



2026 TERM 3 EDITION 5

NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 9th September 2026



IMPORTANT DATES

Thur 10th Sep **RUOK? Day - Wear a Touch of Yellow**

Mon 14th Sep - Thur 17th Sep **Whole School Swimming**

Fri 18th September **Footy Friday**

Fri 18th September **End of Term - 2:30 pm Dismissal**

Mon 5th October **STUDENT FREE DAY**

Wed 21st - Thurs 22nd October **Year 3 & 4 Adventure Camp The Ranch**

Wed 21st - Fri 23rd October **Year 5 & 6 Urban Camp**

Principal's Message

Term 3 Wrap-Up

What an action-packed, fun-filled Term 3 it has been at Hastings Primary School! Our students have had so many wonderful opportunities to connect, compete, and celebrate learning. This term we enjoyed:

- 100 Days of Prep - celebrating this amazing milestone for our youngest learners.
- HOUSE and District Athletics.
- HPS Literacy Festival with a spectacular Book Character Parade.
- Speech competitions.
- Father's Day afternoon.
- Several incursions and excursions

And we still have our Footy Day extravaganza to come!

It's been action-packed, full of fun, and let's not forget all of the incredible learning happening every day in classrooms and specialist programs. Our students have truly made the most of every moment – a real reflection of the energy and spirit of our school.

As this is our final newsletter for the term, I would like to wish everyone a safe holiday. See you on Tuesday 6th October.



Sun smart - Sun Protection

UV levels in Victoria are highest from mid-August through to the end of April, with UV levels often peaking during school hours. Thank you for helping us to keep everyone sunsmart. Hats are available from the school office.

Student Free days in Term 4

Next term we have **TWO** Student Free Days

- Monday October 5th
- Friday November 20th

Team Kids will be available on these days!

Tu Toa, Kia Kaha Stand Strong, Have Strength

Mrs. Simone McDonald Principal



Farewell and best wishes to Melinda



It is with mixed emotions that we say farewell to Melinda Selman, who will be leaving Hastings Primary School at the end of this term to take up a new Education Support role at Cranbourne West Secondary College. Since joining our Education Support team, Melinda has quickly become a valued and much-loved member of the Hastings PS community. She has made a meaningful impact through her commitment to our students, her positive relationships with staff and her genuine care for the children she has supported. Melinda has thoroughly enjoyed her time at Hastings Primary School and has embraced every opportunity to contribute to our school community. While we are certainly sad to see her go, we are excited that she is moving into a role that aligns with her passion for working with secondary-aged students. We would like to thank Melinda for her enthusiasm, dedication and the positive contribution she has made during her time with us. She will certainly be missed around our learning spaces and in our team. We wish Melinda every success and happiness in her new role at Cranbourne West Secondary College. We know she will be a wonderful addition to their team and will continue to make a positive difference to the students she works with. Thank you, Melinda, and all the very best for this exciting next chapter!

Student Safety at Hastings Primary School

Student safety is our highest priority, and the safe and appropriate supervision of students is an important element of our duty of care to students.

As the weather improves and the days become lighter, we know that some students may be keen to leave home earlier and arrive at school before the usual start of the day. While it is wonderful to see students excited to get to school, it is important that families remember our student supervision arrangements and the times during which school grounds are supervised.

- Before school: School grounds are supervised from 8:40 am.
- After school: School grounds are supervised until 3:30 pm.

Parents/carers are requested to ensure that students do not attend school outside of these supervised times unless they are attending TeamKids Before and After School Care or participating in a pre-arranged supervised activity, such as sports practice.

If you require an earlier drop-off or later pick-up, we encourage you to register your child/ren with TeamKids, our Before and After School Care provider. TeamKids offers a safe, supervised environment for students outside of school hours and provides families with flexible care options to suit their needs.

Thank you for supporting us to ensure that all students are safe and appropriately supervised while at school.

You can read more about this important information in our **Supervision of Students Policy** on our school website by following this [**LINK**](#)

Mrs. Simone McDonald
Principal

2026 Parent / Carer Opinion Survey:

LAST CHANCE

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.



A wonderful week of Literacy, Community and Celebration!

A huge well done to our amazing HPS families for the incredible costumes you created for our Literacy Festival Parade! The effort, creativity and imagination on display were fantastic — and I think the costumes get better every year! A special thank you to our wonderful MCs, Marnie and Charlie, and my fabulous co-host Benji, who did such a wonderful job helping to make the parade so much fun.

