



2026 TERM 3 EDITION 4

NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 26th August 2026



IMPORTANT DATES

Fri 28th
August

Year 5 & 6
Puffing Billy Excursion

Mon 31st
Aug - Fri 4th
Sep

HPS Book Week
Parade Friday 9am

Weds 2nd
September

2027 Foundation Student
Transition Session
2:15pm - 3:00pm

Thurs 4th
September

District Athletics

Mon 7th
September

Open Afternoon
Father's Day

Mon 14th
Sep - Thur
17th Sep

Whole School Swimming

Principal's Message



As we move towards the end of winter and the first signs of spring begin to appear, there is a wonderful sense of renewal around Hastings Primary School. The grass is growing, the blossoms are beginning to bloom and the days are gradually becoming longer and brighter.

Just like the season around us, our students are continuing to grow, flourish and thrive. Across our classrooms and learning spaces, we are seeing students engage with their learning, develop new skills, take on challenges and build confidence in themselves as learners. Each day brings new opportunities to learn, discover and grow.

It has been wonderful to see our school values of Caring, Respecting and Learning reflected in the way our students approach their learning and interact with one another. We continue to be proud of the progress our students are making – not only in their academic learning, but also in their independence, resilience, relationships and confidence.

As we head towards spring and the final weeks of Term 3, I encourage our students to continue to embrace every opportunity to learn, challenge themselves and celebrate their progress.

Book Week - Literacy Festival is nearly here!

One of the most exciting weeks of the school year is almost here – Book Week 2026! Next week, we will celebrate our love of reading, stories and imagination as part of our much-loved Literacy Festival.

A highlight will be our Book Character Parade, where students and staff bring favourite book characters to life. We are looking forward to seeing the creativity and enthusiasm that make this such a special event.

We can't wait to celebrate Book Week and our love of literacy together!

Tu Toa, Kia Kaha Stand Strong, Have

Strength
Mrs. Simone McDonald Principal



Emergency Evacuation Drill – Thank you

Today, Hastings Primary School conducted an emergency evacuation drill as part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our students, staff and visitors.

Emergency drills provide an important opportunity for our school community to practise what to do if it ever becomes unsafe to remain on school grounds. While we hope we never need to use these procedures in a real emergency, regular practice helps ensure that students and staff are familiar with the processes and can respond calmly, safely and efficiently.

As part of today's drill, students, staff and onsite personnel practised evacuating the school grounds and moving towards our designated off-site emergency assembly point at the Hastings Foreshore Reserve. We did not walk all the way to the reserve. Instead, we practised the process of moving the entire school community as a large group, exiting via the Hodgins Road gate and re-entering through the Victoria Road extension carpark gate. No roads were crossed during the drill.

We were extremely proud of how quickly and orderly the entire school community moved. Our students listened carefully, followed instructions and demonstrated a strong understanding of the importance of staying together and supporting one another.

A sincere thank you to our staff for the care and preparation that went into ensuring students understood the purpose of the drill and felt supported throughout the process. Thank you also to our students for their excellent cooperation and to all onsite personnel for following the procedures and contributing to a safe and successful drill.

Preparing for Bushfire Season

As we move closer to the bushfire season, we encourage all families to take some time to consider their own bushfire preparedness. Having a plan and discussing it with your family before an emergency occurs can help everyone know what to do and where to go.

We encourage families to stay informed about local conditions, understand the Fire Danger Rating for your area, prepare an emergency plan and discuss where you would go if you needed to leave. It is particularly important that families consider their plans early rather than waiting until a fire is approaching.

Today's drill is a reminder that being prepared is something we all share responsibility for. By ensuring our school and our families are prepared, we can help keep our children and wider community as safe as possible.

Well done, Hastings Primary School – we are very proud of you!

Mrs. Simone McDonald
Principal

2026 Parent / Carer Opinion Survey:

WE WANT OUR PARENTS / CARERS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!

