



TERM 4 EDITION 2

NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 23rd October 2024



IMPORTANT DATES

Tue 29th Oct **Graduation Photos - Year Six**
Students to wear school uniform

Thurs 31st Oct **Prep to 2 Athletics Carnival**
9-11am

Mon 4th Nov **Pupil Free Day**

Tue 5th Nov **Melbourne Cup Public Holiday - School Closed**

Thurs 14th Nov **2025 Transition**
2:15 PM - 3:00 PM

Thurs 21st Nov **Western Port Bike Skills Day**

Mon 18th Nov **Pupil Free Day**

Fri 20th Dec **Last Day of School 2024**
1:30pm Finish

Principal's Message



We have certainly had an action packed first few weeks of term 4.

It is a wonderful feeling to be able to participate in, and provide so many different community events and learning experiences for our students.

Enjoy reading about what our students have already been involved in this term.

Another way of finding out all about the learning is to come along to the student led assemblies held fortnightly.

Planning for 2025

Believe it or not this is already happening! Part of our planning is to ensure a smooth transition for students into the next year level.

Our staff give careful consideration to grade structures and this information will be released to students and families during our internal Transitions towards the end of the term.

Please do not ask teachers to make changes. If you would like a special consideration for your child for 2025 then call our school office on 59791517 to make an appointment with Mrs. McDonald

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



HATS OFF TO OUR AMAZING TEAM!



This year, World Teachers' Day is on **Friday 25th of October**. It is an opportunity to say thank you for the incredible contributions teachers make to our community.

It's time to tip our hats to the incredible educators who shape our future.

The term 'hats off' has a long history of being used to show respect, admiration and offer congratulations. It can be traced back to medieval times when knights would remove their helmets to show respect. Today you don't have to be wearing a hat, you can simply say 'hats off' and as well as being respectful, it can be used to celebrate achievement. So, hats off to you for learning about hats off!

Whether you're a current student, have children in school, or have been out of school for many years, World Teachers' Day is a chance to say, 'thank you'. Don't forget to send a message to your teacher!



HATS OFF TO TEACHERS



#WORLDTEACHERSDAY2024



FRI 25 OCT



2025 Parent Payments

October 2024

Dear parent/guardian,

Hastings Primary School would like to thank you for your financial support as we endeavour to provide the best possible education for your child.

Within our school this support has allowed us to provide special curriculum experiences, enhanced digital learning opportunities, upgrade of our library, upgrade of our playground, faster WIFI and internet.

Our school is committed to ensuring that parent payment requests are accurate, transparent, affordable, and aligned with our requirements as a Victorian Government school. It has recently come to our attention that some changes are required to our parent payment arrangements to ensure they are clear and transparent. Accordingly, we have updated and re-published this year's parent payment arrangements on our school website.

If you have made your parent payments this year and still wish to contribute towards the listed items and activities, no further action is required. However, if the updated arrangements change what you are interested in contributing towards and/or purchasing, please reach out and we can provide you with a line of credit towards other future costs. We can also provide you with a refund if required.

Thank you again for your continued support of our school. If you would like to discuss this matter further, please contact:

Simone McDonald – Principal

Ph: 03 5979 1517

Email: hastings.ps@education.vic.gov.au

For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy please see a one-page overview attached.

Yours sincerely

Simone McDonald
PRINCIPAL

*Payments are made via the compass portal.
These will be live on COMPASS from
Wednesday 30th October.*

Dave Gardner
SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY

ONE PAGE OVERVIEW



FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction and ensure students have free access to all items, activities and services that are used by the school to fulfil the requirements of the Curriculum. This includes the Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- Schools may invite parents to make a financial contribution to support the school.



PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

Schools can request contributions from parents under three categories:

Curriculum Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.

Other Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides for free to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

- Schools may also invite parents to supply or purchase educational items to use and own (e.g. textbooks, stationery, digital devices).



FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

- Schools put in place financial hardship arrangements to support families who cannot pay for items or activities so that their child doesn't miss out.
- Schools have a nominated parent payment contact person(s) that parents can have a confidential discussion with regarding financial hardship arrangements.



