**Principal’s and Deputy Principal’s Report**

2014 has been an amazing year, with many wonderful achievements by students, families and school staff. We make a great team! Thankyou to parents and carers for your combined support and co-operation as we work together to build the best possible future for The Hills School Community.

**Celebration of Learning**
The acknowledgement of the achievements of our students was held on Thursday 4th December. Thank you to all the parents who attended, to the students who received the awards and to the school staff.

**Carols under the Stars**
Carols Under the Stars, Friday, 28th November was said to be “The best ever carols night held at our school.” A fabulous night was enjoyed by all and a special thank you to the staff and Northmead Uniting Church who co-ordinated this joyous event.

**PLUS meeting.**
Thank you to the parents who attended and shared their journey.

**Year 12 Graduation**
Our Year 12 Graduation was held on Monday, 8th December and was a fabulous night at the Epping Club. Our students looked amazing; it was fantastic to see them dressed for the occasion. The night was a recognition and celebration of everyone involved. We all had so much fun together. The school community is so proud of our graduates and wish them all the best for their future.

**Farewell**
Often at the end of the year we have to sadly say farewell to some students and permanent staff who are moving into a new phase of life. As a school community we want to acknowledge, and thank you for the years of commitment and achievement . Well done!

Our graduating students are:- John, Naomi, Alicia, Lizelle, James, Jimmy and Sangirth

We wish Georgia the best at her new school which is closer to home.

We are currently filling a number of permanent positions and we will inform our school community of the results in 2015. We look forward with great anticipation to 2015. It is such a privilege working together and seeing the incredible outcomes that have been achieved for the students.

We wish all students, their families and staff, a safe holiday filled with joy, love and peace.

Peter Gurrier-Jones - Principal and Neale Rudland - Deputy Principal
Class News

Bradman PH

As Term 4 comes to an end we reflect on what a wonderful year it has been for the students and staff in Bradman PH. We have enjoyed some wonderful excursions this term, Brewongle Environmental Education Centre, Bowling at Auburn and a trip to the Colo River. The achievements of all our students were acknowledged in our Celebration of Learning Assembly and Mel, Ted and I are extremely proud of our students and their successes in 2014.

We thank the families and carers of James, Michaela, Matthew, Maya, Sam and Hans for their support this year and we wish you a safe, happy and wonderful Christmas and New Year.

Paul Hughes - Classroom Teacher

Freeman KH

This term Freeman KH has experienced many new and exciting learning opportunities! During Leisure Week we went sailing on Sydney Harbour, visited Tobruk Sheep Station, bushwalked around Lane Cove National Park and even enjoyed a barbeque at Fagan Park! In addition, we have also enjoyed cooking pizzas, tacos, an apple and custard tea cake and Christmas gingerbread cookies this term. One of the highlights of our term was visiting Balmoral Beach with Jackson DS!

Katie Higgs – Classroom teacher
**Sterling DT**
Sterling DT had a great time last week at our end of year excursion. We first went to Blaxland Park, where we had lots of fun swinging, sliding, climbing and flying (as in the flying fox!). We had so much fun, listened to our teachers, waited our turn, shared and played with our friends.
We wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a safe, happy, and healthy 2015.
Dean Triffitt – Classroom teacher

**Sterling NW**
This term students of Sterling NW have participated in a range of fun activities at school. We have enjoyed growing bean plants, cooking at grade barbeques, competing at the Swimming Carnival, learning about animals from the Taronga Zoomobile and counting down to Christmas with lots of stories and art. The students particularly enjoyed a variety of music activities, learning to play the keyboard, guitar, drums and other percussion instruments. The students completed a unit of work on Baroque composer Antonio Vivaldi as they studied the violin in greater detail.
Nicole Winter - Classroom teacher

**Dance Group**
The dance group would like to thank the P&C for their generosity this year. The students looked great in their costumes which were funded by P&C fundraising. We would also like to thank all the parents and carers as without this support and help the dance group would not be able to showcase their talents.
Thank you.
**Bradman WC**

The highlight of this term has been our shopping program at Winston Hills Shopping Mall. All the students take turns to buy something delicious from the food court and then enjoy their snack at a table. While in the supermarket we make healthy shopping choices. Students also learn to use the self-service check-out. During our Leisure week, we all enjoyed the amazing experience of sailing at Penrith Lakes. It was a perfect day to sail on the lake with smiles on every face. The excursion to Brewongle Educational Centre was wonderful. We all took part in making damper, catching insects and tadpoles in the pond, playing sticks with aboriginal music and sand painting on our arm.

