



Newsletter

Term 1 Edition 1

3rd February 2021

Principals Report

Welcome back



Welcome back to the 2021

School Year! I trust that you have all had a lovely Holiday Season 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 school 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.

I would like to finish by thanking all of the teaching and education support staff for the fantastic work they did in 2020 and will continue to do this year in delivering a high quality education to our students. We have an outstanding learning community here at Hastings Primary School and I am very proud to be your principal.

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.

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 all 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.

Flexischools

In 2021 Hastings Primary School will continue to use FLEXISCHOOLS 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 2021.

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
- ♦ Via Flexischools (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@education.vic.gov.au with the subject line 2021 Newsletter.

Mobile Phone Policy

We would like to remind everyone that we have a mobile phone policy for students at Hastings Primary School. This policy is able to be viewed on our website or [click here](#) to download.

Welcome to our new staff members

Miss Molly Clark joins us from Red Hill PS and is teaching in the Yr. 5/6 team. Molly, who is passionate about teaching, also loves to travel, spend time with her family and read lots of books.



Mr. Andrew Brady is joining our ES support team and will be working alongside the Yr. 3/4 staff and students. Andrew lives locally within our community and is a keen sports person and long-time coach at the Crib Point Footy club. An excellent green-thumb gardener, Andrew is also looking after our grounds and gardens.



Mrs. Erin Huquenin is joining our teaching team in 1/2J. Erin lives locally and is growing an orchard at home. She has two primary aged children who she is chasing around constantly.



Mr. Bill Papadopoulos is very excited about joining Hastings Primary School. As a passionate teacher he will be teaching 1/2D on a Thursday and Friday. Bill has two young kids and enjoys taking them to their sports and activities on the weekends.



Do you have new contact details?

It is important that we have current contact details for all parents/ Guardians.

If you have a new phone number, home address or email address we need to be informed in writing. Please email these details through to hastings.ps@education.vic.gov.au. Alternatively you can come up to the office and let us know.

Hot lunches Returning

Hastings Community House INC are excited to offer all students at Hastings Primary School a free Thursday school lunch program.

The program will commence next **Thursday 11th February 2021** and will run for the remainder of term 1.

Medication

Any student who needs medication during 2021 is required to have a current signed medical authority form or a current asthma plan.

Please contact the office if your student requires medication to ensure all correct paperwork is filled out.

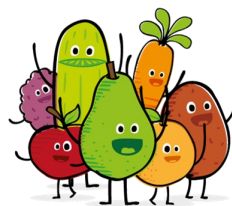
Hastings Primary School goes nude!

No, not the students – our food!

Students are now asked to bring **Nude Food** - food without excess packaging to school. This reduces the amount of 'stuff' that needs to go in bins to be sent to landfill at our school.

Durable, reusable containers are a great way to bring nude food. When you do have food in wrappers or peel, these will stay in the lunchbox and will come back home.

So, whatever you don't eat or whatever is inedible will stay in the lunchbox and will come back home. Please remember to recycle whatever you can at home – recycling, crushable soft plastics and compost.



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)
- ◆ Twitter (twitter.com/CFA_Updates)
- ◆ ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters
- ◆ VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)

COVID – Update

Health and safety remains our number one priority and all students and parents should be aware of the following:

- ◆ *Students are expected to attend school and access learning in classrooms*
- ◆ *Normal attendance protocols will be in operation*

Illness

Do not come to school if you are exhibiting any of these symptoms:

- ◆ *Fever*
- ◆ *Cough*
- ◆ *Fatigue*
- ◆ *Sore Throat*
- ◆ *Shortness of breath*
- ◆ *You should seek medical advice prior to returning to school*
- ◆ *Please do not come to school if you are unwell*
- ◆ *If students come to school and they are unwell they will be sent home*

Hygiene and Physical Distancing

- ◆ *Hand hygiene is an important part of returning to school*
- ◆ *Students are encouraged to regularly perform hand hygiene, including on arrival to school and before and after meals*
- ◆ *Washing hands with soap and water or the use of hand sanitiser is recommended throughout the school day*
- ◆ *Hand sanitiser will be provided in all learning spaces at the school*
- ◆ *Staff need to practise physical distancing 1.5m between themselves and other staff members or adults to the extent that is reasonably practicable. Staff should physically distance themselves from students where appropriate and feasible.*

Face masks

- ◆ *As per current DHHS guidelines anyone 12 years or older needs to carry a mask at all times*
- ◆ *Masks need to be worn by individuals aged 12 and over on public transport including school buses, unless you have a lawful exemption*
- ◆ *Face masks are RECOMMENDED where physical distancing of 1.5m cannot be maintained. On this*

basis we encourage visiting adults and staff to wear masks in those classrooms or areas in the school where this applies.