SCHOOL PROCESSES

- Schools must obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and publish all requests and communications for each year level on their school website for transparency.

2025 Staffing Updates



We would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Mr. Boots on his successful appointment to a teaching position in 2025 at Newcomb Primary School on the Bellarine Peninsula. Mr. Boots has made a positive impact on many students during his time with us, particularly through his dedication to our junior teaching team. While we will greatly miss his passion, experience, and support, we wish him and his family all the very best as they relocate and begin this exciting new chapter. Best of luck, Mr. Boots!



We would like to celebrate the incredible Ms. Munn, our amazing bike education teacher, who recently celebrated a 'special' birthday, is officially retiring. Ms. Munn has had a long and distinguished career at Hastings Primary School, serving both as a teacher and Assistant Principal. Her passion for education and her commitment to our school community have touched the lives of countless students and staff. While Hastings PS will always be in her blood, Ms. Munn is now excited to focus on spending time with her grandchildren. We wish her all the very best in her well-deserved retirement!



We would like to acknowledge Mrs. Reid for her many dedicated years of teaching at Hastings Primary School as she prepares to retire at the end of this year. Mrs. Reid's passion for science and cricket has inspired students both in the classroom and on the field, leaving a lasting impact on their education and personal development. As she enters this new chapter, Mrs. Reid looks forward to spending more time with her family and exploring the world through travel. We wish her all the very best in her well-earned retirement and future adventures!



We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Sally Webster, one of our dedicated ES staff members, who will be leaving Hastings Primary School at the end of this year. Sally has been an invaluable part of our school community, always bringing her enthusiasm and commitment to support both staff and students. While we are sad to see her go, we are excited for her as she embarks on a new career in social work. We wish her all the best in this rewarding new chapter. Sally's presence will be greatly missed!



We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Sue Wilson, who has been an integral part of our Auslan program and will be leaving Hastings Primary School at the end of this year. Sue's enthusiasm and dedication to supporting our students in learning Auslan has been truly appreciated. While we are sad to see her go, we are excited for her as she pursues other teaching opportunities. We wish her every success in this next chapter of her career. Sue will be greatly missed!

Let your future adventures
be absolutely amazing!



School Procedures for the Bushfire Season

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



Enrol your child in Foundation for 2025



Enrolment in Foundation (Prep) 2025 at Hastings Primary School has been available since 15 April 2024.

If you have a child starting primary school in 2025, it's time to enrol!

If you are enrolling the sibling of a student at our school for Foundation in 2025, and both children will be attending our school at the same time, your child is prioritised for a place at our school as per the department's Placement Policy.

It is important to follow the statewide timeline to enrol your child in Foundation. Enrolling your child in line with the timelines allows us to plan our classrooms, staffing and transition activities and ensures your child has the best start to school.

For more information, please read about when and how to enrol your child in Foundation at [vic.gov.au/enrolling-foundation-prep](https://www.vic.gov.au/enrolling-foundation-prep)

Tours are welcome by appointment.