Our school is conducting the annual Parent / Carer Opinion Survey offered by the Department of Education and is seeking your feedback. The survey is designed to assist schools in gaining an understanding of families' perceptions of school climate, student behavior, and student engagement. The survey is optional, but we encourage and appreciate your participation.

Our school will use the survey results to assist in identifying areas for improvement and professional development needs in the school, to target school planning and improvement strategies.

The Parent / Carer Opinion Survey is open online from Monday 17 August to Friday 18 September 2026. The link is on COMPASS.

The survey will be conducted online, only takes 20 minutes to complete, and can be accessed at any convenient time on desktop computers, laptops, tablets or smartphones.

The online survey will be available in English and 10 other languages including Arabic, Greek, Hakha Chin, Hindi, Japanese, Punjabi, Simplified Chinese, Somali, Turkish, and Vietnamese. Resources are also available in additional languages to assist parents / carers who speak a language other than English at home. Please reach out to your child's teacher, or the school directly for survey guides in your language.

Please speak to Mrs. McDonald if you would like more information.

FROM THE AP'S DESK



Hastings Primary School Literacy Festival

Every Story Begins with a Chapter

Get ready for a magical week of stories, creativity, imagination and literacy fun at Hastings Primary School!

From Monday 31st August to Friday 4th September, our school will come alive as we celebrate the joy of reading, writing, storytelling and sharing books together. Each day will be a new chapter in our Literacy Festival, with something special for every student – and an opportunity for families to join in too!

 **Monday – Chapter 1: The Launch – Let the adventure begin!**

We will officially launch our Literacy Festival with a range of exciting activities, including a Book Fair Wish List Walkthrough and a lunchtime screening of The Magic Faraway Tree movie.

The whole school will also come together for a Teacher Read Aloud from 2:15–3:15pm in Angling, giving students the chance to enjoy a story shared by one of their teachers.

 **Tuesday – Chapter 2: The Author – Meet the creator behind the stories.**

Students will continue their Magic Faraway Tree adventure with Part 2 at lunchtime before meeting our special guest author, Adrian Beck!

Adrian will share his experiences as an author and inspire students to explore their own creativity and love of storytelling.

 **Wednesday – Chapter 3: The Land of Fun – Stories come to life through play!**

On Wednesday afternoon, we invite our families to join us for a special Open Afternoon from 3:00–4:00pm in Angling. Families can enjoy an afternoon of literacy fun together, including:

- Literacy games
- Hands-on activities
- Family participation
- Light refreshments

Come along, get involved and discover how much fun literacy can be!

 **Thursday – Chapter 4: The Pages Come Alive – Celebrating the poetry we've created together.**

Our students will become authors and illustrators as they showcase their work through Class Gallery Walks. Students will have the opportunity to celebrate the poetry they have created and share their writing and illustrations with others across the school.

 **Friday – Chapter 5: The Grand Finale – Every great story deserves an unforgettable ending.**

We will finish our Literacy Festival with our Book Week Dress-Up Parade and Assembly at 9:00am, including our special dress-up awards.

The celebrations will continue at lunchtime with student-led literacy activities, giving our students the chance to share their love of books, stories and literacy with their peers.

 **We can't wait to share this wonderful week with our students and families.**

Every story begins with a chapter – and this one is going to be a great one!

Mrs Rebecca Legge
Assistant Principal

FROM THE AP'S DESK



After School Tech Club – Game Design with Bloxels!

We're excited to announce an After School Tech Club at Hastings Primary School!

Last Tuesday, all students had the opportunity to trial Bloxels, a hands-on game design platform that allows students to create and design their own playable video games. Students explored how they can bring their ideas to life through creativity, problem-solving and technology.

The next step is to take those ideas further!

