Dear Stafford Heights Families and Friends

Our year has started off busy and continues to be so with lots of exciting things in the next coming weeks.

At Stafford Heights State School, Reading remains one of our Core Priorities for 2018. Your child would already be bringing home their blue Home Reading card for you to sign after listening to, or read to your child. We aim to have all of our students consistently completing home reading and working towards joining our “100” Reading Club. Being a member of this club allows them to wear the blue reading wrist band and attend morning teas throughout the year with me. If students read every night and complete their reading card with you they would reach membership into the “100” club on 15 May this year. Short term reading goals along the way to this milestone are 25, 50 and 75, all of which are rewarded with special Reading Club bookmarks. An earlier launch of our Reading Club this year will allow for our very keen readers to reach membership into our “300” club by the end of the year.

A new initiative at SHSS this year is Stop, Drop, Read. This will be happening on Monday and Tuesday mornings from 8.55am to 9.05am and involves our whole school community. All students, staff and visitors to our school will be stopping and silently reading for 10 minutes. The idea behind this initiative is to not only build students stamina with reading independently but also create an opportunity for them to enjoy a book and witness adult role models throughout the school taking a break and reading for pleasure, relaxation and information. Look out for our Stop, Drop, Read posters around the school and feel free to join us in the mornings from week 5 this term.

Our Leader Induction and Badge Presentation Assembly was held on Friday 9 February. Congratulations to the following Senior Student Leaders for 2018 and Student Council Representatives:

School Captains – Jake and Ella
Wickham House Captains - Uniqwa and Kyah
Norman House Captains – Eshraka and Judah
Laver House Captains – Bree and Ben
Choir Captain – Kennadee-Lee
Band Captain – Alex B
PBL Leaders - Cooper, Winn, Mia, Chloe, Tiffany, Brhea, Ben, Judah, Bree and Eshraka.


Thank you to our 2017 school captains Mia and John for being a part of our ceremony, presenting our incoming captains with their badges.

This year SHSS is running a series of Prep Student Pre-Enrolment Events. This includes several different activities across the terms. The Stafford Heights Kindy will be participating in these mornings and we invite any school community member, or if you know of anyone with a pre-prep age child, to come along. Please check our school Facebook page for the calendar of special events and contact the office to book your spot.

Abi Hurdley
A/Principal
We are looking forward to welcoming new and returning faces to the first P&C meeting for the year - to be held in the School library at 7pm next Tuesday, 20 February.

Community Education - Are you looking for a part time job that would help you get to know your community a little better? Please see the position advertised on SEEK for our Community Education Coordinator. Applications close this Friday.

If you have a talent or skill that you would like to share with others, consider running a class as part of Community Education next term. Email Bridget at learn@staffordheightscommunityed.com

Car Boot/Market Stalls - Have anything to sell or a business you’d like to promote? Then why not a book a stall at the Pink Stumps Day, coming up on our oval Saturday March 10. Stall sites are just $10. Email us at staffordheightspandc@gmail.com

Positive Behaviour for Learning
PBL focus for Week 5: We go, flush, wash
This week students are learning to GO, FLUSH, WASH when using the toilet. Students will be showing respect for self and others by using the toilet properly then flushing the toilet and washing their hands.

Week 6: Sit to eat
This week we have been talking about sitting to eat, walk to the line-up area for play and putting rubbish in the bin. It is important to keep our eating area clean and tidy by putting rubbish in the bin after we have been sitting to eat so that we can enjoy our food and talk quietly with our friends.

Respect Award
February 1
Zeni,
Absent: Eva, Jordan, Preston and Riley

Coles Earn and Learn vouchers
The Coles Earn and Learn promotion is on again this year – for each $10 you spend at Coles you will get a voucher that ultimately goes towards new sporting equipment for our school. Please bring your vouchers to the office and we’ll put them in the collection box.

CHOIR NEWS
BOYS CHOIR Rehearsal time change
In the next week or two, students in the Boys’ Choir will be invited to have Choir rehearsals with the girls on Wednesday afternoons from 3 – 4 pm. This will be a permanent change for 2018, and will be trialed to see if this is successful. Our cohort of girls in the Choir this year is a little smaller and our Boys’ Choir can be accommodated in our Wednesday afternoon rehearsal time. This change has also been in response to our boys not wanting to miss playtime in lunchbreaks while at school. Could all boys attending the new Wednesday afternoon rehearsal time please return a new permission slip which allows children to attend Choir as an out-of-school activity.

Thankyou.
Mrs. Shephard

Class Reading Focus
In 4/5 this term, we are reading Deltora Quest. This book will help us write our own fantasy story. We are looking at good and evil character traits and settings that represent a fantasy story. Our reading focus for this term is inferring. We are using text clues to analyse our thoughts and feelings on characters and settings.

Home Reading cards were handed out last week to students. These cards are to be signed every night/morning your child reads. Once they have read for 100, 200 and 300 days, they will receive a band and will be invited to a morning tea, exclusively for the SHSS Reading Club members. The 100 days of reading will be on May 15th (Term 2 week 5) – so mark that down on your calendar and keep reading!

My Favourite Book – Mrs Jardine
The reason I like this book is because it is full of short stories about Aussie Legends, Icons and Animals, from various areas and eras of Australia. Amazing sportsman, artists and animal like Dawn Fraser, Albert Namatjira, Phar Lap, the building of the Sydney Opera House and the development of Surf Life Saving and many many more stories

Mrs Armstrong
For more than 30 years I have favoured this recipe book, “The Australian Women’s Weekly Cooking Class Cookbook.” Two things make it very special
to me: 1. It was a gift from my sister, Anne; 2. It has the best Beef Stroganoff recipe...EVER!

Contact details
Parents - please ensure you update any change in contact details including email addresses.

Birthdays
Happy birthday wishes to the following students who will be celebrating birthdays in February:
Scarlett C, Emily G, Bree, Ryder, Peppa, Kaitlyn K, Cassius, Charlie S, Indy S and Jake T-S

Absences
*** PLEASE REPORT YOUR CHILD’S ABSENCE ***
using any of the following:
- Phone: 3621 2333 OR 3621 2360
- email Absences@staffordheightss.eq.edu.au, OR
- send a note to the Office

Unless you give us a reason for the absence an UNEXPLAINED absence is entered into One School. We will be sending a letter home for you to advise the reason of any unexplained absences – please return this letter to the office.
Please remind children to come to the office for a late slip if they arrive after 9:00am.

Student of the Week

February 1

Prep/1 Will – good listening on the carpet
1/2 Charlie P – working hard on all tasks
2/3 Jake – always doing his best work
4/5 Dexter – being a superstar student
5/6 Ben – being ready to learn
LOTE Chloe – paying attention, tackling challenges and helping her classmates to be on task. Well done!
Music Eshraka – being a great community member by