FOUNDATION TRANSITION SESSIONS FOR 2025 FOUNDATION STUDENTS

Wednesday 7th August 2024 2:15—3:00

Wednesday 4th September 2024 2:15—3:00

Thursday 17th October 2024 2:15—3:00

Thursday 14th November 2024 2:15 - 3:00

STATEWIDE ORIENTATION DAY

Tuesday 10th December 2024





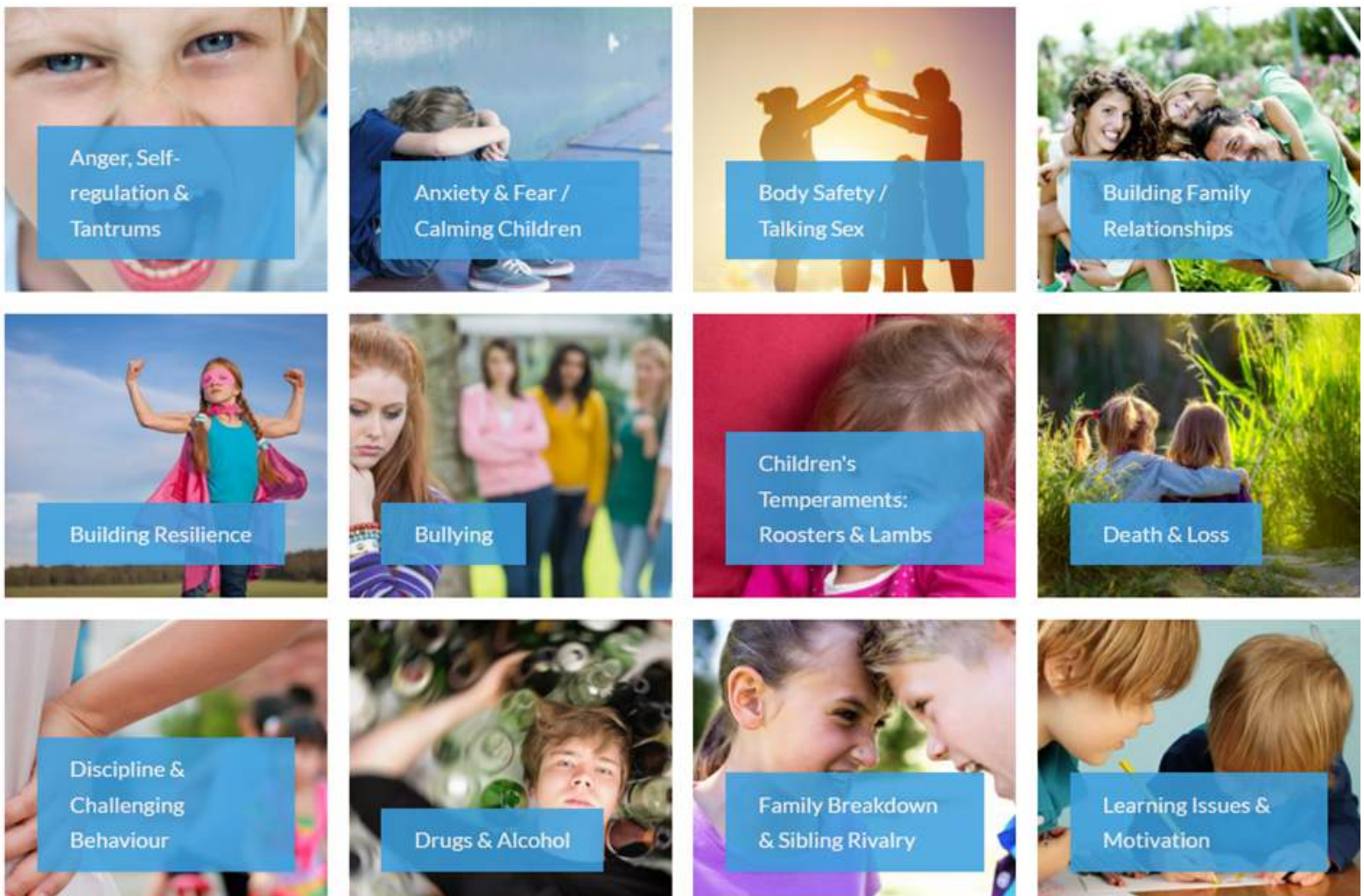
FROM THE AP'S DESK

PARENTING WEBSITE

As mentioned in the last newsletter, I will be sharing websites with reliable, well-researched information. This week is the Maggie Dent's website. She has a go-to guide with key articles, audios, videos and other resources covering a range of common concerns.

<https://www.maggiedent.com/common-concerns/>

The screenshot below shows just some of the topics she covers.





ENGLISH AT HPS

You may have heard in the news the Minister for Education, Ben Carroll announced that all students from Prep to Year 2 will be taught using a systematic synthetic phonics approach as part of their reading programs from 2025 with explicit teaching at its core. At Hastings Primary School we use a synthetic phonics program which is based on the science of reading called 'Sounds Write.'