- ◆ *Masks must cover the nose and mouth*
- ◆ *Face coverings such as bandanas, scarves and face shields are not permitted*

Hot weather recommendations re masks:

- ◆ *Keep hydrated, drink water regularly*
- ◆ *Use single-use masks particularly cotton for increased breathability*
- ◆ *Replace them regularly and/or if they get wet*
- ◆ *Take mask breaks during the day*

Contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case

- ◆ *If you come into close contact with a confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19), you should self-quarantine for a period of 14 days*
- ◆ *DHHS defines 'close contact' as someone who has either:*
 - *had at least 15 minutes of face-to-face contact with a confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19)*
 - *shared a closed space for more than two hours with someone who is a confirmed case*
- ◆ *In this situation the school should be notified immediately*
- ◆ *If you need to talk to someone about your symptoms or are seeking information, call the National Coronavirus Helpline for advice on 1800 020 080*

PRIVACY COLLECTION STATEMENT – Primary Schools Information for parents and carers

During the ordinary course of your child's attendance at our school, school staff will collect your child's personal and health information when necessary to educate your child, or to support your child's social and emotional wellbeing or health in the school context. Such information will also be collected when required to fulfil a legal obligation, including duty of care, anti-discrimination law and occupational health and safety law. If that information is not collected, the school may be unable to provide optimal education or support to your child, or fulfil those legal obligations.

For example, health information may be collected through the school nurse, primary welfare officer or wellbeing staff member. If your child is referred to a specific health service at school, such as a Student Support Services officer, the required consent will be obtained. Our school also collects information provided by parents and carers through the School Entrance Health Questionnaire (SEHQ) and the Early Childhood Intervention Service (ECIS) Transition Form.

Our school may use online tools, such as apps and other software, to effectively collect and manage information about your child for teaching and learning purposes, parent communication and engagement; student administration; and school management purposes. When our school uses these online tools, we take steps to ensure that your child's information is secure. If you have any concerns about the use of these online tools, please contact us.

School staff will only share your child's personal or health information with other staff who need to know to enable the school to educate or support your child, or fulfil a legal obligation.

When our students transfer to another Victorian government school, personal and health information about that student will be transferred to that next school. Transferring this information is in the best interests of our students and assists that next school to provide optimal education and support to students.

In some limited circumstances, information may be disclosed outside of the school (and outside of the Department of Education and Training). The school will seek your consent for such disclosures unless the disclosure is allowed or mandated by law.

Our school values the privacy of every person. When collecting and managing personal and health information, all school staff must comply with Victorian privacy law. For more information about privacy including about how to access personal and health information held by the school about you or your child, see our school's privacy policy: <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/schoolsprivacypolicy.aspx>

Throughout this notice, 'staff' includes principals, teachers, Student Support Service officers, youth workers, social workers, nurses and any other allied health practitioners and all other staff at our school. This includes employees, agents and service providers (contractors) of the Department, whether paid or unpaid.

Camps Sports and Excursions Fund

Every Victorian child should have access to the learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom.

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) is provided by the Victorian Government to ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the outdoors; excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

The Department of Education and Training administers the CSEF to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. Although administratively the fund is received through the school, the full amount is intended for the benefit of the eligible student. On the first day of term one (27 January 2021) or the first day of term two (19 April 2021), a parent or legal guardian of a student must be an eligible beneficiary of one of these cards:

- ♦ Veterans Affairs Gold Card; Centrelink Health Care Card; Pensioner Concession Card

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2020, you do not need to complete an application form in 2021 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

Your child's school will apply for the CSEF on your behalf. You will only need to submit an application form in 2021 if any of the following changes have occurred:

- ♦ **new student enrolments:** your child has started or changed schools in 2021 or you did not apply at the same school in 2020
- ♦ **changed family circumstances:** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2021.

Schools are able to accept and process applications up until the end of term two each year.

In 2021 the CSEF will be allocated to the camp for students in grades 3-6 and excursions/incursion for students in P-2.

From the Assistant Principal

Welcome back to school everyone, and a special, heart-felt welcome to all our new families in 2021. This year I will be the Acting Assistant Principal while Mrs. Klimeck takes leave to look after the most recent addition to her family. In this role I am excited to be working with students, staff and families to support both the wellbeing and academic growth of all our students at Hastings Primary School.

I have held many teaching roles, including preschool, physical education, and TAFE. Most of my teaching career has been spent in primary school classrooms with my most recent time teaching at HPS. I have three children of my

own, and a dog, Maizie, that keep me very busy outside of school hours. I would love to encourage both new and familiar faces to come and say 'hello' before or after school, I am out in the yard most days at these times.

Already off to a great start, the classrooms are working to get to know each other and re-establish learning routines. Our new families may not know that each area of the school has a special name; Minnows (The Preps), Sea Eagles (Year 1/2s), Kingfishers (Year 3/4), and Angling (Year 5/6), these terms will become familiar, I promise.

