



Newsletter No. 18 14 December 2017

NEWSLETTER

Inside this Issue

Page	Article				
No.2	Celebration of Excellence, Crescendo				
No.3	Parent Helpers Thank You, School Captains,				
	School Leaders, 2018 House Captains & Vice				
	Captains, Congratulations Kindergarten				
No.4	Merry Christmas, 2018 Major Fundraiser,				
	Term Dates				
No.5	Building STEAM, Quakers Got Talent, Year 6				
	Farewell				
No.6	Minecraft Article, OPAL Cards				
No.7	EFTPOS and POP Payments				
No.8	Cool Kids Music				
No.9-12	Advertising				

Important Dates

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Date	Event
15/12/17	Last Day of Term 4
	Cool Kids Concert
	Little Library Christmas Theme
18/12/17	Staff Development Day
19/12/17	Staff Development Day
29/01/18	Staff Development Day
30/01/18	Years 1-6 Back to School
02/02/18	Kindergarten Back to School

School Banking each Wednesday Uniform Shop each Monday (8:45am to 10am)

From the Principal Staff Changes - Robyn Simmons

It is with great sadness that I announce that Mrs Robyn Simmons will be leaving Quakers Hill at the end of Term 4 after over 20 years at Quakers Hill Public School as classroom teacher and Rel. Assistant Principal. Mrs Simmons has decided to retire at the end of 2017. This of

course is wonderful news for Mrs Simmons as she commences her new journey in life. Mrs Simmons carried out her role as an educator with great pride, determination and enthusiasm ensuring that our children were provided with exceptional learning opportunities. Mrs Simmons' enthusiasm, passion and commitment to the staff, students and community of Quakers Hill Primary School will be greatly missed. She has been the heart and soul of Quakers Hill for a very long time.



Mrs Simmons' long history at Quakers has been filled with numerous achievements, wonderful memories, amazing friendships with staff and parents and a close rapport with the students. The sum total of a school is always about the people who are in it and the relationships that are developed and fostered. Mrs Simmons has, since her arrival, held and

demonstrated this core belief. She has worked tirelessly with our school community (staff, students and parents) building a shared vision and connectedness in order for the school to achieve and continue to all of the programs, initiatives and targets that have been set out.

As a classroom teacher and Rel. Assistant Principal, Mrs Simmons has held the belief that strong communication and a foundation built on relationships and mutual respect is paramount for any successful school and Mrs Simmons embedded this philosophy within the culture of the school.

Mrs Simmons' wish for our beautiful school, is for the school to continue to be proud of its rich past and excited about the future ahead, for Quakers Hill to be a school community where its students, parents and teachers proudly talk about the school and advocate that it is a school that is built on 'innovation-excellence-success''.

On behalf of our school community I wish Mrs Simmons the very best as she enters her retirement, she will always hold a very dear place in our hearts.

Thank you for your wonderful 'service to students.'

Celebration of Excellence Assembly



Celebration of Excellence assembly 2017 was the culmination of what quite simply a hugely successful year filled with so many innovative programs, outstanding achievements and important successes across all facets of school life, both in the academic and non-academic areas. Certificates, trophies and medallions were awarded were awarded for academic success, sporting success, success in the performing arts, leadership and citizenship.

Although we celebrated the achievements of a select number of children across all facets of school life, it is also important that we acknowledge the efforts and achievements of all of our students not just the award recipients. Presentation Day was all about recognising the achievements and successes of all 970 of our wonderfully dedicated, beautiful students who have demonstrated success in their learning and have been acknowledge either through the school's award process (blue award, merit certificates, assistant principal's award, principal's award/medallion, Quakers Stars and the caught you being good slips), as well as the many and varied other extracurricular awards and certificates.

The Celebration of Excellence Assembly was an

acknowledgement of Quakers Hill and the four unique, wonderful and equally important groups. Our talented, enthusiastic and wonderful classroom practioners and support staff, our truly supportive community, who have helped to shape the vision of our school and to create a truly family feel to our quality learning environment. And of course our wonderful P&C, who on behalf of the community help to provide pour staff and our students with state of the art resources and of course our future, the students of Quakers Hill.

It is also important to acknowledge the achievements of the 56 students in Year 6 who have gained entry in to selective high schools, the 13 Year 4 students who have gained placement in an opportunity class for 2018, the 80 students who have been placed in the school's enrichment classes for 2018 and the children who sat the international school's competition and achieved outstanding results. Just to name a few.

