



# Newsletter

## Term 1 Edition 1

### Wednesday 31st January

#### Welcome back

Welcome back to the 2024 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 know the staff have been just as excited to start the new school year with their new grades as the students!

Our Foundation students start school on Thursday and have attended their interviews with great confidence.

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.

This is a special hard copy edition of Hastings Primary School Newsletter. All subsequent newsletters will be electronic and available through COMPASS and the school website.

#### School Uniform

We would like to remind everyone that full school uniform is to be worn (please be mindful of the forecast and encourage your child to dress accordingly). If you need more information regarding uniform please click on the [H.P.S Uniform Policy](#).

Remember to bring HATS. School hats are required during Term 1 and new hats can be purchased from the office if your child requires an update or replacement \$20.00 each.

Don't forget to bring a WATER BOTTLE each day.

#### Mobile Phone Policy

To view the mobile Phone Policy for Hastings Primary School please [click here](#).

The policy requires students to hand their phone to the school office for safe keeping through the day

YOU ARE INVITED TO  
**HASTINGS PRIMARY SCHOOLS**  
**MEET THE TEACHER AFTERNOON!**  
Wednesday 14th February  
Classrooms open  
2:45pm – 4:15pm

- View the classes in operation
- Meet your child's teacher/s
- View a presentation from the teachers

**WE CAN'T WAIT TO GET TO KNOW YOU!**



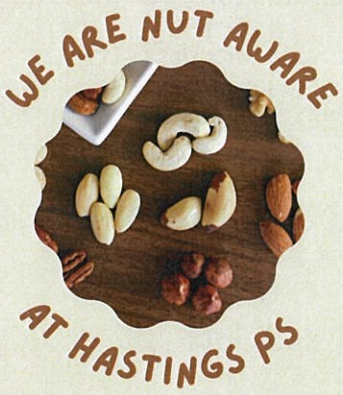
## COMPASS Parent Portal

Hastings Primary School uses the COMPASS Parent Portal for communication including, newsletters and school reports. Parents can also report student absence details, and book Student Led Conferences through this app. This significantly reduces our environmental footprint.

This week you will have received an email from school regarding downloading and logging into COMPASS.



If you need some assistance please pop into the Admin office.



**At Hasting Primary School we are a nut aware space. We currently have a number of students who have a severe allergy to nuts, causing anaphylaxis. Due to this, we are asking you to refrain from sending sandwiches or snacks containing nut products for their safety.**

**We thank you for your understanding and cooperation. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to come and speak with us.**

## Privacy Collection Notice

Information for students, parents and carers  
The Department of Education and Training (the Department) values your privacy and is committed to protecting the personal and health information that schools collect.

All school staff must comply with Victorian privacy law and the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#). This notice explains how the Department, including Victorian government schools (schools), handles personal and health information. On occasion, specific consent will be sought for the collection and use of information, for example, for a student to receive a health service. Our schools are also required by legislation, such as the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, to collect some of this information.

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 employees, contractors, volunteers and service providers of the school and the Department. On enrolment, and during the ordinary course of a student's attendance at a school, schools will collect information about students and their families for the following purposes:

- ♦ educating students
- ♦ supporting students' social and emotional wellbeing, and health
- ♦ fulfilling legal obligations, including duty of care, anti-discrimination law and occupational health and safety law
- ♦ communicating and engaging with parents
- ♦ student administration
- ♦ school management
- ♦ supporting policy in relation to student education and wellbeing.

If this information is not collected, schools may be unable to provide optimal education or support to students or fulfil legal obligations.



For example, our schools rely on parents to provide **health information** about any medical condition or disability that their child has, medication their child may take while at school, any known allergies and contact details of their child's doctor. If parents do not provide all relevant health information, this may put their child's health at risk.

Our schools also require current, relevant information about all **parents and carers** so that schools can take account of safety concerns that affect their children. Parents should provide schools with copies of all current parenting plans and court orders about or that affect their children and provide updated copies when they change.

When parents enrol their child in primary school, they will be asked to provide personal and health information in several ways, including via the Enrolment Form, the [School Entrance Health Questionnaire](#) (SEHQ) and the [Early Childhood Intervention Service](#) (ECIS) Transition Form.

The **Enrolment Form** is used to collect information that is essential for the purposes listed above, and requests information such as:

- ◆ **Emergency contacts** – Individuals parents nominate for a school to contact during an emergency. Parents should ensure that their nominated emergency contact agrees to their contact details being provided to the school and that they understand their details may be disclosed by the Department if lawful, e.g. in the case of emergency communications relating to bush fires or floods.
- ◆ **Student background information** – Information about country of birth, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin, language spoken at home and parent occupation. This information enables the Department to allocate appropriate resources to schools. The Department also uses this information to plan for future educational needs in

Victoria and shares some information with the Commonwealth government to monitor,

plan and allocate resources.

