



2025 TERM 3 EDITION 2

NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 6th August 2025



IMPORTANT DATES

6th Aug Foundation Transition Activities
2:15pm-3pm

7th Aug Somerville Rotary - ISAC Comp
2025

8th Aug Year 5 Creative Curiosity Day -
Western Port Secondary College

1st - 5th Sept Book Week @ HPS

3rd Sept Foundation Transition Activities
2:15pm-3pm

10th Sept **RUOK Day @ HPS**
Wear a touch of Yellow

18th Sept Yr 5/6 Somers Camp Experience

13th - 14th
Nov Yr 3/4 Adventure Camp

Principal's Message



Welcome Back to Term Three

What an action-packed start to the term we've had! There's already been so much happening across our school—and it's only just begun.

Our student leaders are doing a fantastic job capturing all the highlights, so make sure you join us at our assemblies to hear their updates and celebrate the many achievements of our students.

Division T-Ball Champions

A huge shoutout to our amazing T-Ball team for taking out the Division Championship! What a fantastic effort—your teamwork, determination and sportsmanship were outstanding.

Next stop: Regionals! Go Team Hastings!

Student Led Conferences

A big thank you to all our families for the fantastic turnout at our Student-Led Conferences. It was wonderful to see so many of you engaging with your children as they proudly shared their learning and growth.

We know how much time and effort our students put into preparing for these conferences, and your support made the experience even more meaningful for them. We hope you enjoyed it as much as they did!



Tu Toa, Kia Kaha
Stand Strong, Have Strength

Mrs. Simone McDonald Principal



Celebrating Leadership at Hastings Primary School

Thanks to the Team! -Principals Day

At Hastings Primary School, we proudly recognise and celebrate the outstanding leadership, dedication, and impact of our Principal Class Team as part of this year's Principals Day last Friday. This annual event is an important opportunity to honour the incredible work of school leaders across Victoria's government schools — and we are especially grateful for the team that leads our school community every day.

Our Principal, Simone McDonald, and Asst. Principals, Rebecca Legge and Michelle Aldridge, exemplify the values of being **CONNECTED**, **UNITED**, and **EMPOWERED** in all they do. Together, they lead with integrity, vision, and a deep commitment to improving student outcomes and fostering a safe, inclusive, and thriving school environment. Their leadership is not only about managing day-to-day operations — it's about shaping young lives, building strong relationships with staff and families, and guiding continuous school improvement.

Principals and assistant principals are hardworking professionals who answer to a wide range of stakeholders. They balance strategic planning, community engagement, curriculum leadership, and student wellbeing, all while navigating an ever-changing educational landscape. At Hastings Primary School, we are fortunate to have leaders who care deeply, act with purpose, and lead by example.

This year's Principals Day theme — *Celebrating Leadership in Government Primary Schools* — reminds us that behind every successful school are leaders who are connected to their communities, united with their staff and families, and empowered to make meaningful change.

We thank Simone, Rebecca and Michelle for their tireless work, unwavering commitment, and the positive impact they have on our students, staff, and families. Their leadership matters — and today, and every day, we are grateful.

Thank you to our school community for joining us in saying a heartfelt "Thank you!" — and making last Friday a meaningful celebration of leadership and gratitude at Hastings Primary School.





Hastings PS: 2026 Transition to School Calendar

Building the Future

Explore the Foundation Learning Space at Hastings Primary School

Our vibrant and nurturing Foundation space is the perfect place for young learners to grow, discover and thrive. Enrolled students enjoy extra transition sessions designed to build confidence, support friendships and ensure a smooth start to school.

Other tours are welcome, please contact us for an appointment.	Guided Tours	Foundation Transition Activities	2026 Foundation Parent Workshops	State Wide Transition Day
Hastings Primary School 10 Hodgins Road Hastings, 3915 <i>Principal: Simone McDonald</i> <i>Phone: 5979 1517</i>	Wednesday 14th May 9:30 – 10:30 am	2:15 pm – 3:00 pm Wednesday 6th August Wednesday 3rd September Thursday 16th October Thursday 13th November	Thursday 16th October 2:15 pm – 3:00 pm Thursday 13th November 2:15 pm – 3:00 pm	Tuesday 9th December 9:00 – 10:30 am

Enrol your child in Foundation for 2026



Enrolment in Foundation (Prep) 2026 at Hastings Primary School has been available since 22nd April 2025.

If you have a child starting primary school in 2026, it's time to enrol!

If you are enrolling the sibling of a student at our school for Foundation in 2026, 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

Tours are welcome by appointment.



CONGRATULATIONS

Division TeeBall Winners

Congratulations to the students who represented Hastings Primary School at the Division level for TeeBall. Your hard work, teamwork, and dedication have truly paid off, and now we're proud to announce...

We're Off to Regionals!

Well done, team, the whole school community is behind you as you take it to the next level!