Congratulations Quakers Hill, innovation, excellence and success is embedded across every part of school life. Our banner statement is our mantra, our reason for being, and this was once again demonstrated throughout 2017. At Quakers Hill we will always work with our students to imagine the possibilities, believe in the possibilities and create the possibilities.

CRESCENDO - (Lights-Action-Camera) Performance Arts Groups





On Monday afternoon and evening our sensational performing arts groups performed at the annual Quakers Hill Public School CRESCENDO night.

Our masters of ceremony introduced 15 amazing acts to a sold out audience. Our community were treated to performances ranging from our truly wonderful Aboriginal Dance Group through to our brilliant Stage 1 Dance Group.

The night was the culmination of the hard work and dedication that our students and staff have shown over the past 12 months practicing and presenting at various venues, ending in Monday night's outstanding show. The evening is replete with quality performances, outstanding talents and wonderful costumes and stagging. An amazing night where once again our students were provided with the opportunity to Imaging-Believe-Create.

Congratulations to all of our wonderfully talented students and equally talented staff. You were BRILLIANT!

Parent Helpers – Thank you



Our annual parent helper morning tea was held on Friday 8 December. This was our way of thanking our magnificent parent helpers. Quakers Hill staff and students value the wonderful support of our parent and community helpers who help us to provide our students with all of the curricular and extra-curricular opportunities. Our school has a wonderful connection and connectedness with our parents and this relationship is an important one as it defines who we are. Nothing is more important to us, that our parents working hand in hand to ensure that our children have the very best education.

School Captains

Congratulations to Anastasia Prokhorov and Romeo Abran 2018 School Captains and Sachi Gautam and Akila Gunaratne (Vice Captains). These four wonderful, altruistic, young individuals have had the trust of the students and staff placed upon them, and I am absolutely positive that these wonderful, caring individuals will represent the school and student body with great pride, enthusiasm and maturity. Congratulations to our Captains and Vice Captains, I know you'll be outstanding ambassadors for the school, demonstrating our expectations and upholding the wonderful reputation that Quakers Hill enjoys in the community.

A wonderful thanks you to our 2017 Captains Iqra Razzak and Zachary Abran and Vice Captains Ashleigh Out and Calvin Kusnadi and the entire school leadership team who performed their duties as our school leaders with great maturity and dedication. These four truly altruistic students have been outstanding role models for all students. They have demonstrated our school expectations with so much pride.

School Leaders 2018

Congratulations to the following students who have been elected by the students of Quakers Hill to represent them and the school in 2018;

Francesca Martinez, Kaileb McDonald, Althea Ravelo, Manuja Dayananda, Emily Wu, Tommy Downes, Rianda San Juan, Angelo Varghese Paul

Our 2018 leaders have had the trust of the students and staff placed upon them. The teachers and students believe in their abilities and skills and I am sure that they uphold our school expectations and banner statement.

2018 House Captains and Vice Captains

BABBILLA

Captains - Zach Seckold & Danielle Seckold **Vice Captains -** Savina Liyananda & Tigerlily Henderson-Smith

DERRIWONG

Captains - Jai Greenaway & Sophie Tran
Vice Captains - Andre Cherian & Emma-Lee Overton

KERRIBEE

Captains - Rishi Maram & Sami Malik
Vice Captains - Yuna Cho & Jennifer Mailei

WARRIMOO

Captain - Kairo Aruallo & Alexandra Prokhorov **Vice Captains -** Darsh Uppili & Shayna Fernando

Congratulations Kindergarten

The end of 2017 marks a very important milestone for our beautiful Kindergarten students - the completion of their first year at "big school". What a wonderful year these wonderful young students have had, experiencing so many wonderful learning opportunities and achieving so many educational successes. I am very proud of each and every one of these student. Their progress has been simply stunning. Make no mistake, our Kindergarten teachers have ensured that each and every one of our Kindy kiddies have been provided with an outstanding foundation year.

So Long, Farewell, Good Bye



On Wednesday 6 December our wonderful Year 6 students attended their Year 6 Farwell and Lily's restaurant. The evening marked the culmination of Primary School for our amazing students. These fine young individuals made the night a memorable experience, demonstrating great maturity. Our school expectations were evident throughout the night as our wonderful seniors mingled and danced the night away.

