As this will be our last newsletter for 2012, we would like to take this opportunity to thank our entire school community for another very productive year. Once again, there have been many highlights and on many occasions, a strong team approach involving the wider school community, which has ultimately benefited all of our students. Whilst we only have a small crowd attend our regular P&C meetings, many parents volunteer in many ways such as tuckshop help, sports and music committees, support in the library, coaching, help with transport, weekly support with reading, art and home readers, personal donations of educational resources, attending excursions, participating in the QSR, an ongoing commitment of personal time to help with specific projects or fund raising ventures, and so on. It is a great pleasure and a privilege to come to work at this school every day, especially when we have such a wonderful bunch of students, a committed and professional staff, and a willing community of parents and extended family members. We wish every family a relaxing, safe and festive holiday period (please keep our little ones safe on the roads and in the water!). School commences on Tuesday, 29th January. A list of classes, maps and our student leaders will be available next to the tuckshop to help all families and students find their new classroom and teacher on Day 1.

We now farewell once again our Year 7 cohort of students and wish them all the best for the next chapter of their lives. The Farewell Ceremony is scheduled for next Thursday night. We will be having our traditional end of year parade next Thursday starting at 2:00pm in the old hall. On this occasion we will farewell all students as well as announce our new student leaders for 2013. Everyone is welcome to attend this event and also listen to the staff sing a final farewell song to our Year 7 students. A special mention to our current student leaders for leading and representing our school in a very good manner throughout 2012. They and their peers will have many more opportunities to develop their leadership skills at high school and beyond. A reminder also that students will receive their class and teacher information for 2013 along with their report card next Thursday.

It always a very exciting time starting the new school year, especially for our Preppies. It is essential that all students start the year with all of the required stationery and books. The cut off for orders at ABSA is today. Rexina, Helen, Olga and Melissa will again be opening the Uniform Shop during the last week of the school holidays on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from the morning to midday. Thank you ladies, the voluntary service you provide is often commented on in a very positive manner from people making purchases from the shop. A reminder to all families that any stock you may still see at local clothing stores will be different in cut and design, so please be cautious no matter what bargains may be on offer. There is much planned during the holidays in readiness for Day 1 such as our new Prep buildings, new carpet, additional air-conditioning, new interactive whiteboards, new furniture, and a large range of new resources for all students.

**Calendar of Events**

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<th>December</th>
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In light of the recent hot weather, we should again thank the likes of Nick Dopper, Linda Richardson and their small team of helpers for completing the air-conditioning project, as the conditions are incredibly comfortable for all students, enabling them to be more productive for longer periods of the day. The investment is quite large but the result is fantastic for our kids and staff. If anyone is yet to contribute to the air-conditioning levy, please give due consideration to this as every cent will help our P&C Association manage the long-term debt.

Our recent Inter-house Swimming Carnival was an outstanding success and my sincere thanks to Mrs Foreman, our teachers, the Swimming Club (Karen, Kel and associates), the Sports Committee, the many parent volunteers on the day, St Cat’s, the large number of past students, and the list goes on and on. Congratulations to Logan House for taking out honours and congratulations to the following Age Champions. Many records were broken throughout the events. Well done to our speedy fish.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Girl Age Champion</th>
<th>Boy Age Champion</th>
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<tr>
<td>9 Years</td>
<td>Helen Lee</td>
<td>Michael Hanna</td>
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<td>10 Years</td>
<td>Ebony Moore</td>
<td>Jonah Campbell</td>
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<td>11 Years</td>
<td>Brooke Mortensen</td>
<td>Elliott Gerrard</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Years</td>
<td>Georgia Gibbs</td>
<td>Ju-Ho Lee</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Years</td>
<td>Amy Foreman</td>
<td>Matthew Turner</td>
</tr>
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Congratulations to our Swimming Relay Carnival representative team who recently competed at invitational event at the Chandler swimming complex. All teams were valiant in their efforts and were well coached and managed by Jeff Lee and Sophie Campbell. Thank you. Congratulations also to our Year 1-3 students for making the Junior Swimming Carnivals events fun. It was great to see past student, Grant Irvine, take on the Year 1 students in the 25m butterfly event. We wish Grant all the best at the World Swimming Championships.