It has been my pleasure and privilege to watch on as students and staff settle so quickly, happily and confidently into their new learning areas and classes. The staff have put great thought and effort into creating fun and exciting tasks to get to know their students, assist students to get to know new friends, and to prepare the students for the routines of their 2021 classrooms – thank you to our amazing teaching teams!

All around the school a common learning theme is “growth mindset”! Having a growth mindset helps students to face challenges and mistakes with a positive attitude. It requires recognition that mistakes must happen for learning to occur. When students aren’t making mistakes they are really just practicing what they already know, so mistakes really are important.

Students are learning:

- ♦ to understand the difference between-growth mindset and a fixed mindset,

about the power of YET.

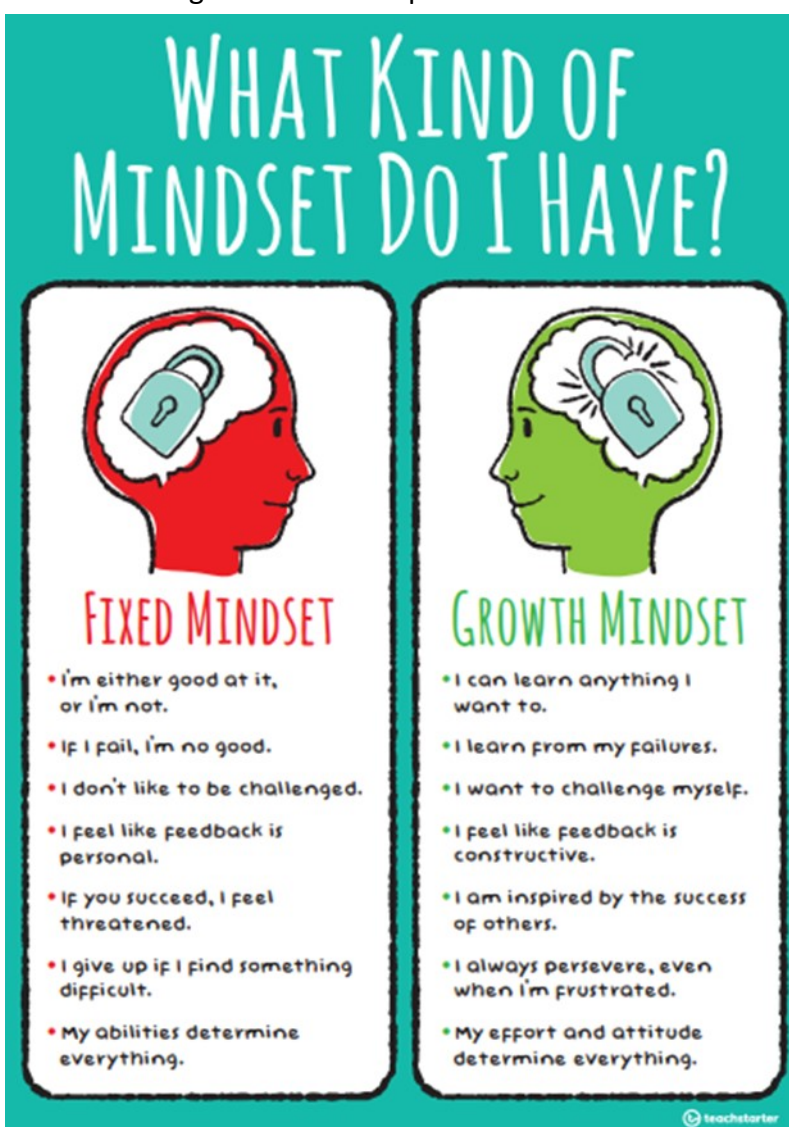
Families can support their child by:

- ♦ Celebrating mistakes as an opportunity to learn.
- ♦ Talking with your child about where things went wrong, what was working, and how changing our approach will change the result.
- ♦ Reminding your child that it can take many attempts to get something just right when learning something new.
- ♦ Letting your child know that you believe they can do it, and avoid doing it for them.

Having a growth mindset helps students to learn in social situations as well as in their academic learning.

Michelle Aldridge

Acting Assistant Principal



Important Dates 2021

Wednesday 10th February	No Foundation Students (Testing times to be arranged)
Wednesday 17th February	No Foundation Students (Testing times to be arranged)
Wednesday 24th February	No Foundation Students (Testing times to be arranged)
Monday 1st– Friday 5th March	Year 3-6 Swimming
Monday 8th March	Labour Day Public Holiday—No students to attend
Tuesday 9th March	Foundation Students Full Time Attendance
Thursday 1st April	Last Day Term 1 2:30 dismissal

Happy Birthday