Merry Christmas



On behalf of the staff and myself, I would like to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

Thank you for your continued support of our beautiful school and for being the very best parents in NSW. I continue to be humbled by your friendship, loyalty and generosity. Together we have and continue to create a shared vision for Quakers Hills, providing our students with the outstanding educational resource. Together we have placed Quakers Hill as a leader in public education. Together we have and continue to write wonderful, bright new chapters for our school. Together we continue to ensure that our school is at the forefront of education and indeed an innovator in education. Together we have transformed our school as future focused school, and one that continually evolves and embrace change.

As our banner statement says, **Innovation-excellence-success**, it defines us, it sets us apart, it tells our community that quality teaching and learning is embedded into every single classroom, that our students are provided life shaping learning opportunities across many areas and that our students are provided with the skills, knowledge and tools to become successful, happy lifelong learners. Thank you for a wonderful 2017 and I am looking forward to an incredibly exciting 2018.

I look forward to seeing you and welcoming our new families and our 1000+ students and their families in 2018.

2018 - Major Fundraiser

The school's major fundraiser for 2018 will be held in February/March. The theme for next year's fundraiser is yet to be determined.

All money raised from the fundraiser will go directly towards complementing and extending our providing our kiddies with the very best resources.

Last year's fundraiser raised in excess of \$28 000, and I am hoping that we will be able to match this in 2017. Remember this is our only **major** funding activity planned by the school. If each child raised \$35 each this target would easily be reached.

Term Dates

Staff Development Day Term 4, 2017 – Friday 15 December is the last day of school for students. Please make alternative arrangements for your child(ren). Vacation care services will be available via our before and after school care providers. All enquiries should be directed through them.

Students in Years 1-6 commence 2018 on Tuesday 30 January 2018. Kindergarten students start school on Friday 2 February 2018.

December's core value is EXCELLENCE - Striving for the highest personal achievement in all aspects of schooling and individual and community action, work and life-long learning.

Bert Lo Campo - Principal

Building STEAM! - Stage 2 Science Fair



Over three days in Week 9, Stage 2 opened their doors and invited the community into their classrooms for a science fair called *Building STEAM!* The students showcased a variety of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics) and coding projects, that they had been working collaboratively on throughout Semester 2. *Building STEAM* was an excellent opportunity for the students to share their knowledge and understanding with their families and friends. After the event, the students were buzzing from the experience. The teachers received lots of positive feedback from the community, who loved the opportunity to share the students' learning and achievements. A big thank you to everyone who made *Building STEAM* a huge success!

Rosannagh Ryan

Quakers Got Talent

On Thursday 7 December the question was posed... does Quakers Hill have talent? Well, the Stage 3 students have answered and it is an outstanding YES! Quakers Got Talent! From singing and dancing to comedy skits galore, the students of Stage 3 have impressed their teachers, peers and the community with their courage, creativity

and of course talent.

Thank you to Mr Hynes for organising the event and to the wonderful students who put up their hands to participate, it was truly an entertaining morning for all.



Year 6 Farewell - Sadly, it has come to that time of year again. Time to wish farewell to a wonderful group of students who have lead this school with pride, integrity and care. The students of Year 6 gathered at Lilys Function Centre in Seven Hills to party the night away in celebration of their time here at Quakers Hill Public School and take part in their official graduation ceremony. The night was a great success, with staff commenting on how well-behaved the students were and how the Farewell dance floor has never been so lively. Thank you to the Stage 3 staff for putting the night together and all staff who attended in wishing the students of Year 6 2017 a fond farewell.

Stephanie Bowman

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NEWS 07

OUAKERS HILL

Mining knowledge online

Children love using educational version of Minecraft as part of trial at 10 public schools



MINECRAFT'S virtual world of creepers, villagers and blocks is all the rage at Quakers Hill Public School.

But the wildly popular emputer game is being used

A special education edi-tion of the program is being trailed in 10 NSW schools to engage students in their studies and increase computer literacy. The State Gov-ernment plans to expand the trial to 10,000 student places to help boost learning.

"We are not seeing kids locked in a room by them-selves in front of a computer screen," Education Minister Rob Stokes said.

"Instead, we are demysti-fying the use of technology."

Rosannagh Ryan, Quakers Hill Public's assistant principal, said the virtual program had been "really

coasters and explore friction and gravity. technologicall us to visualis a deep dialogue and they are ter," she said.

really engaged," she said. Yashika Saravanan, 10, said she loved using Minecraft in the classroom.

