



# Newsletter

## Edition 1— 5th February 2020

### Message from the Principal

#### Welcome back

Welcome back to the 2020 School Year! I trust that you have all had a lovely Christmas and have enjoyed the fabulous January weather and spending time together.

After visiting classrooms, I think the teachers have been just as excited to start the new year with their new grades as the children!

Last week our Foundation students started and began their days with great confidence all wearing their new school uniforms and gorgeous smiles.

I would like to take this opportunity to send out a special welcome to our new Foundation students and their families and wish them many happy years ahead with us. I would also like to welcome our other new students and their families. I am sure the whole school community joins me in welcoming you all to our fabulous school and I trust that your time with us will be positive and enjoyable.



Brothers, Cruz and Tai, are showing us how much they love each other and how much they love attending Hastings PS.



### H.P.S. START UP Activities

The START UP program is designed to establish a shared understanding of classroom processes and to develop a positive classroom culture across the school from Foundation to Yr. 6.

During the Start-Up program, students and teachers will work through the following elements as we learn about each other and be part of our 'team/class'.

- ◆ Essential Agreements
- ◆ My Job/Your Job – What makes a great teacher/student?
- ◆ School wide positive behaviour matrix
- ◆ What makes a great reader?
- ◆ What makes a great writer?
- ◆ Growth Mindset
- ◆ Emotional Literacy
- ◆ Catastrophe Scale
- ◆ Emotions – Inside Out
- ◆ Emotional Thermometer

The purpose is that every student has a clear understanding of expectations, rights and responsibilities of being a valued member of the Hastings Primary School community, in the classrooms, in the playground and beyond.

Daily activities will include mindfulness, belonging and sharing, promoting healthy minds and bodies, team games and developing personal and group expectations of learning and getting along.

The culmination of the week will include a finished "Essential Agreement" for each class which links to the HPS school values of Caring, Respecting and Learning and will reflect how each class has agreed to play and learn together. Families will be invited to visit our classrooms soon once we are all settled in.

## Family Fun Afternoon

On **Monday 17th February** we are inviting families to come into the classroom at **2.45 pm** and have a look at our learning spaces. Your child will be able to show you around and you will have the opportunity to have an informal chat with the staff.

Once the 3.15 pm bell goes we will have some games outside so we can all join in together and enjoy our amazing school ground sand facilities. Games will run between 3.30 pm and 4.30 pm. We will also have a BBQ with some sizzling sausages for you to enjoy. We look forward to you joining us.

## Parent Teacher Interviews

On **Tuesday 10th March** we will have our Parent/Teacher Interviews. This appointment will provide each family an opportunity to discuss how the year has started for your student and set goals for the semester.

Interview booking information will be sent out to families in the next few weeks.

## Disabled parking

Just a reminder that we have two parking spots at the front of our school designated for disabled parking. These are clearly marked with both a painted symbol and sign. A disabled parking space can only be used by someone who has been issued with a blue / white disabled parking permit displayed prominently in the vehicle.



Parking in these spaces without a permit is illegal and can lead to an on the spot fine. We appreciate that parking spots are limited but need to ask that you be considerate of our parents and visitors with disabilities that limit their access in to our school.

## School Crossings

At Hastings Primary School **ALL** students are expected to cross the road using the supervised school crossings. With major roads on our borders, it is extremely dangerous for young children to cross without assistance.



The supervised crossing is there to help keep your children safe coming to and from school. There are a few simple crossing rules to ensure everyone's safety. Please go through these rules with your children:

1. Stop at the yellow line painted on the path
2. Dismount bikes, scooters and skateboards
3. Wait for the crossing supervisor to enter the road and stop the traffic
4. You may cross after the whistle is blown
5. Always listen to the crossing supervisor as sometimes they may give verbal commands such as STOP or WAIT

### **Did you know?**

- ♦ ***The speed zones around most schools are reduced to 40km between 8.00-9.30 and 2.30-4.00.***
- ♦ ***There is no stopping within 10 metres on the departure side of the crossing.***
- ♦ ***There is no stopping within 20 metres on the approach side of a crossing.***
- ♦ ***There is 'no standing' on a children's crossing***

The crossing must be completely vacated of all pedestrians including the crossing supervisor before motorists can proceed.

## Newsletter IS paperless!

Just a reminder that our newsletter is paperless. A paper copy can be viewed in the display cabinet outside the front office & the Foundation hallway.

The newsletter will only be available in the following ways:

- ◆ On our website [www.hastingsps.vic.edu.au](http://www.hastingsps.vic.edu.au)
- ◆ Via Flexibuzz Please install this APP
- ◆ Via email.