Thank you also to everyone who came onsite to celebrate our Literacy Festival Afternoon and Father's Day Open Afternoon. Both events were incredibly successful, and it was wonderful to see so many families around the school enjoying these special occasions together. Thank you for your continued support of our school and for helping us build such a strong sense of community.

Our last day of school will be Footy Friday! We will be finishing the term with a fun-filled day celebrating all things footy. Students will also enjoy a hot dog lunch, with notes coming home this week. The cost will be \$5 per student. A huge thank you to our wonderful FOHPS team for organising this for our students and helping us finish the term on a high!

Every Day Counts

As we head towards the end of the term, I would like to remind families about the importance of regular school attendance. Every day at school matters, and consistent attendance supports students to stay connected to their learning, their teachers and their friends. The Department of Education expects students to attend school regularly, with the general expectation being no more than 20 days of absence across the school year — approximately five days per term. Attendance is monitored closely at Hastings Primary School. If your child has had 15 or more days away from school this year, you can expect to receive an email from me regarding an Attendance Support Plan. This is not about blame; it is about working together to understand any barriers to attendance and making sure your child has the support they need. If you have concerns about your child's attendance or there are circumstances making regular attendance difficult, please reach out to myself or Brittney, our school social worker. We are always happy to work with families to provide support.

Children's University

A reminder to all of our Children's University participants to keep working towards your hours! Students completing their first year of Children's University need to achieve 30 hours in order to graduate. Please make sure these hours are completed by the first week back of Term 4, as I need to provide our final participation information to Swinburne University in preparation for the graduation ceremony. Keep logging those learning activities over the holidays in your passport— every hour counts!

Have a safe and fun filled holiday break everyone!

Mrs Rebecca Legge
Assistant Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

Michelle Aldridge



RUOK? Day 2026

This **Thursday 10th September** is RUOK? Day. It is the National Day of Action to remind Australians that everyday is the day to ask **ROUK?** and start a meaningful conversation. **Students are invited to wear a touch of yellow** in support of this important day.

Before you can look out for others, you need to look out for yourself. And that's OK. If you're not in the right headspace or you don't think you're the right person to have the conversation, try to think of someone else in their support network who could talk to them. Click on the smiley to learn how to prepare for an RUOK? conversation

RUOK?™ at school

K-6 fact sheet

Signs that a friend may not be OK

RUOK? seeks to create a world where we're all connected. We're never too young to look out for one another and meaningfully connect.

Many factors can contribute to someone feeling low. It isn't always easy to know whether someone is OK, particularly if they haven't talked about it or children have yet to recognise the importance of changes in behaviour. However, there are signs children can become familiar with which could indicate that a friend may not be OK.

What causes struggles?

A range of circumstances can lead to a child feeling low, including:

- Big life changes like moving house or school
- Experiencing grief or loss
- Being around people going through tough times
- Arguing with someone
- Problems with school work
- Being bored
- Having a medical condition or chronic illness
- Not sleeping well
- Not exercising enough
- Hormonal changes
- Special needs

When to bring it up

It's a good idea to check in with a friend and ask, 'Are you OK?' if:

- They've been showing signs of being upset or angry for some time
- Their mood is having an impact on others
- They're not enjoying school or life in general
- You're worried about their safety
- They start to miss school, or don't want to play with others or take part in their favourite activities

that being supportive, asking, 'Are you OK?' and being comfortable with the answer, 'No, I'm not OK' can help that person feel supported and more connected.

What signs can children look out for?

Going through difficult times can have a big impact on a child's life, including their:

- Relationships with other people
- Physical health
- Emotional health

So, it's a great idea to be aware of certain behaviours and signs that can indicate a friend might be struggling. The first thing to look out for is changes in behaviour. When people feel low, they often:

- Withdraw from their friends or their family
- Lash out at people and get angry or upset easily, including towards the people they care about
- Cry or become emotional
- Lose interest in activities and things they usually love
- Have changed sleeping patterns. They might be sleeping all the time, not sleeping much at all, or sleeping at strange hours (such as in the middle of the day)
- Have a changed appetite. They could be eating more than usual, or less.

How can children help?

