FROM THE FRONT OFFICE

The difference between try and triumph is just a little umph.

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 off prior to 8:00 in the morning, as students are not directly supervised in the mornings.

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 safety. If you are parked in the middle bays, please walk across the road to pick up your child rather than calling them across. 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.

SCHOOL LOGO
We have been inundated with entries for the school mascot competition. Students voted today to elect the new mascot, which will accompany our three school rules. The winning design was Captain Respect the rule crusader! We are very excited about the interest the students have shown and are looking forward to unveiling the winning design in our signage around the school. It certainly is causing a great deal of interest and discussion!

WHOLE SCHOOL REVIEW
Next week, Alexandra Hills State School will host a 3-day whole school review. This is a very thorough process, which will see 3 auditors assess all aspects of our school. This will involve looking at school documentation and data, talking to teachers, students, parents, the P&C, members of the wider community and Alexandra Hills State High School. This is a great opportunity to have a detailed assessment of our school highlighting our strengths and areas where we need to focus. The outcome of this review will assist the school to create a strategic plan, which will continue to see the school develop and improve. Exciting times!

RAFFLE TICKETS ON SALE OUTSIDE TUCKSHOP EVERYDAY
Raffle tickets are being sold to win the right to push the button to ignite the fireworks at the Fete. Tickets are 50c each.
NEW ENROLMENTS
This term has seen a noticeable increase in enrolments, with the school now having 21 students more than the Day 8 enrolment collection data. This is a great indication that parents are choosing Alexandra Hills State School for the education that we can offer a child and proof that the hard work the entire school community has put in this year is starting to see dividends. Regional Office are working with Alexandra Hills State School monitoring our enrolments and assisting us to ensure that every child receives a high quality education.

PEANUT FREE
At the P&C meeting on Monday night, the committee voted unanimously to make the school a nut free learning environment. This is an exciting move, which indicates the importance the school community places on providing a safe and caring learning environment for all students. The rollout of this will be done through a two-prong approach. Firstly through training to ensure every staff member (and any interested school community member) is familiar with the symptoms of an anaphylactic shock and how to administer an Epipen. The second component revolves around education to ensure everyone in the school community understands the reasons and expectations related with being a nut free school.

We are in the process of finalising details and envisage that the new approach will be fully operational at the beginning of Term Three. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me personally.

JUNE/JULY HOLIDAY FUN
Children from Alexandra Hills State School are warmly welcomed at Jabiru’s vacation care programs at Hilliard Coolwynpin, Birkdale South or Cleveland State Schools.

The full program is available from Jabiru Alexandra Hills or online at http://www.jabiru.org.au/kids

Jabiru vacation care is cheaper than you think, especially for people entitled to Child Care Benefit: call Jabiru for a quote on 3269 0044.
An Excursion

Last week, the class of 4/5 Purple went on an amazing excursion to the historical St Helena Island.

Firstly we came to Alexandra Hills SS and we went into our classroom. Miss Fanning told us to get on the bus so we did. Then we took the bus to Manly where our ferry, the ‘Cat O’ Nine Tails’ was waiting. We boarded the boat and it took us to the jetty of St Helena Island.

Next we got off the boat, walked onto the jetty and then towards these cool sheds where we put our bags zipper down, so the crows could not open the bags and get our lunch.

Then we visited several ruined but interesting buildings while the tour guides told us interesting facts about them. We even visited the grave yards!

Finally we had to leave. We had our lunch, got our bags and got on the boat. On the boat we did an awesome trivia quiz. Then we got off the boat and on the bus again. Then we were back home.

Without a doubt I think the excursion was a really good idea because it was awesome.

Ryan Thomas

A Trip to St Helena

Last week our class went on an exciting excursion to St Helena Island.

First of all we came to Alexandra Hills SS and caught the bus to the ‘Cat O’ Nine Tails’ ferry at Manly.

Next we boarded the boat, met the prisoners and had yummy morning tea. Some of our class sat on the top deck and some on the bottom deck of the boat. The Cat O’ Nine Tails was a little bit rocky but all in all it was great.

Then we got off the boat and walked on the old rusty jetty. As our class walked over to the shed I could see amazing views of the island and the crystal clear water. When we got to the shed the tour guide said to place our bags zipper down so the birds couldn’t get into our bags.

After we put our bags down at the rusty old shed, our class walked around the saw all the ruins and grave yards. After we saw all that we saw a red and black cannon which still worked. That was my favourite part of the tour.

Finally, we caught the ferry back to Manly. On the way back we played a trivia quiz. If you got the question right you got a bookmark that told you about the island.

I thought it was a great day. I enjoyed the boat ride and the tour around St Helena Island and would definitely go back!

Sam Harris
The following are the ride descriptions and height limitations for the rides that will be at the festival:

**RIDES:**

2 x JUMPING CASTLES: 1 for under 6 years AND 1 for over 7 years
No height restrictions – we have hired a qualified supervisor for this attraction

GIANT SUPER SLIDE:
Children 100cm and over can go on this ride unaccompanied
Children less than 100cm in height will need an accompanying adult

SIZZLER:
Children less than 110cm in height cannot go on this ride
Minimum Height restriction of 110cm with an accompanying adult
Children over 130cm can go on this ride unaccompanied

BUCKING BULL / MECHANICAL BULL:
Children need to be aged 8 years or over to go on this ride. Children under the age of 8 years cannot go on this attraction.

CHAIR-O-PLANE:
Children need to be 2 years old with a maximum height of 150cm to go on this ride.

BALL CRAWL:
Children need to be 2 years old with a maximum height of 150cm to go on this ride.

PETTING ZOO:
No height or age restrictions.

**ACCOMPANYING ADULTS:**
Accompanying adults must have either a ride armband or a paid ticket to go on the rides. Armbands are $25 per-sale, or $30 on the day. Individual ride prices will be $5 per person per ride.

**HANDY HELPERS:**
Handy helpers include one each of the following:
- A sausage sizzle
- A drink
- A go on any ride.
- One side-show alley game
- Either popcorn, fairy floss or a snow cone

These are not transferrable / exchangeable. Each “finger” represents one of the items specified above and cannot be redeemed otherwise. For example, a sausage sizzle cannot be changed to another side-show alley game.