To receive the newsletter via email parents must contact the office with your email details or email [hastings.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:hastings.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au) with the subject line 2020 Newsletter.

### Flexibuzz

In 2020 Hastings Primary School will continue to use FLEXIBUZZ as an important communication tool to send out the school newsletter, general updates, reminders, events and much, much more!

We are really hoping that all parents download the APP in 2020.



### NEW day and time for Assembly

Assemblies will now be held on Monday mornings at 9.05 am.

### Mobile Phone Policy

Please be advised that our Mobile Phone Policy is now in effect. At Hastings Primary School students are required to hand their mobile phones into the school administration office to be placed in a secure

location. Please refer to our website to access the policy.

### School procedures for the bushfire season



Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children's services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed on days declared by Fire Authorities as a Code Red fire danger day.

**Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.**

Where possible, we will provide parents with up to three days notice of a planned closure. We will contact you directly by letter with advice on planned closures and will confirm the decision to close by 12 noon the day before the planned closure. The communication process at our school will be:

A notice will be sent to all families as soon as we have notification of a Code Red Day. This may be up to 3 days in advance.

**Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast.** This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child.

It is also important to note that:

- ◆ No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.

- ◆ Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days
- ◆ School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – **on such days children should never be left at home or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

#### ***What can parents do?***

- ◆ Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed.
- ◆ Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.
- ◆ Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters and by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- ◆ If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan.

You can access more information about children's services closures on the Department of Education and Training website – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

For up-to-date information on this year's fire season see:

- ◆ <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>
- ◆ Facebook ([facebook.com/cfavic](https://facebook.com/cfavic))
- ◆ Twitter ([twitter.com/CFA\\_Updates](https://twitter.com/CFA_Updates))
- ◆ ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters
- ◆ VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)

## **Hastings Primary School welcomes**

### **Emily Barrie**

Mrs. Emily Barrie is joining 'Team Hastings' teaching in the Sea Eagles area. Mrs. Barrie is excited to be joining the staff and students here at Hastings and is looking forward to having a positive impact on all of the students she works alongside.



Not only is Mrs. Barrie a teacher, she has a Bachelor of Nursing, having worked in the 'health' sector for a number of years. Mrs. Barrie, a keen netballer and founding member of the Eastern Rebels Netball Club is keen to train improve students netball skills! Welcome to Hastings PS, Mrs. Barrie!

### **Chrissy Welsh**

Mrs. Chrissy Welsh will be joining the King Fisher team and sharing a grade with Mr. Macneil during Term One.

Mrs. Welsh is a familiar face at Hastings PS having supported our teaching and learning programs throughout this year in many of the classrooms.



Not only will Mrs. Welsh be collaborating with the King Fisher team, she will also be teaching our LOTE [Language Other than English] to our Year 3 - 6 students. 2020 will see these students learning AUSLAN.

### **Andy Macneil**

Mr. Andy Macneil is joining Hastings Primary School for Term One in the King Fisher team and sharing a grade with Mrs. Chrissy Welsh.





Mr. Macneil has most recently been teaching in the remote area of Woorabinda in Queensland and is passionate about our Indigenous culture. Mr. Macneil has also taught locally at Somerville PS.

Mr. Macneil is also a keen athlete who enjoys long distance running and boot camps.

### **Cody Breen**

Miss Cody Breen is excited to be joining our ES [Education Support] team this year.

After completing high school Cody completed her Education Support training at VFA and loves going to the gym to complete F45 workouts and spending time with her family and friends.



### **Chloe Flint**

Hello! I'm Chloe the new School Chaplain. I am very excited to be part of the Wellbeing Team here at Hastings Primary School supporting our students, staff and families.

I will be running the Newbees Club and some fun Lunch Clubs, as well as being involved with Brekky Club and Hot Food Lunches on Thursdays. With parental consent, I will spend time supporting students with their social and emotional needs.



A little about me... I'm originally from South Australia, growing up in small community-minded country towns. Even though I'm new to Hastings the sense of community and team work is evident, and I look forward to becoming part of that throughout the year.

Prior to moving to Victoria to be closer to family, I lived overseas for three years, working extensively with charities and organisations who supported vulnerable people and communities.

I have studied Youth Work and was also a Registered Short-Term Emergency Foster Carer in South Australia.

Some activities that I enjoy are clown clubs, arts and crafts, design, reading, writing, listening to and playing music – I play flute and piano. Please feel free to come and say hello, I would love to meet you!

