Parents and Community Members,

It’s Week 8—only 2 weeks until holidays!

Students have been working well through their second Australian Curriculum unit and results are starting to show. All staff have noticed an improvement in student outcomes in just a short period of time. Please be aware that over the next two weeks we will begin formal assessment of student learning, so it is extremely important that students are attending school every day.

SCHOOL PARADE
School parade was held on Tuesday. This week we only had only 1 award handed out—to Sam Curr. Sam has shown exceptional self-awareness in his own behaviour and is showing some excellent leadership as one of the older students in the school. Well done Sam!

SCHOOL PHOTOS
School photos from 2011 are available for purchase from the school. Please see Shea or myself to discuss purchasing school photos. There are class and individual photos available.

P&C AGM
A reminder that P&C will hold their Annual General Meeting on Monday, 19th of March. The election of the P&C executive will occur at this meeting. If you are interested in becoming a member of P&C, please come along to the meeting.

SWIMMING
Swimming has been cancelled for the remainder of Term 1 due to staff illness. Students will participate in alternative PE activities instead. Please collect your children from the school every Thursday afternoon for the remainder of Term 1.

CROSS COUNTRY
Very few cross country forms have been returned indicating permission for children to attend the cross country event on the 30th of March at Homestead SS. Please return a completed cross country permission slip as well as a completed cross country sleep-over & meals form so that final numbers can be calculated for this event. Forms are at the back of this newsletter for those who require new forms. Forms not returned by this Friday will mean food will not be ordered for students at the event.

The following message is on behalf of Ms Paula Roberson, Principal Homestead SS.

On the 29th of March 2012, Homestead State School will welcome parents and students from Pentland State School, Ravenswood State School and Greenvale State School to join in a social night prior to hosting of the Interschool Cross Country events the following day.

Families are welcome to arrive at Homestead State School any time after 4pm. Students, parents and staff will mingle until 5pm. Students will then be engaged in an array of party type games prior to dinner being served. At 6pm we will enjoy the BBQ dinner catered for by the Homestead P&C. Following dinner the students will then return to the supervision of the teachers and will continue to participate in a Disco! The lights will go down on the disco at 8.30 at which time it will be time to change into PJ’s and settle into our swags. Lights will be out at 9pm.

Students will be segregated into boys and girls areas. The boys will be sleeping in the classroom while the girls will be sleeping in the library. Staff will supervise students who are sleeping over in these allocated areas. Parents are welcome to camp over as well. Please feel free to bring with your camper trailers, caravans, tents etc!

Unfortunately no shower facilities are available so it is preferred that staff, students and families shower prior to arriving at Homestead State School.
On Friday the 30th, students will be woken around 6.30 to be dressed and in preparation for breakfast at 7.30. Bacon and egg muffins, a selection of cereal and fruit will be served by the Homestead P&C. Following breakfast, students, staff and families are to set up their individual school tents in preparation for a 9.00am start.

The National Anthem and march past will commence at 9.00am. The cross country events will then take place as we begin with the junior students. Morning tea will be scheduled for 10.30 with the senior races to follow. Following the races the presentations of age champions will occur. This will conclude the official components of the day which will be around 12.00. The P&C are also catering for lunch and these packed lunches can be ordered.

Sleepover requirements
If your child is sleeping over they are required to bring their pyjamas, sleeping bag or swag, pillow, toothbrush and other toiletries.

For the cross country day children are required to wear full school uniform on the day and appropriate footwear such as joggers/running shoes. The following items should also be packed for your child water bottle, sunscreen and a wide-brimmed hat.

Please indicate on the form attached your planned intentions and the catering you will be ordering (there is also a revised permission slip on the last page of this newsletter—if you can please complete this).

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**Child Protection & Protective Behaviours Training**

**Child Protection**
1. What is child abuse?
2. Why do we need child protection?
3. What effects does child abuse have on our society?
4. Who is a child abuser or sex offender?
5. How do children become victims?
6. What are the signs I should look for in a child?
7. How do we provide child protection training?
8. Is there a fool proof plan?
9. What can we do as parents and care providers?

**Protective Behaviours**
1. About Protective Behaviours
2. Talking to your child about PG
3. Step 1: Feeling Safe
4. Step 2: “Starting in Good Shape”
5. Step 3: Support Networks
6. Step 4: Having Adventures*
7. Step 5: “I can Handle It”
8. Step 6: Personal Emergencies
9. Step 7: “Safe … Even if”
10. What about babies and toddlers?
11. When Parents/Careers need Protective Behaviours
12. Situation Activities
13. Where to get help.

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**Saturday 28th April 2012**

9:00am to 2:00pm

Charters Towers Neighbourhood Centre

3 Powell Lane Charters Towers

Cost: $30

(Incl. lunch, handouts and Certificate of Attendance)

RSVP & Payment by: 25th April

Please advise of any special needs you have

Ph: 07 4787 4797

Fax: 07 4787 4648

Email: info@ctnc.org.au
Our Purpose: Ravenswood State School exists to provide learning to all stakeholders. We provide a learning environment which supports students in their achievement, facilitated by skilled, professional and compassionate staff.

Permission Note for Cross Country

I, __________________________ give permission for my child/children __________________________ to attend Cluster Cross Country at Homestead State School. I understand the event commences at 9am.

Please indicate below how your child will be travelling to the event:

I will be transporting my child/children in my own vehicle to and from the event described above and am available to assist as a Parent Volunteer.

I will be transporting my child/children in my own vehicle to and from the event described above.

I require transport in the school bus. I give permission for Mrs Bianca Byers (or other nominated driver) to transport my child to and from the event described above.

My child will be transported by another person in their private vehicle. I give consent for __________________________ to transport my child in their private vehicle to travel to and from the event described above. The registration of their vehicle is __________________________ and the make/model is __________________________.

I hold a Heavy Vehicle Licence and would like to register my interest as a Bus Driver if needed. I am also happy to assist as a Parent Volunteer. A copy of my licence is attached.

Signed __________________________

Parent/Guardian

Homestead State School Sleep Over & Interschool Cross Country

Family name: __________________________

Each catering option is $5 per person per meal.

BBQ DINNER
☐ My family will be attending the BBQ. We will be feeding

__________ adults

__________ children

☐ OR

☐ My family will NOT be attending the BBQ

SLEEPOVER
☐ My child/children will be attending the disco and sleeping over

☐ OR

☐ My child/children will be attending the disco only and will not be sleeping over

☐ OR

☐ We will NOT be attending either the disco or sleepover

BREAKFAST
☐ My family will be attending the breakfast. We will be feeding

__________ adults

__________ children

☐ OR

☐ We will NOT be attending the breakfast.

LUNCH
☐ My family will be requiring the packed lunch. We will be feeding

__________ adults

__________ children