After School Tech Club – Game Design Using Bloxels

Who: Students from Prep – Year 6

When: Thursday afternoons, beginning Thursday 3rd September

Time: 3:30–4:30pm

Where: Hastings Primary School

Students will have the opportunity to design their own games, create characters and worlds, and develop their problem-solving and digital technology skills along the way.

 Interested in joining? Look for the QR code in this newsletter to sign up and find out more.

A Special Father's Day Gift

This year, instead of holding our traditional Father's Day Stall, the Friends of Hastings Primary School (F.O.H.P.S) have organised a special whole-school fundraiser to celebrate the important people in our students' lives.

As part of the fundraiser, each student will receive a special gift to take home and give to their dad, grandparent, carer or another special person in their life. We hope this provides a lovely opportunity for students to show someone special how much they are appreciated.

 Cost: \$5 per student

There is no pre-ordering required. Payments can be made at the school office by Monday 7th September.

As our Book Week Parade and Assembly will be taking place on Friday 4th September, gifts will be sent home with students on Monday 7th September. We will also have a special Father's Day afternoon at school from 2:30–3:30 on Monday 7th September. Join your child in their classroom at 2:30 then head outside at 3pm to enjoy some fun games together and some light refreshments.

Mrs Rebecca Legge
Assistant Principal



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

Michelle Aldridge

Partnering with your child's teacher for mathematics success

Schools are reshaping the way they teach children to understand, build skills and talk about maths. **When schools and families partner together, children are more likely to feel positive and capable in maths.**

Like you, teachers really don't want their students to struggle to the point of stress and develop anxiety about the learning we know is fundamental in life.

Teachers help students learn maths by using clear, step-by-step teaching methods. They build on what students already know, give them plenty of time to practice new skills, and support them to apply these skills to solve more challenging problems.

I have been working with the Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership to improve maths teaching across a range of schools, and they have great developed some resources for families which I'm excited to share with each of you below.



Understanding maths anxiety: A guide for parents and carers

You don't need to be a maths whiz to make a difference. There are simple things you can do to help your child build the skills and confidence they need so they can thrive in maths.

1 Talk positively about maths at home

The way parents and carers talk about maths (sometimes referred to as numeracy) has a **powerful impact** on how children feel about the subject.

When maths is spoken about negatively at home, children are more likely to experience maths anxiety – a sense of fear or worry when faced with mathematical tasks. This anxiety can lead to lower achievement and/or avoidance of maths altogether.

On the other hand, positive maths talk – like emphasising effort, persistence, and everyday usefulness – can foster a **growth mindset**. This is the belief that abilities improve with practice and hard work.

2 Build confidence in maths

A home environment that values effort over right answers can build confidence. **Showing curiosity and talking through problem-solving** helps children see maths as a skill that can be developed. There is also growing research that suggests some children, particularly girls, may experience higher levels of maths anxiety, making confidence-building support especially important.

3 Work with your child's school

When schools and families partner together, children are more likely to feel **confident and positive** about maths.

Parents can support maths learning at home by using simple, step-by-step approaches that connect to what their child already knows. By building on familiar everyday tasks, giving them time to practice, and **offering encouragement**, you help them gain the confidence to **tackle more challenging problems**.

*Miss
Michelle
Aldridge*

Michelle.Aldridge@education.vic.gov.au

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

continued ...

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fun activities to boost maths skills



Daily routines

Master chef
Cook or bake together using measurements and fractions



1

Supermarket sweep
Estimate total costs at the shops and compare to the receipt



2

Family budget
Plan a family budget for a meal or day out



3

Weather watch
Graph the weather over a week



4

Savings jar
Sort and count coins together



5

Play and puzzles

Card games
Play strategy or number games like Memory, Uno, Monopoly, or Yahtzee



6

Interior designer
Measure furniture or spaces for DIY tasks or rearranging rooms



7

Logic puzzles
Have a weekly puzzle night with Sudoku, logic puzzles, or riddles



8

Bargain hunt
Compare discounts and percentages in catalogues or online



9

Dream team
Track sports statistics or scores and graph them



10

Outdoor & creative fun

Travel log
Track the travel time to and from familiar destinations like school, the shops or to a friend's place