Children cannot be expected to fix someone's problems, nor know the best way to help and support. However, they can be encouraged to listen to what their friend is saying, let them know they care and tell a teacher, school counsellor or trusted adult if they are worried about their friend.

By promoting an environment of positive peer support and accessing support channels via an adult, children can learn that asking 'Are you OK?', is a key life skill.



Remember these 4 steps to starting a conversation



1. Ask R U OK?



2. Listen



3. Encourage action



4. Check in

For more information and tips
ruk.org.au

RUOK?™
A conversation could change a life.



Miss
Michelle
Aldridge

Michelle.Aldridge@education.vic.gov.au

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

continued ...



Year 5/6 STEM Excursion: Puffing Billy

Last week, on the 28th, all the Year 5s and 6s went on a train called Puffing Billy for a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics project, or STEM for short.

Before we went on the train, we got to quickly explore a room filled with different types of rail transport from throughout the years. It was really interesting to see how trains and other types of rail transport have changed over time.

After that, we went into another room where we were given LEGO and electrical pieces to engineer a street lamp. We were all challenged to build the tallest lamp we could, with the goal of making our lamp the highest one on any of the tables!

Charlie and Marnie
Student Leaders



HOUSE POINTS



ALBURY & ANEETA
Murrumbal House
2026 Leaders

1715
MURUMBAL



TAI & MARLEE
Bunya House
2026 Leaders

1595
BUNYA



OLIVER & KIARA
Wallum House
2026 Leaders

1170
WALLUM



LUCIE & MIA
Warada House
2026 Leaders

811
WARADA

LITERACY FESTIVAL AWARDS

Author	Winner	Highly Commended	Illustrator	Winner	Highly Commended
PA	Lexi CD	Sieon L	PA	Kitty C	Lucas G
1/2A	Jack P	Aubrey C	1/2A	Evie S	Sailah P
1/2B	Chloe DG	Holly H	1/2B	Peggy - Jane A	Maci S
3/4A	Levi P	Felix T	3/4A	Zoey H	Pheobe K
4/5A	Maisie F	Ava T	4/5A	Isabella O	Eli T
5/6A	Ruby S	Linsay S	5/6A	Charlie D	Benji Y

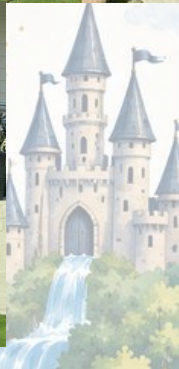
Congratulations to this weeks award recipients!

Caring, Respecting and Learning



HPS Literacy Festival

Book Parade



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.

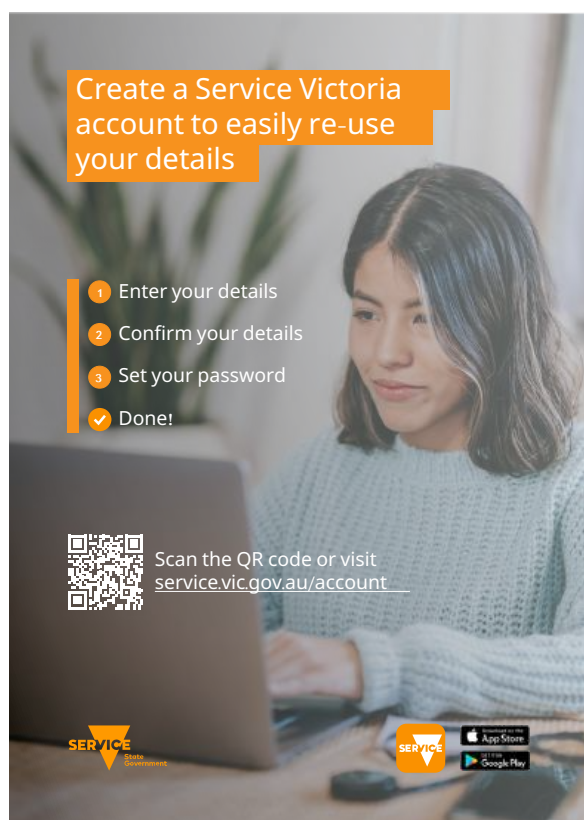
You can check your school zone via the Find My School website.

