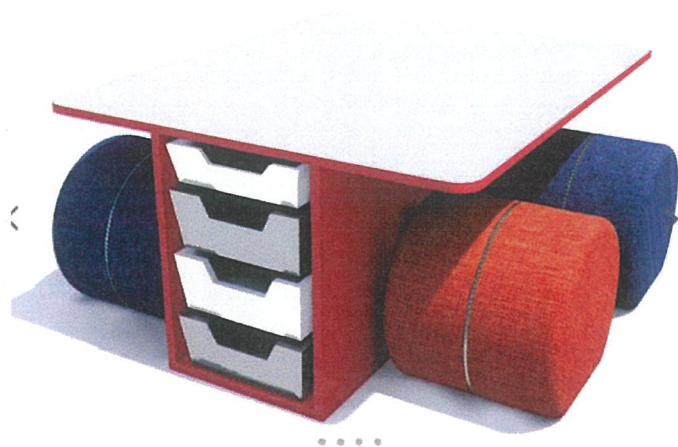
Some exciting news to add to this is that last week, we purchased some flexible furniture for our STEM room, that is conducive to students being able to work collaboratively.

What is an innovative learning environment?

A learning environment includes the **physical, social, and educational context** in which learning occurs. An innovative environment supports the way that students learn best. That is, the way the room is organised offers students and teachers choice, flexibility, support and connectedness.

I have included some information in this issue of the newsletter (an excerpt from Linking pedagogy and space by Dr Ken Fisher), outlining the different styles of learning and the configurations of learning spaces that are conducive to each style.

To maximise collaboration, problem-solving and designing and making learning modes, the following pieces of furniture will be debuting in the STEM room in the coming weeks:

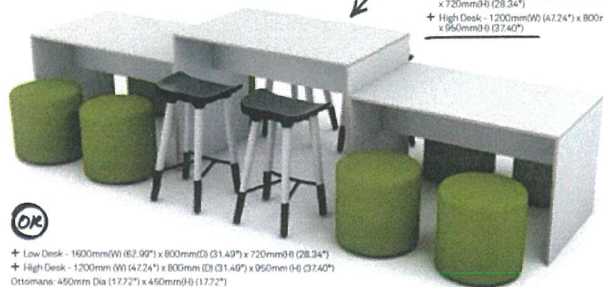


T-Tables- writeable surface and storage space. Ideal for collaboration and design and make projects.

Sit To Stand Tech Bar (Slab End)

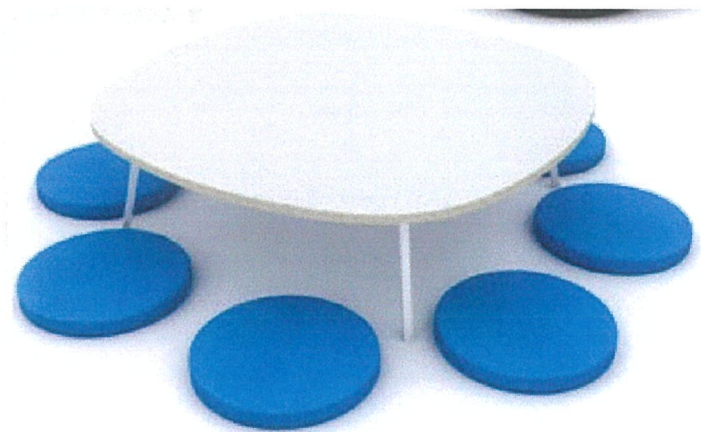
Collection Includes:

- + 2 x Low Desk - 1200mm(W) (47.24") x 800mm(D) (31.49") x 720mm(H) (28.34")
- + High Desk - 1200mm(W) (47.24") x 800mm(D) (31.49") x 950mm(H) (37.40")



- + Low Desk - 1600mm(W) (62.99") x 800mm(D) (31.49") x 720mm(H) (28.34")
- + High Desk - 1200mm(W) (47.24") x 800mm(D) (31.49") x 950mm(H) (37.40")
- Ottomans - 450mm Dia (17.72") x 450mm(H) (17.72")

Sit to Stand Tech Bar-writeable surface tables and can be utilised as a quiet area conducive to designing, student research and the use of laptops.



Low Level tables- Offering groups of students an area to discuss plans for designs and to seek feedback.

As part of our professional learning this term, Staff will be undertaking research and dialogue around innovative learning environments, in preparation for the arrival of this furniture in approximately 4-6 weeks' time.

Sport in Schools Australia



Sport in Schools lessons have been operating in our school for a period of three weeks now and, from observations and through feedback from the students themselves, they appear to be enjoying this program.

While the majority of the students across the school are participating, I would like to take this opportunity to extend the invitation to families who have not yet paid. Please know that if you are finding it difficult to financially commit to this program, you are most welcome to call our office on 02 9624 3441 and a payment plan can be arranged. For those families that have misplaced the note, feel free to obtain a new one from the office or download one from our website.

