Welcome to Year 4 Parent Information Session.

“It is not what we do for our children, but what we have taught them to do for themselves that will make them successful human beings.”

The teaching team for this year is:
4A Kerry Staff- kstaf1@eq.edu.au
4B Mary Klease - mklea1@eq.edu.au
4C Fiona Caffery - fcaff1@eq.edu.au
4D Cathy Hall- clesl7@eq.edu.au
MC Graham McDougall- gmcd021@eq.edu.au

General Information:

Absenteeism: Please let your child’s teacher know when your child is going to be absent as it is a legal requirement that daily attendance be recorded. An e-mail via our absenteeism link on our website: absences@highfieldsss.eq.edu.au, a phone call to the office, a note or email is essential as all days absent require an explanation by the parent. Children who are leaving early must be signed out via the office.

Behaviour: Children are encouraged to be responsible for their own behaviour. The classroom teacher will address any behaviour issues in the first instance. Children are expected to follow the school values which are: Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be a Learner.

Bookwork: Highfields State School has a school bookwork policy which aims to set out the expectation standard for book work presentation. This policy will assist students to develop organisational and presentation skills and positive attitudes. Please refer to the Highfields Website for more information.

Brain Break: This is a quick nutritious break at approximately 10:00. Items such as small pieces of fruit, crackers, vegetables (carrot and celery sticks) are advised. Whole pieces of fruit such as apples take much longer to eat and would be better saved for first break. Drinking water is vital and so a water bottle is encouraged.

Chaplaincy: This service is available to all children and parents at the school and may be accessed by filling in a form requesting this service.

Choir: Junior Choir operates each Wednesday morning from 8:30. There is an expectation that children who join the choir make a concerted effort to attend all rehearsals.

Curriculum: The Australian Curriculum continues to be implemented into all Queensland Schools this year, and will gradually replace the current Queensland curriculum. This year English, Maths, Science, History and Geography Australian Curriculum are implemented.

The year 4s access LOTE (Languages Other Than English) which is, at Highfields, Japanese and the sensei for this subject area is Mrs Majella Costello.
Parents and carers can support their child’s education by familiarising themselves with the Australian Curriculum, to understand what their child will be learning at each stage of their schooling. Further information regarding this can be accessed at the following address:
http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au

Cyber safety: Be aware of how your children use the internet, the cybersafety issues they face and strategies to manage risks. Remember that once information is posted it is there for everyone to see. Cyberbullying includes teasing, spreading online rumours and sending unwanted or threatening messages or defamatory material. When students enrol you, and the student sign an internet agreement at school outlining protocols for behaviour. Parents need to monitor age appropriate on-line content. For more information visit:
www.cybersmart.gov.au

Extra-curricular Activities: Children will be given the opportunity to attend Swimming, Arts Council, Murri Migaloo Magic session at Amaro and Year 4 Camp at Murphy’s Creek Adventure Camp.

Guidance: We have a Guidance Officer at the school who is available to all children. If you would like your child to access the guidance officer please notify your child’s teacher.

Homework: Homework tasks are designed to promote self-discipline by encouraging students to accept responsibility for their study and timetabling and to encourage students to develop positive attitudes to their learning.

Years 4 tasks should not exceed half an hour. These are maximum times and it is not imperative that sufficient work for these times be given each night.

Instrumental Music Program: This operates during school time and offers children the chance to play a string, brass or woodwind instrument. There is an expectation that when children leave the general class for their instrumental lesson that they catch up on the work that they may have missed. There needs to be a strong commitment towards daily practice of their instrument.

Interviews: From time to time you may want to talk to your child’s teacher. An appointment is encouraged as this allows quality time for you to chat to your child’s teacher about any concerns you may have. You can make an appointment to see your child’s teacher via a phone call or a note directly to your child’s teacher to arrange a time that suits everyone. It is important that concerns are raised early and addressed to ensure success for everyone.

Invoices: Cut-off date for activities is 5 business days before the activity otherwise your child will not be allowed to participate.

Newsletter: The delivery of our newsletter is electronic as this allows us to greatly reduce our carbon footprint and saves valuable resources. The newsletter will be sent via e-mail to the address you have provided to the school.
P&C: The school has a very active P&C committee who has a strong commitment to provide quality resources and services to the school. It can only continue this commitment if it has a strong membership base and is always looking for new members.

Tuckshop: The tuckshop system for 4-7 is via a bag order that is placed in the class tuckshop box in the morning and collected at the second break. There is no ‘bag system’ for morning tea and the children will have to line up at the tuckshop to purchase items for morning tea.

Support Services - Support Teacher Literacy and Numeracy: Mrs Janet Thompson is our Support Teacher.

Mr. Warren Merchant Year 4 Teachers
(Principal)

NOT EVERYTHING THAT YOU CAN MEASURE IS IMPORTANT AND NOT EVERYTHING THAT IS IMPORTANT CAN BE MEASURED.

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