

# Peak Hill Central School

## Newsletter

*We are Respectful, Responsible, Safe and Successful*

Celebrating 125 Years of Public Education

Caswell Street  
Peak Hill NSW 2869

T: 02 6869 1304

F: 02 6869 1776

E: [peakhill-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:peakhill-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

W: [www.peakhill-c.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.peakhill-c.schools.nsw.edu.au)

### From The Principal's Desk



Thank you to Mr Paul Champion for leading and managing the school during my recent leave. He was supported by the executive team and staff and I am very appreciative of the opportunity to travel, secure in the knowledge that the school was in "Good Hands"

Last Thursday evening our school hall was transformed into a Hollywood red carpet occasion for our **Year 12 Banquet**. It was a memorable night with the Year 12 students looking sophisticated and glamorous. On behalf of Year 12, I extend sincere thanks to the staff, students and community members who contributed to making the night a success. A special thank you is extended to Ms Camilla Bourne, Mrs Catherine Doyle and their team who organised the night and worked tirelessly to ensure that it was a special memory for our Class of 2015.



Class of 2015 L-R Alistar Kopp, Corey Ridgeway, Shanika Robinson, Taylor Fairley, Jessica Simmons, Clay Hartin, Brooke Carpenter.

Absent: James Dunn and Keagan Finn

Congratulations to HSC student, Alistar Kopp who has been selected for inclusion in InTech 2016. **InTech 2016** is the annual exhibition of outstanding Major Design Projects developed by 2015 Industrial Technology students. In 2016 the exhibition will be at the Sydney Timber and Working with Wood Show in the Sydney Showground Homebush. My appreciation and congratulations are extended to Mr James Peter who encouraged and supported Alistar throughout the construction of his Major Design and his portfolio. His commitment to his students is exemplary.

### Diary Dates

#### November

Sun 8-13 Work Placement Dubbo

Mon 9 - 12 Yr 7 - 10 Exams

Thurs 12 P & C AGM 6pm

Sun 22-29 Schools Spectacular

#### December

Mon 14 Presentation Ceremony 6.30p.m.

Year 9 students, Nakayla Dart and Nakarli Harrison, have been successful in their application to participate in the **Wingara Mura- Bunga Barrabugu 2016 Summer Program**. The program is designed to enable students who are selected to take control of their future and meet people from all over Australia. Young people who attend the Summer Program are encouraged through the experience to:

- better understand the links between their interests and possible careers
- be well informed about the range of university courses that match their areas of interest
- write polished and well-structured applications for scholarships
- be clear and confident about the opportunities and services available at university.

It was an extensive application which included a school nomination and reflects the effort made by the girls with the support of Mrs Rachel Cody.

Yesterday we commemorated **Remembrance Day** with a service coordinated by Mr Karel Giffen. Stage One made the occasion very relevant by each student reading a reflection on what could be thought about during the minute's silence. Thank you to Mr Giffen and Miss Stewart for your thoughtfulness and time to make this a significant occasion for our students. I accompanied Student Leaders, David Heyward and Isabelle Goodwin to the Peak Hill Service where they laid a wreath on behalf of Peak Hill Central School. Thank you to both these students who represented our school with dignity and respect.