Classroom Teacher-Wanda Chan

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**P&C News**

As 2014 comes to an end, members of The Hills School P&C would like to thank the amazing staff of The Hills School for their tireless efforts, dedication and commitment to our children. The P&C, have fundraised via a range of activities in order to support a number of projects and resources which will benefit all students. These activities include the Shopping Tour, Christmas Raffle, Wheelie Walk-a-thon, and product drives, and a number of social activities such as the Movie Night, and Mother’s Day Brunch and Father’s Day gift bags.

Proceeds of these have been used to purchase a Tapit device, complete upgrades to the bike track playground, provision of year-long Footsteps Workshops and Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy Program, as well as a pledge of funds to cover the cost of the construction of a new playground which is due to be operational in early 2015. Thank you to everyone who has helped in any way during 2014. We wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a safe break. We hope to see you for the first P&C meeting on Monday 24th February 2015 at 7pm.

Angela Wilson - P&C President; Jenny Harris - P&C Treasurer; Justine Stamatakis - P&C Secretary

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**Carols Under the Stars**

The Hills School Carols Under the Stars was held on Friday 28th November. The event was very well attended by many parents, community groups and staff. The Northmead Old Toongabbie Uniting Church gave the night melodious flair with their talented band playing and singing Christmas Carols throughout the night. Donations were given to Parramatta mission and Santa was there to give out surprises and for photos. The night had sparkling lights, mouth-watering cakes and cookies, candles, face painting, Christmas cards and raffle tickets. The Hills School would like to send a special thank you to the members of the P&C and Northmead Old Toongabbie Uniting Church who made this night possible. We would also like to thank all the parents, community members and staff who attended and made this night wonderful.
Santa Fun Dance
On Wednesday 26th November, our dance group consisting of 25 enthusiastic students performed a Christmas themed dance to a mix of popular Christmas songs dressed in Variety Santa suits at our local shopping centre, Stockland Mall, Baulkham Hills.
The Dance was very successful with a good sized audience attending. Our students put in a lot of time and effort to make the dance happen. They practised for several weeks each Wednesday lunch time. Some money was raised for Variety and we were very excited to support this wonderful charity.
Well done Hills School Dance Group!
Variety has a site set up especially for The Hills School on their website to enable anyone to donate.
Please give generously to this fantastic charity that supports our school.

To donate online go to:

The article below appeared in The Hills Shire Times, dated 9th December, 2014.
PLUS Meeting
The PLUS (Parent Learning Understanding and Support) meetings have concluded for the year. These meetings support parents to gain valuable information about parenting their child and the services available to them. They also enable parents to get together and share their experiences and just socialise.
The meetings are held once per term. An overview of the meetings that we have held this year are:–
Term 1 - Meet and Greet – new parents meet up with parents from last year. Christine Coates, our Support Teacher Transition, was there to answer any questions.
Term 2 - ADHC consultants attended to provide information in the areas of behaviour intervention, therapy services, respite and recreational activities.
Term 3 - ADHC consultants again attended to focus on the issue of anxiety in children. There was also an opportunity to address speech, occupational therapy and respite questions.
Term 4 - Parents told of their experiences parenting their children – their joys, challenges and triumphs and what that taught them along the way.
We would like to extend a warm welcome to any parents, who would like to attend next year. You will find these meetings most informative with valuable information for you and your child.

Thankyou NAB
The Hills School wishes to thank NAB for generously donating 3 sturdy bikes to the Hills School.

Celebration of Learning photos
School Community Testimonials
If you have something wonderful you would like to share about our school, please let us know.

To The Hills School Community
Hi,
Matt picked up the donations for Parramatta Mission from the school. Wow! What a fantastic effort. Please pass on my thanks to the school community for a fantastic collection of food items. Trish from Parramatta Mission is collecting the goodies Friday morning for distribution to those in need at Christmas
regards
Linda Ingles - Northmead Uniting Church

Subject: Thank you!!

I would like to express my appreciation for the invitation to attend today's celebration of learning ceremony. It was a fabulous opportunity to experience a small part of the school as a community. I cannot imagine what the parents and carers of the students go through on a daily basis just to get these children ready for school but I do see in a small way what the schools staff do and I am in awe!! Congratulations to all staff, parents, carers and volunteers for making this community of yours happen..... Louise Reid driver bus 19. Oh and
p.s. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year too all!!
Thank you and I hope to see you all next year.

Christmas Lights Extravaganza

Special BBQ Event:- 45 Grasmere Avenue, NORTHMEAD
- Entertainment for the family—Raffles
13th & 24th December from 7.30pm
All proceeds going to Ronald McDonald House