



2025 TERM 1 EDITION 1

NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 5th February 2025



IMPORTANT DATES

Wed 5, 12,
19, 26 Feb

No Preps at School

Fri 28th
Feb

Clean Up Australia Day @
HPS

Tue 4th
Mar

GRIP Student Leadership
Conference

12th, 13th,
14th Mar

Year 3 & Year 5 NAPLAN

17th - 21st
Mar

Harmony Week

Fri 4th
April

End of Term - 2:30 pm
dismissal

Principal's Message



Welcome to a New Year at Hastings Primary School.

As we begin another exciting year at Hastings Primary School, we warmly welcome all students, families, and staff to our vibrant learning community.

We look forward to a fantastic year of growth, learning, and shared success.

At Hastings Primary School, we are committed to fostering a positive and respectful environment for everyone who enters our school. Respect, kindness, and cooperation are the foundations of our community, ensuring that all staff, students, and families feel safe and valued.

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



We kindly remind our school community that respectful behaviour is expected at all times. Our staff are here to support students and families, and we ask that all interactions—whether in person, over the phone, or via email—reflect our shared values of courtesy and respect. Aggressive or inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated.

This expectation aligns with the Department of Education and Training’s Respectful Workplaces Policy, which promotes safe and inclusive environments for all school staff. You can read more about this policy [here](#).

By working together with mutual respect, we can continue to make Hastings Primary School a welcoming and supportive place for all. Thank you for being part of our wonderful school community—we look forward to a great year ahead!



I would like to take this opportunity to extend 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.

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.

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

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

TERM ONE



2025

STUDENT FREE DAYS



School Holidays

Public Holidays

Curriculum Days

IMPORTANT DATES

Year 1-6 First Day of 2025

Prep Family Interviews - 1 hour

Preps First Day of 2025

No Preps at School

Year 3 and 5 NAPLAN

End of Term - 2:30PM dismissal

At Hastings Primary School we focus on student wellbeing, social and academic growth each and every day.



Hastings Primary School

Caring, Respecting, Learning

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](#).

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)

FROM THE AP'S DESK



Welcome back to 2025! It has been so lovely to see everyone's smiling faces and hear all about their summer holiday break.

Last year you may have seen the artist 'Kutjarra' (Holly) creating this amazing mural she titled: "EMBRACING OUR ROOTS"

These are Holly's words about the mural:

This painting is centred around the aspects of Hastings Primary School that have stood the test of time. Through the middle of the piece, is the oak tree that has been here for over a century, with its branches breaking up the painting, showing different parts of the school. The bottom two spaces symbolise Kings Creek, and all its inhabitants. The lower middle sections represent the land and buildings the school runs in, and the people who cherish this school, students, staff, and the entire Hastings community. The upper middle sections represent the nature throughout the school and how the community looks after it, together both living in harmony.

The top section represents the sky, and has symbols for "meeting place" and "family" throughout. This represents and acknowledges the past students and staff that have passed through the school and made a positive impact. Ultimately, this piece shows how this school has grown, whilst reflecting and appreciating those that came before us.

A plaque with the title and story will be made and displayed in the Learning Stones area and we will have a smoking ceremony there in the near future that everyone is invited to attend.

Mrs Rebecca Vegge



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

Michelle Aldridge

There is an exciting buzz at school, with familiar and fresh faces ready to leap into learning in 2025. This year if I can assist you with anything you can find me in the office in the Angling building, please feel free to drop by.

This term the big items that I will be working on include **Student Leadership, Student Representative Council [SRC], NAPLAN, Clean-Up Australia Day** (Friday 28th Feb) and **Harmony Week** (Mar 17th - 21st).

Our **Student Leadership Team** will be formally inducted at our **first Assembly on Friday 14th Feb from 2:30PM in the Hall**. We hope you can come along to meet the new team and celebrate with us!

NAPLAN runs annually for students in Years 3 and 5. This year it commences on 12th March and runs initially until the 14th March. There is a window of time in the following weeks for students to catch up on NAPLAN if they are absent, however this does disrupt their regular classes so we emphasise that student attendance is very important on the three main days

For more information about NAPLAN head to this website:

<https://www.nap.edu.au/docs/default-source/default-document-library/naplan-information-brochure-for-parents-and-carers.pdf>

We're excited to announce that Hastings Primary School students will be rolling up their sleeves to participate in **Clean-Up Australia Day!** Our students will be helping to make a positive impact by cleaning up our school grounds and surrounding areas, learning about the importance of keeping our community and environment clean and safe. This is a wonderful opportunity for our young leaders to take action, show community pride, and help create a greener future for everyone. Let's support our students as they make a difference! *We would love for you to join us on Friday 28th Feb from 2:30PM.*

Clean Up



Harmony Week has been an important date on the HPS calendar, and 2025 is no exception. The traditional 'wear a touch of orange' will feature during the week, so start keeping an eye out at the shops. This year the **SRC** will be working on building cultural inclusivity across the school and begin reaching out to our community. Harmony Week will be an important launch event for the SRC. We look forward to your support!



Miss
Michelle
Aldridge

Michelle.Aldridge@education.vic.gov.au

2025 Parent Payments

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

Dave Gardner
SCHOOL COUNCIL PRESIDENT

***Payments are made via
the compass portal.***



WE HAVE MOVED!

YOUR SCHOOL WILL BE MOVING TO OUR NEW PURPOSE BUILT STORE IN

MORNINGTON



61 WATT ROAD,
MORNINGTON VIC 3931

300 METRES FURTHER UP THE ROAD!

STORE OPENS **THURSDAY JANUARY 2ND 2025**

THE LAST DAY OF TRADE FOR YOUR CURRENT STORE IS **SATURDAY DECEMBER 14TH 2024**

STORE ADDRESS:

61 WATT ROAD,
MORNINGTON VIC 3931
(03) 9768 0346

TRADING HOURS:

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9AM - 5PM
SATURDAY 9AM - 1PM
SUNDAY CLOSED

PSW.COM.AU

ACADEMYUNIFORMS.COM.AU