**Principal**

Mrs Paula Payne

**Head Teacher Admin**

Mr Paul Champion

**Head Teacher Well Being**

Mr Jeremy Whiterod

**Head Teacher T&L**

Mrs Rachel Cody

**Administration Manager**

Mrs Tanya Stanford

**Aboriginal Education Officer**

Mrs Vicki Sharah

**Assistant Principal Primary**

Miss Rachel Heywood

Miss Sarah Browning

**Head Teacher of WAP**

Ms Crystal Williams

**In School Access Coordinator**

Ms Crystal Williams

**P & C 2015**

**President**

Mrs Donna Kopp

**Vice President**

Mr Matthew Sharah

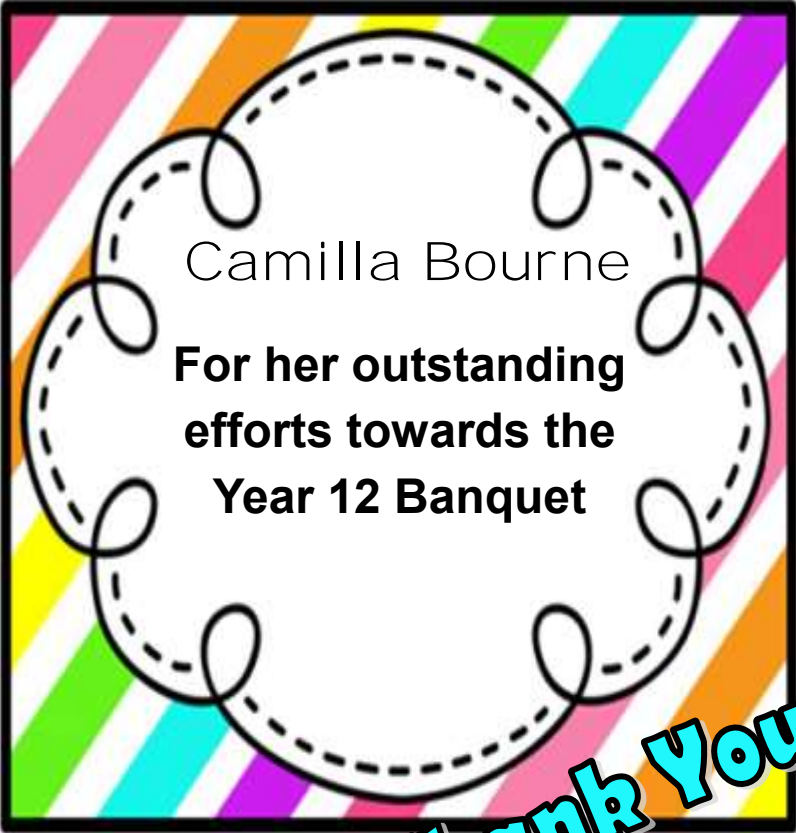
**Secretary**

Mrs Cathy Goodwin

**Treasurer**

Ms Kim Dern

**Teacher of the Fortnight**



**Thank You**

**Peak Hill Central School  
Parents and Citizens Association Inc  
Annual General Meeting  
Thursday 12 November 2015 - 6pm  
At the School Meeting Room**

**Your P & C Association is Currently**

- Supporting the running expenses of the school bus
- Supporting the Mobile Phone Policy currently being proposed
- Employing the School Chaplain

**All parents and citizens are welcome to attend.**

Primary are now enforcing

**"No Hat- Play in the Shade"**

In all areas of the school

This applies to all primary students

Please pack a hat for your child.





*From the Principals Desk ..cont..*

Well Done to Year 11 student, David Heywood. David has been successfully nominated for a **Victor Chang Cardiac Research Award** for Excellence in Science. He will be presented with his award at a ceremony in Dubbo on 18 November. The celebration highlights the partnership between the NSW Department of Education and the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute.



Also next Thursday, Student Leaders, Isabelle Goodwin, Talecia Keed and Molly Wright, with Mr Jeremy Whiterod, will attend a **Civic Reception in Parkes**. The invitation is to meet with His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley Governor of NSW, and Mrs Hurley who are travelling throughout regional NSW to engage with local communities and to understand, promote and share their successes and concerns. His Excellency and Mrs Hurley are keen to meet with local school children and School Leaders to hear their what is important to them.

This week some of our seniors have been completing their **Work Placement** in Dubbo with other students from the Western Access

Program. This enables the VET students to work in industry developing and demonstrating competencies to meet their course requirements. Thank you to the coordinator, Mrs Catherine Doyle, Mrs Pauline Allen and Mrs Crystal Williams who are supervising and supporting our students throughout the week.

Marissa Robinson and Jade Gavin have been selected to attend **Stewart House in Sydney** during a fortnight in Term One next year. This is a great opportunity for the girls which they will enjoy very much.

#### **Examinations for Stage 4 and 5**

have been held this week. Well done to the students who have prepared for them and shown respectful and responsible behaviour throughout the exams. The marks contribute to their assessment for the year and provide valuable feedback on what knowledge skills and understandings have been demonstrated in each course. Teachers are now in the process of making the papers. Reports for Second Semester will be completed in the next few weeks as we complete what needs to be done for the end of the Academic Year.

**The P&C Annual General Meeting** will be held tonight, Thursday 12 November at 6 p.m. Please come along and support the school through actively being involved in decision making and school planning. Everyone is welcome!

Please put **Monday 14 December** in your diary. Commencing at 6.30 pm will be our annual **Presentation Night**. It is an occasion to recognize and celebrate student achievement and to reflect on what a great school Peak Hill Central School is for our young people.

Have a good fortnight!

**Mrs Paula Payne**  
**Principal**

You were put on this earth to achieve your greatest self, to live out your purpose, and to do it courageously.  
- Dr. Steve Maraboli

[www.stevemaraboli.com](http://www.stevemaraboli.com)

## **PRESENTATION CEREMONY**

# 2015



**PEAK HILL  
CENTRAL SCHOOL**

We invite all family, friends and community members to join us for our annual Presentation Ceremony.