- ◆ **Immunisation status** – This assists schools to manage health risks and legal obligations. The Department may also provide this information to the Department of Health and Department of Families, Fairness and Housing to assess immunisation rates in Victoria, but not in a way which identifies students.
- ◆ **Visa status** – This is required to process a student's enrolment.

All schools may use departmental systems and online tools such as apps and other software to effectively collect and manage information about students and families for the purposes listed above.

When schools use these online tools, they take steps to ensure that student information is secure. If parents or carers have any concerns about the use of these online tools, please contact the school.

School staff will only share student and family information with other school staff who need to know to enable them to educate or support the student as described above. Information will only be shared outside the school (and outside the Department) as required or authorised by law, including where sharing is required to meet duty of care, anti-discrimination, occupational health and safety, and child wellbeing and safety obligations.

The information collected will not be disclosed beyond the school and Department without parent consent unless such disclosure is lawful. When a student transfers to another school (including Catholic, independent and interstate), personal and/or health information about that student may be transferred to the next school. Transferring this information is in the best interests of the student and assists the next school to provide the best possible education and support to the student. For further detail about how and what level of information is provided to the next school, refer to the: [Enrolment: Student transfers between schools](#)



Schools only provide school reports and ordinary school communications to students, parents, carers or others who have a legal right to that information. Requests for access to other student information or by others must be made by lodging a [Freedom of Information](#) (FOI) application.

To update student or family information, parents should contact their school.

For more information about how schools and the Department collect and manage personal and health information, or how to access personal and health information held by a school about you or your child, refer to the: [Schools' Privacy Policy](#)

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



## PE UPDATE & INVITATIONS

### Year 4-6 Parents

This year we will be conducting a time trial to help us select swimmers to represent Hastings Primary School at the District Swimming Carnival on the 29th of February.



If your child is a competent swimmer, in years 4-6 and would like to represent the school, please come down to Pelican Park Recreation Centre before school on Thursday 8th February at 8.00am.

The students will then walk to school with a staff member if you are unable to drive them. The swimming events for the Carnival are as follows:

50 m Freestyle	50 m Backstroke
50m Breaststroke	50m Butterfly
50m Freestyle Relay	50m Medley Relay

If your child would like to take part in the opportunity, please leave your details with the office by the 6<sup>th</sup> of February.

Swimmers will only be selected from these trials to represent Hastings Primary School at the District Swimming Carnival.

### Prep and 1/2 Parents

This year the preps and year 1's will be taking part in an important development program called PMP (Perceptual Motor Program). In this program students develop gross motor skills, proprioception and hand eye coordination through a range of locomotion activities using their own body weight and a range of obstacle and instructional courses.

The benefit of PMP covers many facets of learning as; good proprioception helps us to walk smoothly, run quickly, throw, catch and kick balls. Good proprioception also helps with many life skills such as, using cutlery, assisting with handwriting, dressing, and doing up buttons and zips with ease, sequencing our body movements and regulating our energy levels.

We are looking for parent helpers who would like to support our school community and assist with the PMP program. Helpers will require a valid working with children's check.

If you are available to help please contact the office and provide your details so that you can be added to our volunteer list.



## School procedures for the bushfire season

With the bush fire season upon us we need to remain vigilant and prepared.



<b>MODERATE</b> Plan and prepare	<b>HIGH</b> Be ready to act
<b>EXTREME</b> Take action now to protect life and property	<b>CATASTROPHIC</b> For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas

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)



<b>MODERATE</b> Plan and prepare	<b>HIGH</b> Be ready to act
<b>EXTREME</b> Take action now to protect life and property	<b>CATASTROPHIC</b> For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas



# 2024 Student Leaders

**SCHOOL LEADERS** - Harper Denham & Chayse Smith-Rowles

**WARADA HOUSE LEADERS** - Lilly Elliott & Keanu Khosravi

**WALLAM HOUSE LEADERS** - Willow Alexander & Alvin Dang

**MURMBAL HOUSE LEADERS** - Ivy Clifford & Aaliyah Manger

**BUNYA HOUSE LEADERS** - Alex Walmsley & Lilyahna Young



*Absent: Ivy Clifford, Alvin Dang*



# 2024 Staff



## Jesse Waters

Miss. Jesse Waters has joined our staff team as a teacher and is working with the Foundation students and families. Jesse grew up on the Mornington Peninsula and has recently returned with her family.

