It is possible to move mountains by carrying away small stones.

It certainly is an exciting time at Alexandra Hills State School! When you walk around the school, there is a buzz that seems to be everywhere! The classes are all working hard and are being exposed to a high interest and tailored curriculum. There are a large number of parent volunteers coming into the school to assist in a wide variety of areas. Our enrolments are up and there is a greater community awareness of what makes Alexandra Hills State School such a dynamic school community. Most importantly, students are learning and they are happy.

I would encourage you to come into the school and see all the great things that are happening in the classrooms and throughout the school. It really is an exciting place to be.

NAPLAN WEEK
Thank you to all the parents who worked with the school to ensure the students were ready and relaxed for the NAPLAN testing period this week. As a school, we provided breakfast (thank you to Mrs. Sala and Mrs. Davidson for manning the breakfast bar), for all students in Year 3 and 5 over the three days. The teachers ensured that classrooms were quiet and that students were comfortable with the testing process. As parents, ensuring children were well rested and relaxed, assisted us in ensuring every child could complete the test papers to the best of their ability. Well done everyone!

SCHOOL EXCURSION
On Tuesday, I had the pleasure of escorting the Year 6 class to Brisbane for a visit to Parliament House and the QUT Gardens Point university campus. It was a great opportunity for students to see first hand where and how our politicians govern Queensland. Students participated in a guided tour, took part in a mock sitting of parliament and had the opportunity to meet with our local member Don Brown MP who was able to answer some very thoughtful questions. Without doubt, the highlight was when the sitting parliament stopped to acknowledge the students who were watching proceedings in the viewing gallery.

Students also had the opportunity to tour the QUT Innovation and Technology Cube at Gardens Point. Everyone had the opportunity to participate in a variety of hands-on ICT inspired activities. A note of thanks to Mrs. Davidson for assisting on the day and to Mrs. Vanek and Mrs. Newman for organising such an outstanding excursion.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PICK-UP
While we pride ourselves on providing a safe learning environment for the students of Alexandra Hills State School, we are finding that the practices of both parents/caregivers and students is resulting in potentially dangerous scenarios.

We would ask parents not to drop their child/ren off prior to 8:00 in the morning, as students are not directly supervised in the mornings.

Find the newsletter online at: www.alexhillss.eq.edu.au
FROM THE FRONT OFFICE continued

Of greater concern is the behaviour of some members of our school community after school. As you can imagine, this is when we have a high volume of students leaving school in a very tight timeframe. Monitoring students and ensuring that they leave safely is an extremely difficult task. If you are picking up your child from the car park, please ensure that you are following the car park guidelines. We have a teacher on duty who is responsible for supervising students and ensuring they get to their cars safely.

If you are parked in the middle bays, please walk across the road to pick up your child rather than calling them across. **Please do not park in the Drop & Go section of the car park and leave your car.** This area is designed for a quick pickup. Misuse of the area creates a backlog, that affects the whole carpark.

We also have a growing number of students staying behind after the bell and playing around the school. Once again, students are not being directly supervised; please ensure that your child is coming straight home.

We all want the students at Alexandra Hills State School to be safe at all times and greatly appreciate you working with us.

Have a great weekend everyone!
WHAT’S HAPPENING IN CLASS:

Literacy
As children make the transition to independent readers and are able to decode and understand texts that challenge them, the skill of oral reading (reading to someone) is important. In a program of reading instruction at Alexandra Hills State School we are looking for parents/caregivers assistance to listen to our children read. If you have any time to give to this program please see your child’s classroom teacher, or register your interest at the office.

Regards, Lois Palmer, STLaN (Support Teacher Literacy and Numeracy)

Calling for classroom volunteers!!
Some of our classes require parent helpers to assist with changing over home readers etc... If you can spare a few minutes a day it would be greatly appreciated!! Please see your classroom teacher for more information on how you can help!

junior choir performance
The Junior Choir will be performing on Parade next Friday, 20th May at approximately 2.15pm in the Lester Centre. The Junior Choir is made up of all students in classes 1 Red, 2 Yellow and 2/3 Plum. This performance will make up part of their performance component for music this semester. All students in these classes have practised and are ready to perform. It is up to individual students if they choose to perform with the Junior Choir on Parade or to do a separate performance assessment in front of only their class group.

Year Six Parliament House Visit
On Tuesday our Year 6 Students along with Mrs Vanek, Mrs Newman, Mrs Davidson and Mr Fletcher attended Parliament House. Below is a photograph of them standing on the stairwell in this beautiful building. Some of our students have shared their story in their own words.

Our Journey to Parliament House in Brisbane City
By Brett Sedgman-Smith
The excitement was already brewing as we boarded the bus at 9.25am on our journey to Parliament House in Brisbane.
On the way to our destination the bus ride took 35-45 minutes. When we got there a man named Peter gave us a magical mind-blowing tour around Parliament House.
We even got to see Anastacia Palaszczuk, the Premier of Queensland.
After that we went to QUT to the Technology Centre. We played on touch screen TV games.
On the way back time flew even though it took the same amount of time there.
It was the best day of my life so far.

The Awesome Excursion
By Daniel Johnston
On Tuesday 6 Lime went on an excursion to Parliament House in the city. It was soo00 fun!
Peter who was our tour guide showed us around Parliament. When we got to the upper house we did a mock debate.
It was a real special day because Anastacia Palaszczuk was in the Chamber (Green Room) debating about something. We got to see her debate because we were standing above her watching the whole thing happen.
There were lots of police around Parliament and lots of reporters. Then we had some morning tea. Everyone got a pack of biscuits and a home made orange juice.
After we finished at Parliament we went to QUT Technology Centre where we played lots of touch screen games.

Highlight of Our Excursion
By Arshdeep Kaur
On Tuesday we went to Parliament House for our excursion by bus. We enjoyed it so much because all of us had to be a part of a mock debate in the Red Room.
After that we went to the Chamber (Green Room) and saw Anastacia Palaszczuk, Premier of Queensland.
At the end we went to the University and had lunch there.
Then we saw a huge plasma screen.
We split into 3 groups so all of the groups went to different games and played with them.
Finally we came back by bus. It was the best day we ever had.