The ceremony will be held on **Monday 14 December** commencing at **6.30pm** under the School Cola.

We encourage everyone to join us in acknowledging and celebrating the successes of 2015.



# Drama Spotlight

Stage 2 has been studying Aboriginal Dreaming during their Drama classes this term. Ms Corina Barnes told the class a Dreaming story from her home town about the Bunyip. We discussed some of the

messages that are learnt from these stories, with students providing insight into different Dreaming stories that they were aware of- some that had been told to them by parents, grandparents or aunts and uncles.

Our exploration then involved looking at totems. From here, students had the opportunity to work individually or in groups to develop their own short movement sequence based on a native animal. (Many of the students used their totem.) Unfortunately we ran out of time to teach the class the movement sequences, but students had the opportunity to present their sequences to their peers.

As we move through the unit, students will bring a Wiradjuri Dreaming story to life through performance. They will then split into small groups and choose another Dreaming story

to workshop through to a performance. This will involve making use of tableau, narration and movement to perform their story.

**Mrs Rachel Cody**

**Drama Teacher**



All students from each of the six Western Access Schools have the opportunity to study one or more of the Vocation Education Training (VET) courses offered in Years 11 and 12. VET courses give all students the advantage of gaining two qualifications while studying one subject. Firstly, VET subjects are 2 unit courses which contribute towards a student's ATAR and secondly students are able to gain a nationally recognised Certificate II or Statement of Attainment towards a Certificate II, within their chosen framework.

Our current Year 11 Hospitality students have the opportunity to travel each term to our exceptional commercial kitchen in Peak Hill (above) for training and assessment.



Students study the full spectrum of personal and environmental hygiene, food and beverage preparation and they develop customer service skills, which helps make them very employable.

During Week 1 of this term, students travelled to Peak Hill to participate in an assessment task where they held a Garden Party Cafe to cater for guests and customers. During Week 6, Hospitality students will be participating in a one week block of work placement in Dubbo, where



they will have the opportunity to work in a busy catering establishment. The level of enthusiasm and competency demonstrated by the class is commendable.





# Future Moves

Over the past couple of weeks, Stage 4 Future Moves has explored how decisions about education and work relate to other major life decisions. Students participated in a simulation whereby they had to make some significant life decisions and consider whether they were able to live within their means.

Students were able to choose a range of accommodation types, modes of transport, as well as various possessions and leisure items. However, every item had an associated cost. Students were then randomly provided an occupation, complete with wage, tax, superannuation contributions and Medicare levy. Students then had to determine what their general living expenses would be per month, and calculate whether they could actually afford to live within their means.

The activity introduced students to the notion of a budget, and some of the harder decisions that have to be made as adults. Many students realised that they had too many 'wants' and they simply could not afford to have everything that they wanted on their wish list- a few went bankrupt! Others were happy to make sacrifices along the way to ensure that they had savings in the bank.



The activity allowed students to see the interrelationship between education and work and that of other major life decisions.

Quite a number of students expressed interest in the CSU Regional Schools Overnight Excursion to Bathurst on 26 and 27 November and would have received a permission note by now. There are still limited places on this excursion. If you would like more information about this excursion, please contact me ASAP.

**Mrs Rachel Cody**

**Future Moves Coordinator**



# Year 12 Banquet 2015









## Primary Awards and News



### Assistant Principal's Award Term 4 Week 4

Maddison Powell and Tijuana Keed

### Act Of Kindness Award Term 4 Week 4

Mundara Read, Clair Sellers, Billy Cohen  
and Roy Read

### Assistant Principal's Award Term 4 Week 5

Jada Read and Bailey Dart (absent from photo)

### Act Of Kindness Award

### Term 4 Week 5

Goran Milinkovic, Sharntelle Schnitger, McKaylah  
McMaster and Elyce Caldwell (absent from photo)



## PEAK HILL CENTRAL SCHOOL

### 95% Attendance Excursion

In **2016**, students in Years K-2 have the opportunity to participate in an **all expenses** paid trip to Dubbo Inflatable World and Dubbo Aquatic Leisure Centre and Park\*. To be eligible, you must have 95% or more attendance for the school year -this includes whole day and partial absences.

\*As part of Peak Hill Central School Increase Attendance Initiative





# Behaviour Code for Students

NSW public schools are committed to providing safe, supportive and responsive learning environments for everyone. We teach and model the behaviours we value in our students.