Congratulations to our amazing Preps on 100 days of Prep! You've learned, played, and grown so much, we're so proud of you!



FROM THE AP'S DESK

MRS LEGGE



Children's Uni

Don't forget to stop by the C U Club on Mondays to get your hours stamped! Consistently tracking your hours is important, so be sure to check in each week. In the coming weeks, we'll also be sharing more details about graduation, so stay tuned for important updates and announcements.

Anxiety: part 1

Over the few newsletters, I will feature information by Australian Child Psychologist and former teacher, Michael Hawton. Drawing on decades of experience, Michael highlights how today's parents are more likely to step in and fix problems for their children—sometimes at the cost of their independence.

The information will explore what anxiety looks like in children, how to reduce anxious behaviours, and the importance of building resilience. I hope you find it helpful.

It's essential to understand that anxiety exists on a spectrum. We must be careful not to pathologize every worried thought or nervous moment our children experience and be cautious of the language we use around children. The term 'anxiety' is becoming more common in everyday language and that can result in children using it in their self-talk, their internal dialogue – 'I'm feeling anxious today,' 'I can't do it, I'm too anxious'. Normal developmental anxiety—such as a child worrying about a school test or feeling nervous before a performance actually serves an important purpose in building resilience, and gives them experience of overcoming worrying times.

However, when anxiety becomes persistent, interferes with daily functioning, and causes significant distress, we're looking at something that requires intervention. The key distinction lies in whether the anxiety is proportionate to the situation and whether it's preventing your child from engaging in age-appropriate activities.

Adolescence (Ages 12-18)

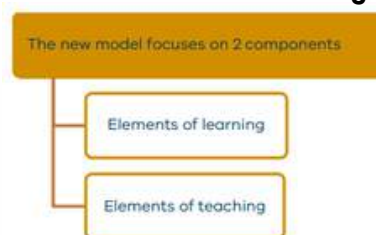
Teenagers face unique pressures that can manifest as social anxiety, panic symptoms, or generalised worry about the future. They might withdraw from family activities, show declining academic performance despite capability, or experience physical symptoms like rapid heartbeat, sweating, or difficulty breathing during stressful situations.

Children's bodies often tell the story before their words do. Persistent headaches, stomach complaints, muscle tension, and sleep disturbances are common physical manifestations of anxiety. Emotionally, you might observe heightened reactivity—what seems like an overreaction to minor setbacks, increased irritability, or sudden tearfulness over seemingly small issues.

Pay particular attention to avoidance behaviours. When children consistently dodge activities, they once enjoyed, refuse to attend social gatherings, or resist going to school, anxiety may be the underlying culprit.

VTLM 2.0

The new Victorian Teaching and Learning Model (VTLM) 2.0 enhances the work of teachers, and the changes will help every child succeed on their learning journey.



Elements of learning: how students learn

The elements of learning are based on research into how the brain learns:

1. Attention and focus – learning starts when students are engaged and focused. Teachers create environments that reduce distractions and help students pay attention.
2. Knowledge and memory – new learning builds on what we already know. Teachers help students remember previous lessons and link them to new ideas.
3. Retention and recall – practice makes permanent, but only when done correctly. Teachers use strategies like spacing, quizzing, and revisiting key concepts to help students remember more over time.
4. Mastery and application – students learn best when they can apply knowledge in real-world ways. Teachers ask open-ended questions, problem solving, and peer collaboration to help students apply learning.



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

Michelle Aldridge

STUDENT LEADER'S LUNCHTIME CLUBS

The Student Leadership Team are running Lunchtime Clubs on Wednesdays this Term.

Week	Leaders	Club	Year Level
4	Axle and William	Mindfulness	Yr F/1/2
5	Kai and Abby	Football	Yr 3/4/5/6

House point will be awarded to students at these events. Most events will be for a maximum of 20 students.

Thanks to Mr Minehan for supporting these events!

SRC NEWS

The SRC are encouraging everyone to get curious and learn more about each other! They are wondering:

Which holidays or celebrations do you participate in with your family?

Each class will be talking about this during their SRC meeting this week, and sharing all the different celebrations from the Hastings Primary School community at Assembly on the 15th August.

We would love to see photos and hear stories about your family traditions, so please send them to school with your child or email Miss Aldridge.



Thank You!

Thank you for your generosity this Pyjama Day. The SRC collected \$181.10 When added to the Maths Day funds we will donate a total of \$245.60 to State Schools' Relief.