11

Patterns in nature
Explore patterns in nature - count petals, spot symmetry



12

Lego
Build with LEGO using equal lengths and shapes



13

Geometry
Draw or cut out shapes and identify sides, angles or symmetry



14

Word problems
Turn daily situations into maths questions to solve



15

STUDENTS of the WEEK



PA	Sieon L	You have been working so hard in all areas of learning and it is standing out. You are a great Prep friend and show respect and care for your teachers and peers. Keep smiling Sieon!
1/2A	Aubrey C	Aubrey, your creative writing this week was a pleasure to read. You have developed some great characters. Keep up the great efforts!
1/2A	Montana-Rose M	Montana, your efforts in writing this week have been out of this world. Keep up the amazing learning!
1/2B	Aubrey V	For your impressive informative writing about sheep. You shared interesting facts and worked hard to make your writing engaging for your readers. Your determination to produce your best work really stood out. You should be incredibly proud of the progress you are making as a writer. Keep letting your amazing writing shine, Aubrey!
3/4A	Ashton F	Ashton it is great to see you regularly at school and growing in confidence and resilience. Remember, true courage is facing your fears. Keep up the great work!
3/4A	Jacob K	Thank you for being a kind and caring class member Jacob. You always treat your classmates with respect and you are quick to offer to help out. It is appreciated. A great effort!
4/5A	Ruby F	Well done! You have shown wonderful bravery and resilience while participating in the My Best Self program. You have challenged yourself, stepped outside your comfort zone and continued to persevere even when things felt difficult. keep it up!
4/5A	Spencer G	Congratulations! You have shown great bravery and resilience throughout the My Best Self program. You have faced challenges with courage, persevered when things were difficult and shown a willingness to step outside your comfort zone. Keep up the fantastic work!
5/6A	Lucie H	Thank you for always trying your best and for being such a kind, caring and helpful friend. Your positive attitude makes you a wonderful role model. Keep up the fantastic work!
5/6A	Zaire J	Thank you for always giving your best and showing persistence, even when things are challenging. You are a kind, caring and helpful friend, and your positive attitude makes you a great role model. Keep up the excellent work!

ASSEMBLY AWARDS

SPECIALIST SUPERSTARS



Wade B, Zoey H, Levi P, Kai B,
Michael T

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD



Oliver L

Congratulations to this weeks award recipients!

Caring, Respecting and Learning

HOUSE POINTS



WALLUM
667



WARADA
591



MUMBAL
587

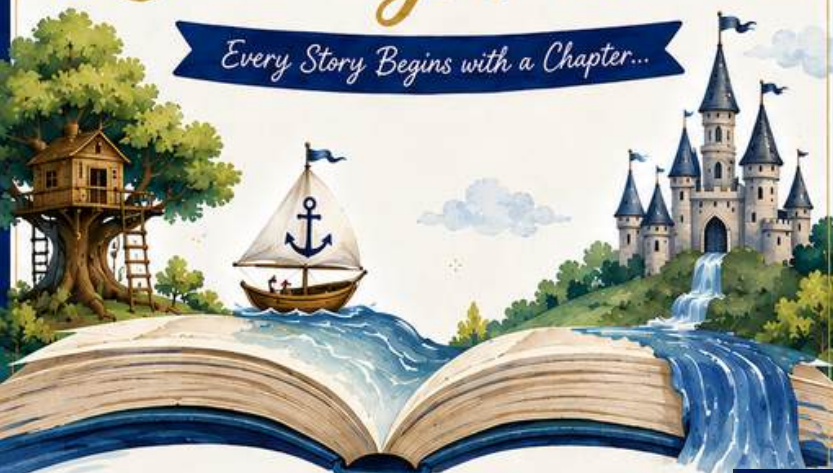


BUNYA
566



HASTINGS PRIMARY SCHOOL *Literacy Festival*

Every Story Begins with a Chapter...