### **Staffing Changes**

Unfortunately during the holidays Mrs. Gillard broke her leg and is currently recuperating before she returns to school. Mrs. Gillard has been our Art teacher at Hastings Primary School for long time and is 'difficult' to replace.



We are grateful to Mrs. Hermiston who has taken on the important role of Art Teacher during Mrs. Gillard's absence. Mrs. Hermiston is excited to be in the Art room and teaching ALL of the students at HPS. Be sure to keep an eye out for the amazing student art displays that Mrs. Hermiston is creating around the school.

### **2020 Year 6 Polo Tops**



You will see our year 6 students have started wearing their Class of 2020 Year 6 polo tops as part of their school uniform.

***Tu Toa, Kia Kaha –  
Stand Strong, Have Strength***  
Regards, **Simone McDonald** **Principal**



# From the Assistant Principal's Desk

Welcome back to school everyone! We have had a fabulous start to 2020 and I'm excited for the year ahead. our page to see all of the great things that happen at HPS.

This week has seen our teachers and students getting to know each other and creating a positive classroom environment to work in.

Next week our year 3-6 students begin their swimming/water safety lessons which they are all looking forward to.



Have you 'liked' our school Facebook page yet? Search for 'Hastings Primary School' and follow

Don't have Facebook? That's ok because our communication and reminders will still be via our Flexi Buzz app and the newsletter. Search for the 'FlexiBuzz' app in your app store or go to [web.flexibuzz.com](http://web.flexibuzz.com) and click 'sign up.' If you need any assistance please see the office.

Rebecca Klimeck  
Assistant Principal



## Novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

Factsheet for the Victorian public

Last updated: 1 February 2020

### Situation

The Department of Health and Human Services is working closely with the Victorian health sector, Commonwealth and international agencies to respond appropriately to the outbreak of a novel coronavirus in mainland China.

**This is a rapidly changing situation. Please go to: <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/novelcoronavirus> for updates.**

**At this time, there have been confirmed cases in Victoria. If you think you may have novel coronavirus, please call the dedicated hotline 1800 675 389. This hotline is serviced by Nurse-on-Call. Please keep Triple Zero (000) for emergencies.**

### What is novel coronavirus?

Coronaviruses a large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as MERS-CoV and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV).

This novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is a new strain that has not been previously identified in humans.

Coronaviruses are zoonotic, meaning they are transmitted between animals and people. Several known coronaviruses are circulating in animals that have not yet infected humans.

## Am I at risk?

Australian health authorities have declared the people at highest risk of developing novel coronavirus are:

People who have travelled from mainland China to Australia since 1 February 2020

People who have traveled to Hubei Province, China in the past 14 days

Close contacts of confirmed cases of novel coronavirus

People who have attended a healthcare facility in China in the past 14 days.

## Who is most at risk of infection with this novel coronavirus?

Some people will not get sick at all, some will get mild symptoms from which they will recover easily, and others may become very ill quite quickly. Because this is such a new infection, little is known about why some get sick while others do not, and in whom there is a greater or lesser risk of serious infection.

Experience tells us that people with compromised immune systems, the very old and young and those with diagnosed heart and lung conditions are most at risk of developing complications if they contract an infection like this.

Healthcare workers are potentially at risk of infection if they are in close contact with a case of novel coronavirus infection. As a precaution, advice has been provided to healthcare workers on simple steps to reduce the risk of transmission. It is important to regularly wash your hands. Healthcare workers should wear a simple mask, gown and gloves when assessing people who might have 2019-nCoV.

## What are the symptoms of novel coronavirus?

People with 2019-nCoV are most likely to have a fever, and may have respiratory symptoms like a sore throat, runny nose, cough or shortness of breath. While most people do have a fever, not all cases have reported this symptom. More information is coming to light as people are identified with this new infection, so advice may change over time.

## How does novel coronavirus spread?

Health authorities around the world believe the virus is spread from cases to close contacts, such as members of the same household. There is evidence that people are infectious before they begin to show symptoms of the virus.

## What areas are a risk for novel coronavirus?

The situation is changing rapidly as more people are identified with this infection. At the current time, most cases are occurring in people who have travelled from mainland China since 1 February 2020. It also includes anyone who was in Hubei Province, China in the past 14 days. If other cities, areas or countries become a significant risk, the department will update public information.

## What is the Victorian Government doing about this problem?

Victoria has a world-class hospital system that is well-prepared and rehearsed to deal with an escalation of cases of any infectious disease.

The Department has long-established plans and processes in place to respond to pandemics or outbreaks.

The Victorian Department of Health and Human Services is working with health authorities across Australia and the world to monitor and track the situation.