As the end of the year draws to an end, we now farewell Christine Gorski and Kirsty Byrne. Christine has elected to return to the home of whale watching and Kirsty has been transferred to Springfield Lakes State School. We wish them all the best and also thank them for their wonderful contribution to our school and students over a number of years. We now also thank and farewell Jenny Deans, our acting BSM, who has done a marvellous job in the role of Business Services Manager whilst Irena has been on leave. Jenny has given our school great service in the short time frame she has been here. Thank you Jenny.

Again, we ask all families to help us over the holidays by remaining vigilant for any possible vandalism or trespassing. Should you have any concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact Schoolwatch on 131788 or Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000.

AMAZING. This week Jess Gaffney was awarded a new bicycle from a local Federal Member, Bernie Rippoll, for her entry in a Christmas Card design competition. Jess’s entry was just amazing and is now on Bernie’s Christmas Cards that he sends to his colleagues, friends and family. Well done Jess, you are an amazing student and thank you to Mrs Lippiatt and Mrs Cuffe for entering our Year 2 students in this competition.

MUSIC

Mt Ommaney Christmas Carol Competition
Thank you to all the parents who provided head pieces and helped us with transportation to and from the Centre on the day. Children in both choirs sang beautifully. The judges reported they were very impressed with all the choirs from different schools that performed... “A superb effort, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all”. We did not gain a place but the students really enjoyed themselves, and hopefully we will be able to return bigger and better for 2013! Thanks to Mrs R. Mengel and Mr Greg Mayer for their great choir accompanying this year!

As a special treat for the community and especially the parents of the Year 7 Chamber Choir, we will be privileged to hear them sing together one last time as part of their Farewell Ceremony next Thursday night.
**Choirs Break Up Party**

Thank you so much to the parents who were able to help with the food and drinks for the party (set up and clean up). This helped with the smooth running of the party.

**Music Support Group**

Thanks to Irene and her team of parent volunteers for a great year! We are making progress towards our new instrumental room, under stage storage and uniform storage. Hopefully these projects will commence in early 2013. We look forward to a great year for 2013 and please put Monday 11\(^{\text{th}}\) February in your diaries for our Wine and cheese launch for 2013.

**Instruments and Uniforms Returns**

Thanks to all the students who have returned their instruments and uniforms for stocktake this year. Please return any outstanding instruments and uniforms **ASAP**.

**P&C**

**UNIFORM SHOP**

The Uniform Shop has had a busy and successful first year in the school. Thanks to all the hard work of Rexina, our convenor and all the volunteers.

- Stocks of all uniform items available for next year, buy now to avoid the January rush. Opening hours Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:15am to 9:15am.
- Uniform Shop will be open on Tuesday 22 January, Wednesday 23 and Thursday 24 January from 9am to 12 noon.
- School backpack now on sale at $45.
- Athlete’s Foot at Mt Ommaney will donate $5 from every pair of shoes sold to a school family. Support our school while you support your feet!
- As the end of year approaches please consider donating your ‘old’ uniforms (especially Year 7) to the uniform shop.

Please leave at the school office or uniform shop.
- Looking for volunteers in 2013 - if you have an hour to spare once a week/fortnight/month.

**TUCKSHOP**

Thank you to all the volunteers and families who have offered their time to help in the tuckshop or donated many items.

**NO TUCKSHOP NEXT WEEK**

Tuckshop open week two in 2013

**CRAFT STALL**

As this is my last year at Jamboree Heights, I would like to thank everyone for their support and help with the craft stalls over the years. A special thank you to Mr Robinson for his assistance with organising the tables etc.... Best wishes to everyone for 2013.

Gwenda Stevens

**CLARINET FOR SALE**

Pre-loved Yamaha Clarinet C100 with case, excellent condition - $400.
Phone Kim – 0405 148 650

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**MLC HOT SHOTS TENNIS**

The MLC Hot Shots Tennis coaching program will start back on the 7 January for holiday lessons and the Hot Shots Inter –class challenge resumes in Term 1 2013 at Jamboree Heights State School. If you wish to enroll your child there are lessons available on Wednesday-Friday mornings and Friday lunch time for 5—12year olds. The first lesson you can come and try for free. All students that register get a free Hot Shots T-Shirt and all equipment is provided.