What is phonics?

Phonics includes linking sounds (called 'phonemes') to their corresponding letters (called 'graphemes'). Students read words by recognising the relationships between written symbols and their corresponding sounds.

Why is phonics instruction important?

Research and evidence show that phonics instruction is a highly effective way to teach children to read. It helps them develop decoding skills (translating printed words into speech), which assist in reading unfamiliar words. Phonics gives many children the tools to figure out new words and understand spelling patterns, building their reading fluency and comprehension.

PHONICS AT HOME

Read together

Choose books that interest your child and spend time reading aloud together.

I spy

Play 'I spy' focusing on sounds and letters. For example, 'I spy with my little eye something that begins with the sound /b/.'

Playdough letters

Encourage children to form letters with playdough and then say the corresponding sound as they make each letter. This can be extended by using the letters to form words and sound them out.

If you have any questions, please reach out!

Mrs Legge



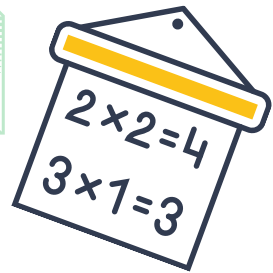
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

Michelle Aldridge

There are always lots of parent questions about times tables from parents, and with the new school year almost upon us they are coming in thick and fast, so here is the run down.

MULTIPLICATION

AT HOME



Whether we are investigating patterns, measurement, cooking, discounts offered online and in-store or simply sharing items, knowing multiplication facts is key. When we know the facts 'off by heart' we sometimes stop recognising that we are even using them.

Our Year 3 to 6 classes are diving into multiplication this term! At school we'll be working on building a strong foundation of multiplication facts and strategies.

We know how important family involvement is in your children's education, and together we can make learning multiplication both fun and effective!

At home, you can help reinforce what your child is learning in class by practicing multiplication facts in everyday situations—whether it's counting items during shopping, using flashcards, or even incorporating maths into games. Just a few minutes a day can make a big difference.



Chanting times-tables regularly also increases the likelihood of recalling the facts when we need them. In fact knowing the entire equation is essential, and provides connections that skip counting does not provide.

Facts should your child focus on:

and the order helps their learning the fastest.

Year 3 - 2s, 10s, 5s, 4s and 3s

Year 4 - 8s, 9s, 6s, and 7s

Year 5 - All multiplication from 1s to 10s

Year 6 - 11s and 12s.

From Prep to Year 2 students can look for patterns in the world around them, and build to making and continuing number patterns in Year One. By the end of Year 2, students should be confidently skip counting by 10s, 2s and 5s.

Displaying a times tables chart or playing games will also support your child's learning. For great games we recommend visiting:

<https://www.lovemaths.me/games>

Encouraging a positive attitude towards maths helps build your child's confidence and makes learning enjoyable. Thank you for being a partner in your child's success!