In NSW public schools students are expected to:

- Respect other students, their teachers and school staff and community members
- Follow school and class rules and follow the directions of their teachers
- Strive for the highest standards in learning
- Respect all members of the school community and show courtesy to all students, teachers and community members
- Resolve conflict respectfully, calmly and fairly
- Comply with the school's uniform policy or dress code
- Attend school every day (unless legally excused)
- Respect all property
- Not be violent or bring weapons, illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco into our schools
- Not bully, harass, intimidate or

discriminate against anyone in our schools

Schools take strong action in response to behaviour that is detrimental to self or others or to the achievement of high quality teaching and learning.

Behaviour Code for Students: Actions

Promoting the learning, wellbeing and safety of all students in NSW Public Schools is a high priority for the Department of Education and Communities.

We implement teaching and learning approaches to support the development of skills needed by students to meet our high standards for respectful, safe and engaged behaviour.

Respect

- Treat one another with dignity
- Speak and behave courteously
- Cooperate with others
- Develop positive and respectful relationships and think about the effect on relationships before acting
- Value the interests, ability and

- Dress appropriately by complying with the school uniform or dress code

- Take care with property

Safety

- Model and follow departmental, school and/or class codes of behaviour and conduct

- Negotiate and resolve conflict with empathy

- Take personal responsibility for behaviour and actions

- Care for self and others

- Avoid dangerous behaviour and encourage others to avoid dangerous behaviour

Engagement

- Attend school every day (unless legally excused)

- Arrive at school and class on time

- Be prepared for every lesson

- Actively participate in learning

- Aspire and strive to achieve the highest standards of learning

The principal and school staff, using their professional judgment, are best placed to maintain discipline and

provide safe, supportive and responsive learning environments.

The department provides a policy framework and resources such as Legal Issues Bulletins, access to specialist advice, and professional learning to guide principals and their staff in exercising their professional judgment. In this context the NSW Government and the Department of Education and Communities will back the authority and judgment of principals and school staff at the local level.

## PEAK HILL CENTRAL SCHOOL

### 95% Attendance Excursion

In **2016**, students in Years 3-12 have the opportunity to participate in an **all expenses** paid trip to Wet 'n' Wild Sydney\*. To be eligible, you must have 95% or more attendance for the school year -this includes whole day and partial absences.

*This could be YOU!*



\*As part of Peak Hill Central School Increase Attendance Initiative







Education &  
Communities

# Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

## What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

## The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

## What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

## Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.







### **My child won't go to school. What should I do?**

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

### **What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?**

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

### **What age can my child leave school?**

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to [complete their schooling](#).

### **Working in Partnership**

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

**If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.**

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

**Policy, information and brochures:**

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/programs/attendance.php>

**The school leaving age:**

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/leaving/school/index.php>

**Do you need an interpreter?**

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 5129

[www.dec.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au)

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NSW Department of Education and Communities





Peak Hill Preschool Kindergarten Inc.

is now taking

ENROLMENTS for 2016

Children 2- 5 years old

Open: Monday to Friday, 9am - 3pm

We offer quality early childhood education that is play-based and builds upon the strengths and interests of each child, and that reflects the Early Years Learning Framework.

For more information: please call the Preschool on 6869 1655 or email

[peakhillpreschool@aapt.net.au](mailto:peakhillpreschool@aapt.net.au) or visit

[www.peakhillpreschool.net.au](http://www.peakhillpreschool.net.au)

95-97 Euchie St, Peak Hill NSW 2869

*Peak Hill Preschool Kindergarten Inc. is a not-for-profit community based preschool.*

*CELEBRATING 50 YEARS IN 2016*



## Sport and Recreation's Swim and Survive lessons

Australian summers usually involve plenty of fun in and around the water, but no parent should forget how important it is to make sure children stay safe.

Sport and Recreation's Swim and Survive classes for preschoolers and school-aged children help youngsters learn important ways to be safe and enjoy our pools, rivers, beaches and lakes.

The intensive nine-day programs provide wonderful results, and are great fun as well. Plus, family discounts make our program affordable for all the children in the family.

Sport and Recreation runs Swim and Survive classes in pools throughout regional NSW.

Our instructors are nationally qualified and screened for their suitability to work with children.

**Prices for nine lessons are \$69 for school-aged children and \$49 for preschoolers (prices exclude pool entry fee).**

For more information or to make a booking, visit  
[sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/swimandsurvive](http://sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/swimandsurvive)  
or phone 13 13 02