For more information contact Christie Hopgood on 0433 674 520 or email christie@ctennisandpt.com
Year 1L & Year 1G children would like to thank Andrew Battye for designing our great Lorax mural on our port racks. Also thanks go to parents, Rebecca Baille, Sharon Kippen, Sharon Rae and Melissa Battye for helping us to paint the Lorax.

My Greatest Year Seven Memory
by Harry Peters

The other day I was walking up the stairs from the playground and my friend Shaun said, “Wow, look how close that bird is.”

My immediate reaction was to say that crow would not be that close unless it was injured. So I picked it up, but it escaped from my hands and it flew onto a branch of a tree and I thought it was okay until it fell out of the tree.

Shaun, Sam and I raced over to it. This time it let me pick it up. I picked it up holding his wings down so he wouldn’t fly away. We all started to walk up to the office, we started to get a lot of people staring at us and asking us questions like: “Why do you have a crow?” and I think the silliest one I heard was “It that a real crow?” when clearly its head was moving around.

We got to the office and the ladies told us to find the groundsman, so we set off on our journey to find the groundsman. We looked everywhere and now and again the crow, which we named Jet Black (Jet for short) kept trying to fly so we put him on the ground. He walked around and then we picked him back up again and I figured out a much better way to hold him.

The way that I would hold him is to let him perch on my arm. So we kept going and I asked the tuckshop ladies if they had seen the groundsman and then we went back to the classroom. Ms Lenihan suggested that we leave Jet on the table and go to music. I asked Ms Lenihan to promise to watch him and not let anyone touch him.

During music Shaun and I got called back down to the classroom and we found Ms Lenihan and Mrs Girle (the lady from the tuckshop who we asked if she’d seen the groundsman). Mrs Girle had a box in her hand and she offered to take Jet to the Middle Park vet.

Later that afternoon I went to Middle Park vet and they said that a carer would be coming in to pick Jet up, along with a lot of other birds that had been injured in the massive hailstorm the evening before.
Storm of Destruction
by Jonathan Makinson

Like a thundering train, the storm roared over Centenary, covering the land in dark greyish clouds of gloom. The rain pelted down like leading water tanks on the ground. The wind ran over the land, squashing trees like a bulldozer does to garbage. They shook in animal like terror, throwing away their branches and leaves, to ease the terrible pain that they felt. The wind blew aside all things that stood in their way, like royal guards pushing aside throngs of people to make way for their king. For the king of storms was yet to come. To signal his entrance, a drum roll rang out across the sky to the earth, hiding and disappearing. It was a dangerous enemy. They covered the earth, allowing no one to do anything. He moved over, conquering the earth. He moved towards parts of the city, leaving Centenary in despair. Light faded like a dying man. The land was wounded.

Storm Poem
by Joseph Mason

The sky was as grey as an old man’s hair,
The booming thunder was like giants dancing overhead.
Lightning flashed brightly making the whole sky light up.
Then a loud rumbling filled my ears!

What could it be?
Suddenly hailstones rained down from the sky,
I ran for cover just in time!
The hail pounded down like marbles,
The grass was as white as snow.

Golf balls of ice exploded from the sky,
The world was changing but I was safe inside.

The Extreme Storm
by Ebony Moore

The angry, raging storm forced the clouds to show their emotions in masses of thick black, grey-green hideous smoke. Then instantly, a wall of hammering rain powered through the sky leaving no sign of the beaming rays of the scorching sun. Suddenly, hail the size of golf balls wrecked every sign of life, smashed out the electricity and blacked out the entire street. The hail created sheets of white ice, freezing the grass into shivering statues. Forks of lightning, blinding lightning lit up the pure black sky. The booming thunder drummed and howled until he just mumbled and lost his daunting voice. The pounding of the rock hard hail had stopped, but the shrieks and mumbling of the thunder, the flashing of the blinding lightning and pouring rain continued. The trees’ leaves were stripped from the now naked trees that looked as if they had been struck by lightning. The icy hail was piled to high and thick, it was like sheets of snow. The cars were damaged and dented extremely bad. It seemed like they had been shot at with a machine gun and the cracked bashed windows of the poor innocent victims’ homes, lay shattered on the frozen grass.