Monday 31st August –
Friday 4th September



1



MONDAY – Chapter 1: *The Launch*

Let the adventure begin!

- ★ Official Literacy Festival Launch
- ★ Book Fair Wish List Walkthrough
- ★ Lunchtime screening: *The Magic Faraway Tree* (Part 1)
- ★ Whole School Teacher Read Aloud - 2:15–3:15pm in Angling



2



TUESDAY – Chapter 2: *The Author*

Meet the creator behind the stories.

- ★ Lunchtime screening: *The Magic Faraway Tree* (Part 2)
- ★ Special Guest Author – Adrian Beck
 - 11:30–12:30 – Prep–Year 2
 - 12:30–1:30 – Years 3–6



3



WEDNESDAY – Chapter 3: *The Land of Fun*

Stories come to life through play!

Open Afternoon - 3:00–4:00pm

Families are invited to join us in Angling for an afternoon of literacy fun featuring:

- Literacy games
- Family participation
- Hands-on activities
- Light refreshments



4



THURSDAY – Chapter 4: *The Pages Come Alive*

Celebrating the poetry we've created together.

Class Gallery Walks - students showcase their poetry and illustrations



5



FRIDAY – Chapter 5: *The Grand Finale*

Every great story deserves an unforgettable ending.

- ★ Book Week Dress-Up Parade, Assembly and dress up awards – 9am
- ★ Student-led lunchtime literacy activities



Let's celebrate the magic of stories together!



2027 Foundation (Prep) Enrolments Hastings Primary School

At Hastings Primary School, we are proud to be a welcoming and supportive community, and we look forward to beginning your child's learning journey with us in 2027.

Enrolments for Foundation (Prep) are now open, and we invite local families to apply through the Victorian Government's online system, [VicStudents](#).

If your child turns five by 30 April 2027 and you live within our school zone, we encourage you to submit your enrolment application using the link below.

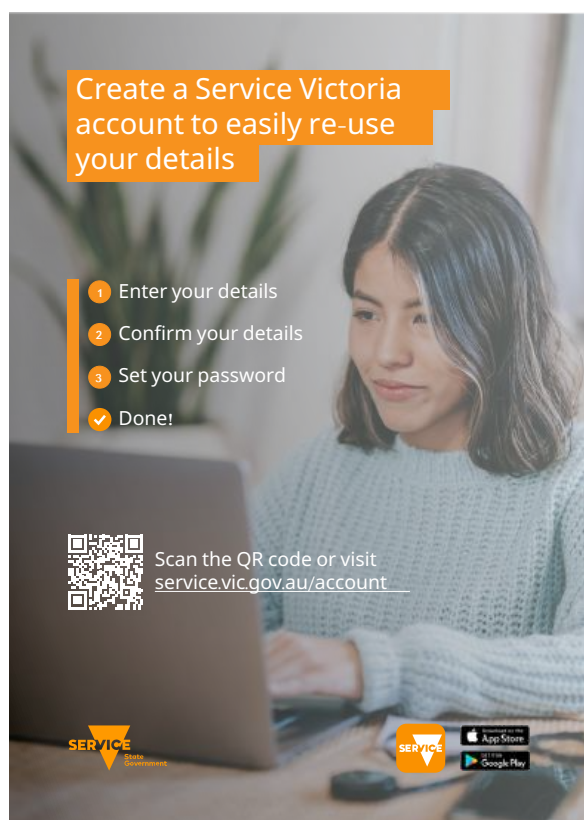
You can check your school zone via the Find My School website.

<https://www.findmyschool.vic.gov.au/>

2027 Digital Prep Enrolment

<https://students.educationapps.vic.gov.au/s/>

We understand that starting school is a big and exciting milestone for both children and families. If you have any questions or would like to visit and see our school in action, we would love to hear from you.