The class 34K student said it made lessons much more

interesting. "I love how we get to build things from our imagination and how we get to share our marvellous creations with our teachers and friends," she said.

We use Minecraft in the classroom to recreate worlds we read about in books.

Shirin Balakrishnan

"I have designed and re-created Camp Half Blood, which is the place Percy ted in the Percy Jackson book."

her students are using Minecraft to recreate scenes from books and build rollerilluminate our imagination technologically, which helps us to visualise things bet-



Reminder to students who currently use an Opal card

Please update personal details with Opal before the 31st December 2017.

https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails

New Cards will be mailed out during the 3rd week of January.

Any students moving from infants to primary (Yr2 to Yr3) will only receive a new Opal card should they meet the eligibility. You will receive an email from Opal if your child is no longer eligible for an Opal card.

There is no need for any student to reapply provided they remain at the same school with the same residential address.

Any queries please contact Transport NSW 131 500

NEW EFTPOS FACILITIES

The school office now has an Eftpos machine and can take credit and debit card payments.

<u>Eftpos payments can only be made between the hours of 8.30am to 2.00pm</u> as we need to balance the money at the end of the day.

You can also pay by **cash** and by the **online payment** option on our school website. Please remember when paying online that you need to pay before 5pm for the school to see the payment the next day.



DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN PAY ONLINE?

Many families are now using the school's online payment option linked to our school website to pay for school related expenses. This is a secure payment page hosted by Westpac.

What expenses can be paid online?

- Voluntary Contributions
- Excursions
- Sport
- Creative and Practical Arts
- Sales to Students
- Other (any items not listed above)

Unfortunately, payments to the uniform shop and P&C cannot be accepted via this system.

How do I make a payment?

Go to the school website.

Click on make a payment, found on the front page of the school website.

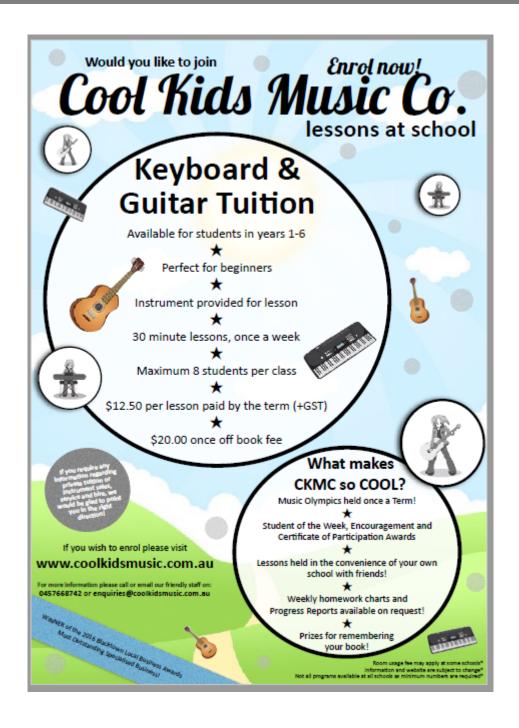
- 1. In the student and payer details, fill in all the **green asterix** items. (These are compulsory)
- 2. Choose a payment option.
- 3. Enter the amount you are paying and the payment description (Eg: the name of the excursion)
- 4. Enter credit card details.
- 5. Confirm payment details.
- 6. Receive online payment receipt.

Pay before 6pm for the school to receive your payment the next working day.

How do I let the school know I paid online?

Please write the receipt number on the permission note and return to the school.

Making an online payment does not constitute permission. Please return all signed permission notes as per normal.









Wesley Out of School Hours Care Calendar

December 2017 and January 2018 - Pupil Free Days

Monday 18th December 2017 Xmas disco and face panting **Christmas Craft and Cooking** School is finished for the year and Christmas is on Christmas is almost here! the way. And Christmas is the theme of the day! NEXT MOVE will be coming out to our service to Have fun with your have a fun disco with us and do some face friends cooking, painting. creating and join in on lots of exciting and fun activities! \$15 extra per child Monday 29th January 2018 Messy Day It is back to school tomorrow so we will have a fun day getting messy and participating in lots of hands on arts and crafts. Don't forget to wear some old clothes today so we can enjoy the messy day without the worry.