The Australian Government has announced travel restrictions and has advised that visitors from mainland China who are not Australian citizens or permanent residents, or their families will not be allowed entry into Australia.

The Australian Government has also recommended that Australians should not travel to mainland China at the current time.

The department has provided health services, health professionals and GPs with detailed guidelines on how to protect themselves while assessing and testing patients suspected of having novel coronavirus.

A Victorian Chief Health Officer Alert on the issue was first issued to health professionals on 10 January with regular updates from Victoria and the Commonwealth.

## What should I do if I recently returned from mainland China?

People in the following groups are advised to self-isolate at home:

People who were in Hubei Province until 14 days after they were last in Hubei Province;

People who were in mainland China on or after 1 February 2020 until 14 days after they were last in mainland China;

Close contacts of confirmed cases until 14 days after last close contact with the confirmed case.

## What should I do if I think I might have novel coronavirus infection?

If you are ill and have travelled to mainland China, including Hubei Province, in the 14 days prior to onset of your illness, you should call ahead to your general practitioner before attending and inform them of your concern. You will then be isolated in a room, where available, and your doctor will ask you about your symptoms and where you have travelled.

If there is a risk of the infection, your doctor will take a sample from your nose and throat and will organise for that sample to be tested at a laboratory to determine if you have 2019-nCoV infection. You will be asked to isolate from other people while this testing takes place.

## Can my child go to school?

**Exclusion from school/childcare:** In accordance with national public health guidelines and current information about the coronavirus from the Commonwealth Chief Medical Officer and the World Health Organization, the following staff and students should self-isolate and are excluded from childcare and school:

People who were in Hubei Province until 14 days after they were last in Hubei Province;

People who were in mainland China on or after 1 February 2020 until 14 days after they were last in mainland China;

Close contacts of confirmed cases until 14 days after last close contact with the confirmed case.

### **If you or your child feels sick and is within one of the three groups above:**

Seek medical attention - but first place a mask on the student if you have one and call the doctor or hospital before you go and tell them your child has been in mainland China or has had close contact with a confirmed case if that applies.

Advise the hospital or doctor's clinic that your child has recently been in mainland China and ensure a mask is placed on your child before or as soon as you arrive at the medical facility.

Call 000 and request an ambulance if your child has severe symptoms, such as shortness of breath, and inform the paramedics that the patient has been in mainland China.

## How do we treat the 2019-nCoV infections?

There is no specific treatment for disease caused by novel coronavirus. However, many of the symptoms can be treated and therefore treatment will be based on the patient's clinical condition.

## How do I protect myself and my family?

The best way to protect yourself and your family is to pay attention to good hand and respiratory hygiene.

Cover your mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing with a tissue, or cough into your elbow, dispose of the tissue into a bin and then wash your hands afterwards. Wash your hands regularly, after using the toilet and before eating.

If you have concerns about your health, please see your doctor.

Healthcare workers are recommended to consistently apply appropriate infection prevention control measures (standard precautions) when looking after patients.

## Do I need to wear a face mask?

Face masks are not recommended for use by members of the public in Victoria for the prevention of infections



like novel coronavirus. Should any health professional be required to treat a suspected or confirmed case, they will be supported by following standard infection control guidelines.

## Where can I find out more information?

For Victorian updates to the current incident, go to: <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/novelcoronavirus>

For national updates: <https://www.health.gov.au/news/latest-information-about-novel-coronavirus>

For international updates: <https://www.who.int/westernpacific/emergencies/novel-coronavirus>

WHO resources <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>

## Term 1 Important Dates

|                                         |                             |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Monday 10th-Friday 14th February</b> | Swimming Year 3-6           |
| <b>Wednesday 12th February</b>          | No Foundation Students      |
| <b>Monday 17th February</b>             | Family Fun Afternoon        |
| <b>Tuesday 18th February</b>            | School Council              |
| <b>Wednesday 19th February</b>          | No Foundation Students      |
| <b>Thursday 20th February</b>           | Surf Life Saving Year 5 & 6 |
| <b>Wednesday 26th February</b>          | No Foundation Students      |
| <b>Tuesday 10th March</b>               | Parent Teacher Interviews   |
| <b>Friday 27th March</b>                | Last Day of Term 1          |

## Term 2 Important Dates

|                                             |                |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Tuesday 14th April– Friday 26th June</b> | Term 2         |
| <b>Tuesday 14th April</b>                   | Curriculum Day |
| <b>Monday 20th-Wednesday 22nd April</b>     | Year 5-6 Camp  |
| <b>Monday 27th—Wednesday 29th April</b>     | Year 3-4 Camp  |

# Happy Birthday