Mini Lit & Macq Lit Support

This year Mrs Bernardi (Learning and Support Teacher) and Mrs McLean (School Learning Support Officer) have received training in Mini-Lit, a K-2 program targeting students experiencing challenges with reading. The MiniLit program is delivered to a small group of students 4-5 times per week, for one hour per lesson. Each lesson comprises three main components:

- Sounds and Words Activities
- Text Reading
- Story Book Reading

Mrs Dakic Dobric (English as an Additional Language/ Dialect teacher) and Mrs Vowles (School Learning Support Officer) received training in MacqLit, which is a follow on program from Mini Lit, catering for 3-6 students experiencing challenges in reading. The carefully

constructed sequence of lessons teaches essential skills such as:

- Letter-sound correspondences presented in an easy to hard sequence,
- Strategies for decoding multi-syllable words,
- Prefixes and suffixes, and
- Generalising component skills through connected text reading.

Each lesson is designed to last for one hour and is implemented 4-5 times per week.

Students have undertaken a placement test to identify those most suitable for the program. These lessons will officially commence next week. I stress that these lessons do not take the place of literacy sessions conducted by your child's classroom teacher. Departmental policy stresses that priority is given to English and Mathematics, therefore, these lessons have been scheduled at a later time in the day to ensure that students are present for in-class literacy and numeracy sessions.

If your child has been identified as a suitable candidate for this program, a note will be sent home next week informing you. This program is highly-regarded and the research conducted around its impact reflects a high level of success.



Restorative Practices Australia

I mentioned in the previous newsletter that Restorative Practices Australia are coming to work with students, staff and parents on Monday 4th March - Wednesday 6th March, which is only two weeks away.

Next week, a note will be sent home outlining the day and time of the parent workshop that will be held by this organisation.

Restorative Practice is an effective behaviour intervention strategy aimed at teaching students the ways in which they

can restore and maintain positive relationships with others. Having seen Vic and Liz from Restorative Practices Australia work with a whole school community, I highly recommend that you come along to the parent workshop session. It is through their work that I have learned invaluable skills in behaviour management which I continue to adopt when dealing with conflict between students at school.

If you would like further information, please visit their website:

<https://www.restorativepractices.org.au/>

Thank you to those parents who filled out the Restorative Practices survey sent home in the previous newsletter. Your responses will help Vic and Liz to tailor their parent workshop to meet the needs of our community. It is here that I would like to announce the winner of the \$50 Movie Voucher. **Congratulations, M. Haricharan (5/6S)**

Website Re-launch



If you've visited our website recently, you will have noticed some changes. Gone are the photos of our buildings, replaced with happy, smiling students' faces. Seven Hills Public School is a great place to learn and we want to showcase our school to the rest of our local community.

In the coming weeks, our website will continue to be upgraded, with up-to-date information and some more beautiful smiling faces. Further down the track, a new parent information prospectus brochure will be developed to showcase the many positive attributes our school has to offer.

I would like to thank Mrs Sigg for her wonderful photography skills. Many of the beautiful photos that she took on the day are yet to be published, but will be used in the coming future. Thank you again, Mrs Sigg.

Playground Equipment

Recently, I have been approached by some members of our school community requesting an explanation around why the playground equipment has been taped off. Student safety is our number one priority in schools.

Statistics show that “falls from playground equipment are the most common cause of childhood injuries” (Playing Safe: Guidelines for the installation and maintenance of playground equipment in NSW government schools).

As principal, it is my duty to ensure the safety of the students by minimising potential hazards on the school site. In doing so, I requested a playground audit, which was undertaken in the school holidays and determined our equipment non-compliant against the mandated Australian standards. Whilst it may appear to look safe, the guidelines are in place for a reason. I owe it to the students as part of my duty of care to ensure that this equipment complies with safety standards before I allow them to play on it. This is a temporary arrangement and the playground will be up and running again once the necessary repairs have been carried out.

Now that Mr Aziz is able to complete the lawnmowing at a faster rate (with his newly acquired lawnmower), this should free up more of his time to attend to the required repairs.



Let's go Digital!

We live in a society where technology is at our fingertips. With that in mind, I wish to inform you that **as of Term 2, our newsletters will be moving to a digital format.** We are

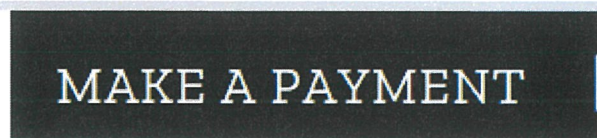
currently exploring our options of what this will look like, with many companies offering digital newsletter services in line with society's demand for increasing digital communication platforms. For those families who do not have access to the internet, you will still be able to request a paper copy of the newsletter from the office.

I would also like to bring to your attention our preference for online payments. It is very simple to make an online school payment for any event.

1. log onto the school website at:

sevenhills-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

2. Find the make a payment button at the top of the website screen.



3. Complete the information on the screen and follow the prompts.

For every online payment made this month, parents will go into the draw to receive a \$50 movie voucher. What are you waiting for? Give it a try today!