For enquiries phone (02) 9626 1260 or email oosh@wesleymission.org.au Open 6.30am- 6.30pm- Pupil free days only



Wesley Out of School Hours Care Calendar

January 2018

Monday 8 th January	Tuesday 9 th January	Wednesday 10 th January	Thursday 11 th January	Friday 12 ^m January
Bringing in the New Year	OOSH Talent Show	Bollywood Dancing	Get wet day	Movies Excursion
Today we will celebrate the new year and being back at OOSH.	Be ready to take the stage in the OOSH talent show.	Have you tried Bollywood dancing before? Today we will learn the art of the	Its summer and it's hot. Bring a change of clothes and a towel so you can participate in	Take the bus to our local movie theatre in Rouse Hill to relax in the air-conditioning and watch
Bring in something to show and tell from your holidays so far or from Christmas time.	Get together with friends or go solo and dance, sing or show your special talent in our show.	beautiful dancing as we get taught how to dance it.	some water splash games and have fun with your friends under the sprinkler.	one of the latest movies at the Reading cinemas. (G rated movie will be advised on Monday 8 th Jan)
Electronics day	Electronics day	\$12 extra per child	Participate in crafts and games if you don't want to get wet	\$22 extra per child
Monday 15 th January	Tuesday 16 th January	Wednesday 17 th January	Thursday 18 th January	Friday 19 th January
African Drumming	Get wet day	Bowling and laser tag	Celebrity All Stars Day	Sustainability Day
Incursion	Its summer and it's hot.	Excursion	Come to OOSH dressed as your	Enjoy the fun activities as you
Have your	Bring a change of clothes and a	Take a bus ride to Blacktown	favourite celebrity or All-star and	take part in learning more about
rhythm and groove ready	towel so you can participate in some water splash games and	Westpoint to participate in bowling and a game of laser tag	be ready to walk down the red carpet.	recycling, replenishment, growing things and planet earth.
to learn how to	have fun with your friends under	(if you are old enough). You will also receive some tokens to	Certificates for best dressed and maybe a meet and great with a	
play the African drums today.	the sprinkler.	play the fun games with your	real celebrity	
\$13 extra per child	Participate in crafts and games if you don't want to get wet	friends \$28 extra per child	Electronics day	Electronics day
Monday 22 nd January	Tuesday 23 ^{ro} January	Wednesday 24 th January	Thursday 25 th January	Friday 26 th January
Fizzics education	Get wet day	Australia Day	Chipmunks Excursion	Australia Day
Incursion	Its summer and it's hot.	It's Australia day this Friday so	Chipmunks is an Indoor play	Public Holiday
Put science to the test as Fizzics Education come out to us to do	Bring a change of clothes and a	to celebrate this wonderful county of ours we will bake	centre for Kids. It is designed for kids to have	,
some crazy experimental	towel so you can participate in some water splash games and	some famous Aussie recipes	unlimited fun by helping them	rest.
workshops with us.	have fun with your friends under	and focus on doing lots of	use their imagination and creativity!	
The State of	the sprinkler.	Australian arts	Lunch is included!!	Australia Day
\$16 extra per child	Electronics day	and crafts Electronics day	\$27 extra per child	Australia Day

For enquiries phone (02) 9626 1260 or email oosh@wesleymission.org.au

Open 7am-6pm



Your family is invited...

To enjoy an afternoon of adventure and an evening of entertainment at Carols in the Valley

Join us at Wesley Vision Valley for a fun-filled family Christmas event, including performances from local Christian house band 'Chasing Light' as well as special performances from local schools, and a visit from Santa!

There'll be plenty of activities including swimming, waterslide, jumping castle, face painting, prizes, giveaways, and lots more! A gold coin donation for each activity will help disadvantaged young people through the Wesley Operation Hope program.

Pre-order a delicious family hamper online, or purchase coffee from 2Bros Food Truck, as well as burgers, hot chips, wedges and more from our food and beverage stalls at the event.

Date: Saturday 16 December 2017
Family activities: 3 pm - 6 pm
Evening carols: 6 pm - 8 pm

Location: Wesley Vision Valley, Arcadia

(Parking via 19 Geelans Road, Arcadia) Tickets: Tickets to Carols in the Valley are free, but registration is essential.

Book your tickets now at

wesleymission.org.au/carolsinthevalley

Find us on Instagram – @wesleyvisionvalley
Tag us in your photos #carolsinthevalley2017

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