Miss
Michelle
Aldridge

Michelle.Aldridge@education.vic.gov.au

STUDENTS of the WEEK



18TH OCTOBER 2024



PA	Montana-Rose Molloy	Well done on the growth you have made in literacy this year Montana. You have shown how persistence and trying your personal best pays off. We are so proud of you and can't wait to see what is to come.
PB	Abeer Singh	Abeer, your English speaking skills have improved so much since you started at HPS. You are talking to your teachers and friends in simple sentences and confidence is shining. Well done Abeer!
1/2A	Kobie Healey	"Congrats, Kobie! You've been absolutely on fire this week! Whether it's tackling Flat Stanley questions like a detective or adding numbers in maths like a human calculator, you're crushing it! 🚀 This term is off to a blazing start - keep up the awesome work!"
1/2B	Ashton Filius	Congratulations, Ashton! You consistently show incredible kindness and support to your classmates, always lending a helping hand when needed. This week, you tackled challenges with a positive attitude, and we truly admire that! Keep up the great work!
4/5A	Kai Bradshaw	Kai, your efforts this term have not gone unnoticed. You are stepping up, doing your best and looking like the leader I know you can become. Keep up the good work Kai - you might be a future school leader in the making!
4/5A	Zaire Juma	Zaire, it has been a pleasure to welcome you to 45A this week. Your contributions and active engagement in lessons has shown me the kind and warm natured student you are. Our class has welcomed you with open arms, I can not wait to see your achievements this term!
5/6A	Liam Crawley	Liam, your considerable vocabulary has certainly been helping our class when it comes to suggesting synonyms for new words that we discover in our mentor texts. Outstanding, exceptional, pre-eminent.
5/6A	Jack Randle	Jack, you always have something interesting to contribute to our class discussions about whatever book we are reading. I have really enjoyed your way of 'thinking outside of the box', with your highly original observations.
5/6B	Beau Blackstock	Beau, it's hard to not to be impressed by your outstanding knowledge and enthusiasm for Geography. I look forward to seeing what you find out about your chosen country and I can't wait to see your finished 2024 Travel Guide website for Vietnam!
5/6B	Alvin Dang	Alvin, your letter about your adventures over the school holidays was not only well written and presented, it was also written in a captivating way. Your personality really stood out and yours was the only letter that genuinely made me laugh! Great effort Alvin.

SPECIALIST SUPER STARS



18TH OCT 2024

ASSEMBLY AWARDS

Archie Munro-Batson,
Cruz Barnert,
Axle Wells,
Jarryd Smith

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

Archie Munro-
Batson



Congratulations to this weeks award recipients!

Caring, Respecting and Learning

Remembrance Day

11.11

Student Leaders are supporting the Hastings RSL by selling Remembrance Day items to commemorate those who were lost in both World Wars.

From Monday 29th October - Monday 11th November the students will be at the picnic table in front of the Office from 8:40 - 8:50 AM

Items include:

- poppy pins \$2 & \$5
- hat pins \$5
- wrist bands \$5
- pens \$10

Exact money is required as no change can be given.

Items are currently available for purchase at the office.



HOUSE POINTS

2024 Leaders
Banyan House
ALEX & LILYAHNA

OWEN & IVY
2024 Leaders
Myrabal House

520

2024 Leaders
Waller House
WILLOW & ALVIN

330

2024 Leaders
Waraba House
LILLY & KEANU

290

695



THURSDAY 31ST OCT
9AM-11AM

**Halloween
Edition**



JUNIOR (F-2) HOUSE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

**PLEASE WEAR YOUR HOUSE COLOURS ON THE DAY.
STUDENTS SHOULD ALSO WEAR RUNNERS AND BRING A
DRINK BOTTLE.**

**FAMILIES ARE WELCOME TO COME AND
SUPPORT THE STUDENTS.**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH
A STATION PLEASE SEE THE OFFICE**

Purchase or pay it forward one of a kind carry-on cases and backpacks painted by children, young people and adults.



Get your tickets



Happy PLace Art Exhibition

15 November 2024

6pm - 9:30pm

The Nook Gallery & Studios

18 Progress St, Mornington

Featuring the work of eight
students selected from
Hastings Primary School!

Beau B, Caiden, Stella, Lumen, Beau K, Alvin, Willow and Lilyahna have been working tirelessly through their lunchtimes to paint 4 suitcases that will be displayed in the art exhibition.

- ◆ Door prizes and raffles
- ◆ Finger food and drinks
- ◆ Live music
- ◆ Support a great cause
- ◆ Special guests including Kat Stewart and Sam Groth MP



All proceeds go towards the Magical Getaway Foundation

More info: www.magicalgetawayfoundation.org/happy-place

This event is supported by The Andrews Foundation

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SHOWTIME ATTRACTIONS





HASTINGS CRICKET CLUB

WOOLIES BLAST IS COMING TO HASTINGS

FUN IS IN!

28th OCT

4:30PM @ HASTINGS PARK

REGISTER NOW!