Create a Service Victoria account to easily re-use your details

- 1 Enter your details
- 2 Confirm your details
- 3 Set your password
- ✓ Done!

Scan the QR code or visit service.vic.gov.au/account

KEY ENROLMENT DATES	
20 th April 2026	Applications open
31 st July 2026	Applications close
3rd-14 th August 2026	Families notified of enrolment outcomes
28 th August 2026	Final date to accept enrolment offer



2027 FOUNDATION TRANSITION



Come and Try Sessions - all welcome

Time: 2:30 pm - 3:00pm

~~Friday 5th June curriculum day~~

~~Friday 12th June~~

~~Friday 19th June~~

2027 Student Transition Sessions

Time: 2:15pm - 3:00 pm

~~Wednesday 5th August~~

~~Wednesday 2nd September~~

~~Thursday 15th October~~

~~Thursday 12th November~~

Statewide Transition

Time: 9:00am - 10:30am

~~Tuesday 8th December~~



5979 1517



hastingsprimary.vic.edu.au

**2027 TOURS
AVAILABLE NOW**

STAY WARM.
SHOW SCHOOL PRIDE.

COZY COMFORT.
ALL WINTER LONG.

**QUALITY GEAR
MADE TO LAST**



**SUPPORT OUR
SCHOOL**



**GET YOURS
TODAY!**

📍 AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL FRONT OFFICE!

**BEST
HOLIDAY
PROGRAMS
IN AUSTRALIA**

HURRY! SPACES ARE LIMITED

 Check out what's on at Hastings

COMPUTERXPLORERS



preparing
children
for `</>`the
Future.



AfterSchoolTechClub @ Hastings Primary
School



Students from Prep - Year 6
Thursday Afternoons beginning
September 3rd
3.30 pm - 4.30 pm



Topic: Game design Using Bloxels



Booking Link! Come and join us!

HASTINGS TEAMKIDS NEWSLETTER



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

Another fun-tastic week at TeamKids!

Science Week

Science Week has been full of curiosity, experimentation and hands-on learning! The children have been busy exploring different science and STEM experiences, making predictions, testing ideas and discovering how things work.

One of the biggest hits was slime making! The children experimented with glue and activator, adding small amounts at a time and observing how the mixture changed from a liquid into stretchy, squishy slime. They investigated texture, consistency and what happens when different amounts of ingredients are added. It was fantastic to see the children problem-solve, make observations and learn through trial and error.

Baking Fun

Our cooking experiences have also been a big hit! The children enjoyed getting involved in baking, from measuring and mixing ingredients to cracking eggs and watching their creations bake in the oven. Baking provides wonderful opportunities to develop independence, practise mathematical concepts, follow instructions and enjoy creating something together.

Lunchtime Legends rock painting has been a wonderful success with our Grade 1 students! The children have enjoyed getting creative, painting colourful designs and sharing their ideas with one another. It has been fantastic to see the children engage in a relaxed, creative experience during their lunchtime.

A big thank you to all of our Grade 1's for joining us and creating such wonderful painted rocks!

It has been another fantastic week filled with curiosity, creativity, teamwork and fun. We love seeing the children's interests guide our program and watching them build confidence as they explore, experiment and create!

IMPORTANT DATES



MONDAY 31ST AUGUST

Book Week begins

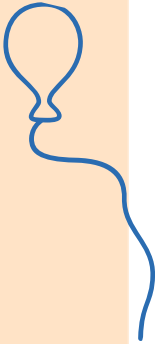
TUESDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER

CrAzY hAiR DaY

FRIDAY 18TH AUGUST

Mad Hatters Spring Tea Party (ASC)

TEAMKIDS CLUBS ASC WEEK: 6/7



MONDAY

TUESDAY
SUSTAINABILITY



WEDNESDAY
S.T.E.M



THURSDAY
CULTURE



FRIDAY



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