Miss Michelle Aldridge
Michelle.Aldridge@education.vic.gov.au





STUDENTS of the WEEK



PA	Bailey Pershouse	<i>Bailey is a kind and caring classmate who always thinks of others. This week, he went above and beyond by bringing in special items to help make our 100 days of Prep celebration extra special. His thoughtful contributions and generous spirit helped create a fun and memorable day for everyone. Well done, Bailey!</i>
1/2A	Liara Snell	<i>Wow Liara! The persistence you have demonstrated this week when taking on addition equations has been superb. Although you found it challenging at first, you didn't give up! Keep up the fantastic work.</i>
1/2B	Monica Goodacre	<i>The magnificent Mon! What an incredible start to Term 3 you have had. Your enthusiasm and persistence with your learning, especially writing, has been unmatched. I can't wait to see what wonderful things you achieve throughout the rest of the term. Keep it up!</i>
3/4A	Peyton Fitzpatrick	<i>Peyton, you have shown resilience this week and have taken a positive approach to a challenging situation! Keep up the great work!</i>
3/4A	Angela Orongan	<i>Angela, you have maintained your positive approach to your learning and continue to be a strong role model to all students! We will miss having you as a member of our class, and the HPS community. Good luck at your new school!</i>
3/4B	Nahleah Churcher	<i>Congratulations Nahleah, your kind and caring nature has shone like the sun through the clouds. Be very proud of the person you are. Keep up the great attitude</i>
3/4B	Alice Clifford	<i>Alice, well done for showing how being kind and caring can change a person's day. Your kindness to others makes our classroom and school a better place. Keep being yourself, it is amazing!</i>
5/6A	Chase Waddington	<i>Chase, you have made giant leaps forward in your reading this year and proved it last week with a much improved Lexile score. Never give up!</i>
5/6A	Ava Ford	<i>Ava, your confidence in expressing yourself in class has become more evident. It's great to see you volunteering answers in literacy and numeracy and being an active learner.</i>
5/6B	Blake Gray	<i>Well done Blake on such a positive start to Term 3! You have taken things in your stride and your ability to adapt to change is to be congratulated.</i>
5/6B	Acacia Wyatt	<i>Congratulations Acacia on your positive attitude to school. You have begun the Term with enthusiasm which has been wonderful to see. Keep up the great work!</i>

ASSEMBLY AWARDS

SPECIALIST SUPERSTARS



Eli Tauhore, Ruby Fisher,
Sailah Parsons, Jack Churcher

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD



Blake G

Congratulations to this weeks award recipients!

Caring, Respecting and Learning

HOUSE POINTS



WARADA
1945



MARMALADE
1655



WALLUM
1351



BUNYA
1250



3-6 HOUSE ATHLETICS





Library news and information



Children's Book Week
Join us 16-23 August for some fun activities celebrating Children's Book Week. This year we have a special guest performer, Damo's Music for Kids, performing at Rosebud and Mornington Library, as well as our dress up Storytimes at all of our branches. So choose your favourite book character to dress up as and come and join in the fun!
ourlibrary.mornpen.vic.gov.au/book-week



National science week

Join us in branch 9-17 August to celebrate National Science Week! From Frog themed Storytimes, to Mad Science Shows and Sphero Robotics for Adults, we've got something for every science lover. If you're a member of Children's University don't forget your passport so our friendly branch staff can stamp it!
ourlibrary.mornpen.vic.gov.au/science-week

Connect with us

[@morningtonpeninsulalibraries](https://www.facebook.com/morningtonpeninsulalibraries)
[facebook.com/ourlibrarymornpen](https://www.facebook.com/ourlibrarymornpen)
ourlibrary.mornpen.vic.gov.au



Coding Club at Hastings & Mornington Library

Join our Coding Club and explore programming with Fierocode! This open, self-guided club lets you work through coding challenges independently, no set lessons—just you, your curiosity, and the power to create! Children can keep the fun going at home by being able to access Fierocode at anytime through the Mornington Peninsula Shire Library website.
ourlibrary.mornpen.vic.gov.au/coding

FREE PADS & TAMPONS. PERIOD.

You can now find FREE pads and tampons vending machines at Mornington Peninsula Shire Libraries and the Southern Peninsula Community Support Centre!

freepadsandtampons.vic.gov.au

Proudly sponsored by State Government Victoria and The Department of Family, Fairness and Housing



MISSION POSSIBLE: STEM CLUB ADVENTURE SERIES

This term will be OFF THE CHARTS with our STEM Club Adventure Series



Join us as we EMBARK on an EPIC four-part mission, where we'll ACTIVATE new STEM realms by CRACKING codes, SOLVING puzzles and INVENTING clever ways to SUCCEED in each mission 🧑🏫♂️ Our ADVENTURE starts HERE – www.teamkids.com.au/venues



JULY

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		

AUGUST

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						

SEPTEMBER

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				

OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

TERM THREE



2025

STUDENT FREE DAYS



School Holidays



Public Holidays



Curriculum Days

IMPORTANT DATES



First Day of Term



Assembly



Student-Led Conferences



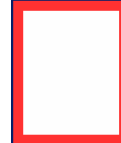
Book Week



Principal's Day



RUOK Day



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