Dear Parents,

Last week we conducted our school elections to fill positions of Captain, Vice-Captain, Student Body Representative and Sport Captains. It was an extremely close election—only four votes between our School Captain and Vice Captain and one vote between Bridgeman House Captains!

All of our Yr 6 leaders attended a primary students’ leadership day at the Mackay Entertainment Centre supervised by Mrs McVean. Homebush State School can be very proud of how our Yr 6 students worked and behaved at this conference. Students learnt some wonderful skills at this day and we look forward to working with them as our student leadership team in 2015.

Leaders for 2015
School Captain–Jack Bell    Vice Captain-Tiah Caban

Date Claimer

Feb 17
• G.R.I.P. Leadership @ MECC for YR 6

Feb 20
• Mobile Library

Feb 23
• Chess Tournament –Rd 1 @ Mercy College

Feb 24
• School Banking

Feb 27
• Playgroup
• School Library

Mar 2
• P&C AGM– All Welcome-2.45pm

Mar 3
• Safety Circus-1pm-Parents Welcome
• School Banking

Mar 6
• Mobile Library
• School Library

Mar 7
• Welcome BBQ/Prink Stumps Day
The P&C will be conducting their AGM on Monday the 2nd of March. Please come along, it’s a great way of taking an active role in your child’s education and a fantastic way to meet new friends. The P&C run various funding raising ventures throughout the year. These funds are used to reduce costs to parents and upgrade equipment.

Welcome BBQ/Pink Stumps Day

It’s such a shame we don’t have a crystal ball and can predict the future, as a result we made the decision to postpone our Welcome BBQ and Pink Stumps Day. Don’t despair, all is not lost, we have set a new date of the 7th of March. Please fill in the invitation attached to give the P&C rough numbers for catering.

Great Results Guarantee

The Queensland Government is investing additional funds in 2015 to improve student performance in Queensland state schools through the Great Results Guarantee.

Over 4 years almost $800 million will be invested in Queensland state schools. This additional funding is being provided to every state, territory and schooling sector by the Federal Government under its Students First—A fairer funding agreement for schools initiative.

All 1233 State and Independent Public Schools will receive a share of the funding and enter into an agreement that commits them to guarantee that every student will either:

- achieve the National Minimum Standard for literacy and numeracy for their year level or
- have an evidence based plan, developed by the school, in place to address their specific learning difficulties.

Under this agreement, schools will have the flexibility and autonomy to decide how the funding should be spent: for example, hiring specialist educators to provide additional support, using targeted professional development for teachers, or buying additional learning tools such as specialised literacy or numeracy programs.

Student performance will be measured throughout the year and schools will be required to demonstrate how the extra funding is helping to maximise learning outcomes for all students.

The Great Results Guarantee for Homebush SS will soon be posted on the school’s website having been distributed, discussed and endorsed by staff, the P&C Association and the Assistant Regional Director.
**Tennis Lessons**
Forms were sent home last the week regarding lunch time Tennis Lessons. If your child would like to attend these lessons please bring the signed form and money on Wednesday to hand to the coordinator. Please note our lessons will be 40min lessons.

**Life Education**
Please take special note of the attached form regarding our Life Education Information Session. Life Education motivates and empowers young people to make smart life choices for a healthy future. The Life Ed Van will be visiting our school on the 31st of March at a cost of $6 per student. There will also be a Parent Information session at 2pm if anyone is interested.

**Safety Circus-Prep-3**
We’re having a special visit from the Safety Circus for Prep-3’s on Tuesday 3rd March. Parents are encouraged to attend.

**Head Lice**
Unfortunately, back to school means head lice! To keep them at bay means regular checks of children’s hair each week. An important thing is to find an effective treatment that doesn’t require putting harsh chemicals onto your child’s head which can then be absorbed into the body.

A cheap, effective treatment is coconut oil and apple cider vinegar.

1. Rinse the hair with the apple cider vinegar, don’t wash it out, and leave it to dry. The vinegar dissolves the ‘glue’ which sticks the eggs to the hair.

2. When the vinegar has dried, pour the coconut oil into the hair, making sure all the hair is covered in oil.

3. Cover the hair with a shower cap and leave it in for a couple of hours. The oil smothers and kills the lice.

4. Comb the hair to get as many of the eggs and lice out as possible.

5. Shampoo as normal
Chess News
We would like to take the opportunity to wish our talented chess players good luck for the upcoming Mackay and Whitsunday Region Chess Tournament. The competition will be held at Mercy College on Monday 23rd February.

After an excellent round of intra-school chess the following students have been selected to represent Homebush SS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team1</th>
<th>Team2</th>
<th>Team3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Braxis Kretschmer</td>
<td>Tiah Caban</td>
<td>Jack Bell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damon Lock</td>
<td>Kierhon Johnson</td>
<td>Pippa Orr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry Thorpe</td>
<td>Raymond Penola</td>
<td>Rhys Davies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harry Thorpe</td>
<td>Blake Goulevitch</td>
<td>Ashton Green</td>
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</tbody>
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Go Homebush legends!

Organisation
Organisation is our focus word for the next few weeks. Being organised assists us to feel confident and helps us to achieve more.

It is really important that we are organised ready to start learning at the beginning of the day. You can help your child be organised by ensuring they have had enough sleep by setting a regular, early bed time, by providing a healthy breakfast, making sure they have a nutritious lunch for the day and making sure they arrive at school on time.

Students need to be at school at 8:15am to go into their classroom to get organised for the day. This enables them to be ready for learning to begin at 8:30am.
Getting to know...  Mrs Nilsson

Family members: Andrew-Husband   Teenage Children– Tim, Sarah & Chris

Years Teaching: Since 1986

Favourite Food: Mexican

Favourite Beverage: Chia Latte and Sour Grape Juice

Favourite Pastime: Camping, fishing and patchwork

Favourite Music: Paul Kelly

First Job: Coles Variety Store-Record Bar (you are showing your age if you know what this is)

REQUEST TO EMAIL OUR NEWSLETTER

Please send my Newsletter via Email

NAME………………………………………………………………..

EMAIL ADDRESS…………………………………………………..

Please send home a hard copy our the Newsletter

NAME………………………………………………………………..

CHANGE TO PERSONAL DETAILS

Please indicate below if your personal details have changed so we can update our records

Students Name………………..  Parents Name……………………………………..

Address………………………………………………………………..

Phone No………………………………………………………………..

Email………………………………………………………………..

Medical Conditions…………………………………………………….