An experienced teacher who is passionate about working with students and their families, Jesse is looking forward to working with the Hastings Primary School community.



## Sally Webster

Mrs. Sally Webster has joined our staff team as an Education Support member and is working with the Year. 1 and Year 2 students and families. Sally is a Mornington Peninsula local and enjoys spending time outdoors with her family.

Sally is passionate about supporting children to reach their full potential and brings a wealth of experience from her previous role of family support.



## Milly Haugen

Miss. Milly Haugen has joined our staff team as an Education Support member and is working with the Foundation students and families. Milly is also a Mornington Peninsula local and a keen sports person.

Coming from a support role working with a diverse range of people, Milly is passionate about providing a safe and nurturing space for the students of Hastings PS.



# ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

What a fantastic start has been to the 2023 school year! Our students and staff have all been working together to create a positive classroom culture with a safe and orderly environment to set themselves up for a successful year. The smiling faces around the classrooms and yard is proof of how happy everyone is to be back at school.



## **ATTENDANCE – Every Day Counts**

**The school day begins at 8:50am at Hastings Primary School and finishes at 3:15pm.**

This year, all students line up on the Tiger Turf at the front of the office. When the 8:50am bell goes, all students and teachers head to the classroom. If your child arrives after 9:00am they are late and are required to sign in at the office before heading to the classroom.

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind. In Victoria school is compulsory for children and young people aged 6 -17 years.

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day. If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school. There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes. Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

### ***What impact does being late have on the student?***

Students who are late miss a lot of instructions and information about what is happening, not to mention important learning sessions. This means that they have to catch up somehow. Students also miss out on catching up with their friends in the playground before school. Students can feel unsettled, disorganized and unhappy for the rest of the day and it can take them some time to complete and understand the work that they have missed. It's similar to being late to see a movie and not being able to understand what's happening because you have missed out on who the characters are and what the plot is.

## **BREKKY CLUB**

This term Brekky club will run every morning from the Kitchen from 8:30-8:45am. Please enter via the outside door next to the Angling building. Thank you to Karen and our fabulous ES team for running this important club.

## **FOHPS**

F.O.H.P.S – Friends of Hastings Primary School are recruiting! Everyone is welcome and you don't have to commit to helping every fundraiser. If you are a new family to our school it's also a great way to meet other parents. F.O.H.P.S are the people behind our fundraisers such as meal deals, mother's day stall, father's day stall, Easter raffle and Christmas raffles, We would love to have you onboard! Please contact me in person, via email – [Rebecca.legge@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:Rebecca.legge@education.vic.gov.au) or call me at school 5979 1517 and let me know!

## **UNIFORM ASSISTANCE**

If you are having trouble financially and need uniform assistance please don't hesitate to contact me in person, or via email [rebecca.legge@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:rebecca.legge@education.vic.gov.au) or alternatively, you can call me at school: 5979 1517.

If you need any further assistance, or would like your child to speak to Dave Evans, our student counsellor, please contact me.

*Mrs Rebecca Legge*



# Important Dates Term 1 2024

Thursday 1st February	Foundation students begin. Tea & Tissues for parents
Thursday 8th February	Yr4—6 Swimming Trials—see information in newsletter
Monday 12th February	Student Leaders GRIP conference
Wednesday 14th February	Meet the Teacher 2.45pm—4.15pm
Thursday 15th February	Yr. 5 and Yr. 6 Beach Safety Day
Wednesday 21st February	Yr.1 to Yr.6 – ACOCO Figatroll performance
Thursday 29th February	District Swimming Event—select students only
Wednesday 6th March	Hastings Parenting Project LAUNCH
Thursday 7th March	House Cross Country Yr. 3 to Yr. 6
Monday 11th March	LABOUR Day PUBLIC Holiday
Friday 22nd March	Ride 2 School event
Wednesday 27th March	<b>Final day of Term 1—3:15 pm dismissal</b>

# Important Dates Term 2 2024

Monday 15th April	Term Two begins
Tuesday 16th to Friday 19th April	Yr. 3 to Yr. 6 Swimming Lessons
Thursday 25th April	ANZAC Day—Public Holiday
Thursday 9th May	Semper Dental onsite
Friday 10th May	Semper Dental onsite
Thursday 23rd May	School Photos
Monday 10th June	KINGS Birthday PUBLIC Holiday
Friday 28th June	Term Two ends—Student dismissal 2:30 pm

DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR MORE UPDATES!