Upcoming Assemblies

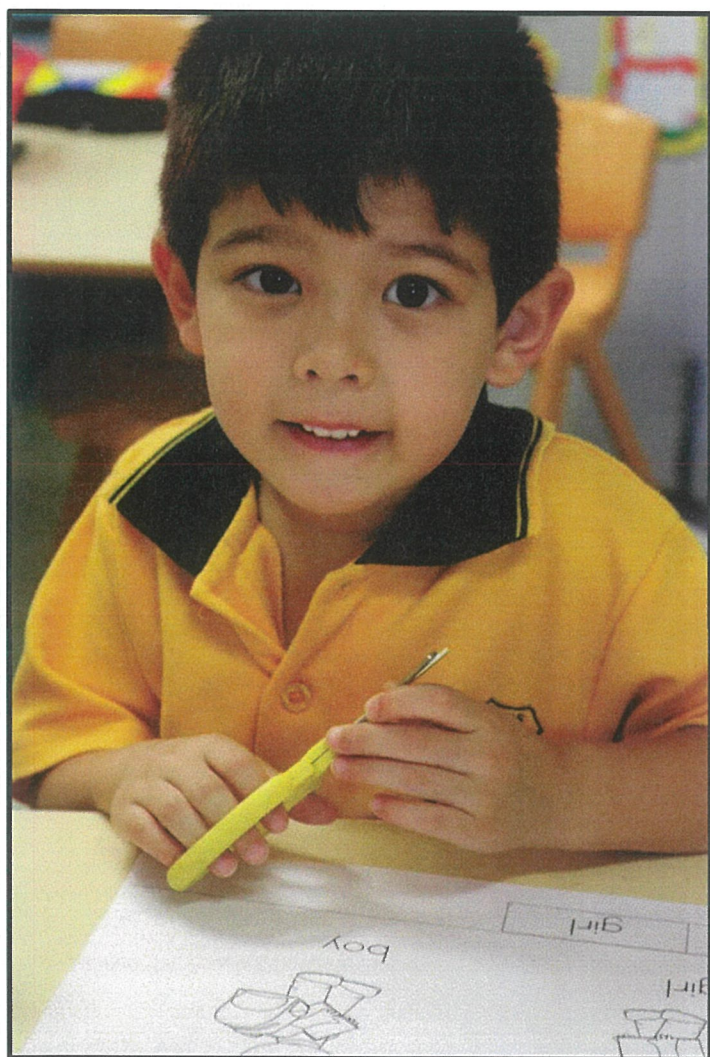


On Wednesday, 27th February, we will be holding our special Leader's Induction assembly at 9:15am in the hall.

This is a great opportunity for parents to come along and celebrate this monumental achievement with their child. We have special guests who have already confirmed their attendance; Ms Toni Kember (Director, Educational Leadership) and Mr Mark Taylor (Local Member for Parliament). We look forward to celebrating with you next Wednesday.

K-6 Assemblies are held fortnightly on Friday (even weeks) from 2:10pm-3:00pm. **All parents** are invited to attend. We hope to see you at the next assembly.

Looking forward to sharing the wonderful events and achievements of our students in the next edition of the newsletter.



Mrs Prout
Principal



linking pedagogical activities to spatial settings

... categoric pedagogical practices have associated space types.

[source: Scott-Webber]

pedagogical activity	pedagogical attribute	process steps	behavioural premise	spatial icon
delivering	Formal presentations Instructor controls presentation Focus on presentation Passive learning	Prepare & generate presentation Deliver to an audience Assess understanding	Bring information before the public Instructor lead Knowledge is in one source	
applying	Controlled observation One-to-one Master & apprentice alternative control Informal Active learning	Knowledge transferred via demonstration Practice by recipient Understanding achieved	Learner-centered Apprentice model	
creating	Multiple disciplines Leaderless Egalitarian Distributed attention Privacy Casual Active learning	Research Recognise need Divergent thinking Incubate Interpret into product / innovation	Innovation or knowledge moved from abstract to a product	
communicating	Knowledge is dispersed Impromptu delivery Casual Active learning	Organise information Deliver Receive & interpret Confirm	Share information Provide quick exchange	
decision making	Knowledge is dispersed Information is shared Leader sets final direction Situation is protected Semi-formal to Formal Passive / active learning	Review data Generate strategy Plan Implement one course of action	Make decisions	

2.02



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- Be part of a team
- Take part in sporting, flying and camping activities
- Get involved in your Community
- Interstate competition trips
- Theory & practical classes in aviation, general
- Interest and life skills
- Recognition for all achievements

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- Savings plan for camps and excursions
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FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
Mrs Robyn McKenzie 0409 391 084 Email: gexc.newsg@airleague.com.au
Girls Squadrons also located at Albion Park, Beverly Hills, Blacktown, Daylesford, Mudgee, Penrith, Southern Highlands
www.airleague.com.au Facebook: [airnewgirls](https://www.facebook.com/airnewgirls)



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