



Newsletter

Edition 11—12th August 2020

Message from the Principal



With the recent introduction of stage 4 restrictions we acknowledge the significant challenges and real hardship for many of our families.

This was not how we wanted to begin term 3 and we know it will have impacted our whole community. Our thoughts go out to you all, as we appreciate that many of you are facing significant difficulties in your lives, not to mention the added challenge that we face with remote learning.

For those of you who are supporting students with their learning, we thank you so much for your continued efforts and for the encouragement you are giving your children and the teachers who are working behind the scenes to support your child's learning.

The new restrictions have meant that most of our staff are working from home again, and like many of you, juggling both work and remote learning. Please excuse the odd toddler making an appearance on WebEx, pet dogs barking in the background or other family members tip-toeing across a room!

We truly appreciate that this is not easy and know that you are doing your very best. If the work is too hard or your child is having a rough day, contact your child's teacher for support or provide your child with an alternative. The mental health and wellbeing of your child is equally as important. Be comfortable saying you have done your best as we will totally understand this, given these challenging times.

For those of you that are permitted workers and

sending your children to school we thank you for providing us with the employment information we have needed.

One of the hardest things I have had to do during this time, has been to question parents on their employment details and hours at work. Telling parents their children cannot come as they do not meet the criteria has been heart breaking for us as we just want all of our students back at school.

I apologise to parents who have been questioned and hope that you can understand that we are following the rules we have been given to try to limit the number of children at school and hopefully stop the continued spread of this virus.

Ensure you continue to contact your child's teacher if you need support with remote learning or ring the school to discuss any further concerns you may have.

We are in this together and if we continue to work together we will get through this.

Remote Learning Resources

We have had a directive from the Department of Education to discourage families from picking up hard copy work packs due to the latest stage 4 restrictions. This is to ensure the least amount of travelling around in the community to stop the potential spread of COVID-19.

We still want to support families with remote learning and teachers will discuss providing electronic copies of learning material to parents so that students can complete their work in workbooks they have taken home.

After discussing options with your students teacher, should none of the discussed options be appropriate the family the teacher will discuss further with Simone or Rebecca and they will contact the family directly.

Please note we will not be posting hard copy packs out to families.

School Communication through Flexischools App

With the sudden closure of the Flexibuzz App, our school has now introduced a new app called **Flexischools**. Owned by the same company, this App is easy to use and has the same features.

This is our **main communication platform** and will be used to send notifications. To keep up to date with the latest at school we highly recommend that all parents download this App.

Flexischools allows you to get information from the school in a matter of seconds, at any time of the day.

1. Download the Flexischools App Note: for iPhone and iPad please select 'Allow' notifications.
 1. Add your School and Group Click on the search icon, enter your school name, select your school and year group, or groups relevant to you.
 1. Login/Register
Click the 'Order now' button located in the bottom right-hand corner of the app, this will open a login screen.
- ◆ Already a Flexischools user - Enter your details and login. To save your login details select 'remember me'.
 - ◆ New Flexischools user - Click 'Register', enter your email address and follow the instructions in the email to set up your account. Once your account is set up, add new student; search for your school, enter student details and select their class.

Once registered, you can start getting communications immediately. If you have any questions, please contact the Flexischools Customer Service Team on 1300 361 769, or you can contact them via their website. Or alternatively call the school office.



Are you on facebook? Are you following our facebook page? Search Hastings Primary School. Like and Follow.

You will be able to;

- ◆ View incredible Online Art galleries
- ◆ Listen to our teachers read their favourite picture story books
- ◆ Take a virtual tour of the school
- ◆ See the staff Friday Bitmoji collages and so much more.

Virtual Tour

Be sure to visit our school website and take the Virtual Tour.

Enrolments for 2021

We are still taking enrolments and really need to know how many **siblings** will be starting at our school in 2021.

Contact the office on 59791517 so that we can ensure you receive the enrolment package.

Please note due to the current stage 4 restrictions you can email the enrolment form, copy of birth certificate and immunisation records to hastings.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

Foundation Transition Sessions

Due to COVID-19, we are unable to run our normal face-to-face transition program.

To ensure the safety of our community we would like to invite you to join us for virtual sessions.

Our school will be running two virtual sessions this term. These sessions will be an opportunity to

questions answered and a chance for students to meet other students and be involved in a small learning task.

Information Sessions

Wednesday 19th August (12:45-1:30pm)

Wednesday 9th September (12:45-1:30pm)

If you would like to be involved in these sessions please contact the office on 0359 79 15 17 or email hastings.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

Photos for the newsletter

It saddens me to be at school each day without the smiling faces and happy chatter of children.

We are missing you all and looking forward to the day you all come running through the front gate.

Please continue to email through photos of your child working and learning from home so we can continue to see their smiling faces and hopefully put a smile on the faces of others.

Please email hastings.ps@education.vic.gov.au with subject—photo for newsletter.

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



2020 Important Dates

Wednesday 19th August

Virtual Transition Session 12:45-1:30pm

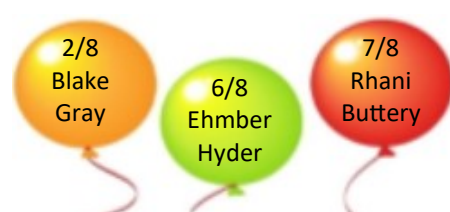
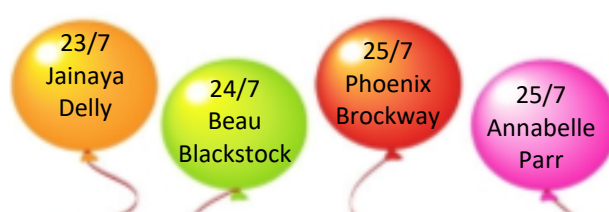
Wednesday 9th September

Virtual Transition Session 12:45-1:30pm

Thursday 8th October

School Photos

Happy Birthday



Visual Arts Remote Learning