<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~~

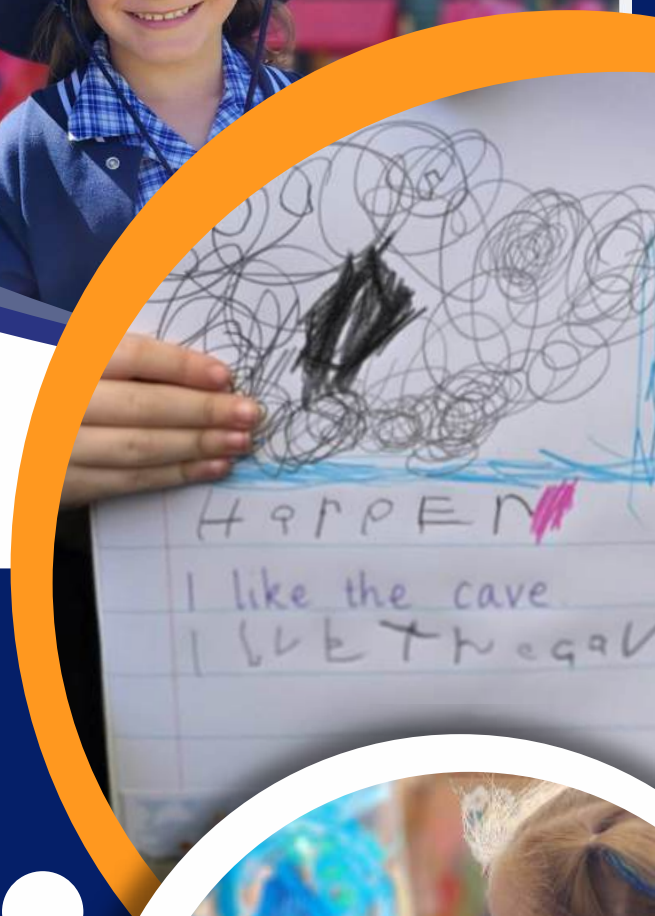
~~Thursday 15th October~~

~~Thursday 12th November~~

Statewide Transition

Time: 9:00am - 10:30am

~~Tuesday 8th December~~



5979 1517



hastingsprimary.vic.edu.au

**2027 TOURS
AVAILABLE NOW**

WE ARE
LITTLE ATHLETICS

SEASON 2026-27

OPEN NOW

We Are Family, Fun & Fitness. Registrations are now open!

JOIN OUR CLUB TODAY

WESTERNPORT LITTLE ATHLETICS

Ages 6-17
FRIDAY NIGHTS
5pm
OCTOBER-MARCH

Westernport Athletics Track
(behind Westernport Secondary College)



Register your interest here

westernportlac.com.au



MYC
GYMNASTICS

Western Port Holiday Program

MYC Gymnastics School Holiday Program
@ MYC Western Port

Open to Grade 1-6 children -
members & non-members welcome

Important information

- ✓ Session available to children aged 6-12yrs (Grade 1-6 only)
- ✓ Pre-registration required via the online enrolment link
- ✓ This is a "drop & go" session - we will be using our spectator area for the children to have a snack break
- ✓ Snack packs provided - includes a juice box, muesli bar & popcorn
- ✓ Bring a drink bottle (water only)

Scan to
Enrol



Time
10am-
12:30pm

Date
Tue 22nd
September

Cost
\$45



5975 3155



mycgymnastics.org.au



Hastings Hub -
1973 Frankston-Flinders Rd, Hastings

Library news and information



Mornington
Peninsula Shire
Library



September School Holidays

Join us for a magical September
School Holiday Program.

From fairy doors to learning about
the mysteries of light, we have a
range of programs that are sure
to entertain and delight!

Free, bookings essential.

Bookings open 4pm,
7 and 14 September.

[library.mornpen.vic.gov.au/
school-holidays](http://library.mornpen.vic.gov.au/school-holidays)

Kanopy Kids

Kanopy Kids is Kanopy's curated
collection of content for children, with a
focus on ages 2-8.

While in the Kanopy Kids section, you'll
only see content that's age-appropriate
and allows unlimited viewing!

Watch movies and TV shows now for free
with your Mornington Peninsula Shire
Library membership.

[library.mornpen.vic.gov.au/kids-
movies](http://library.mornpen.vic.gov.au/kids-movies)



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[ourlibrarymornpen](https://www.facebook.com/ourlibrarymornpen)



Are you short on time to catch up on
the books everyone is talking about?

Blinkist offers summaries of
bestselling non-fiction books and
podcasts to read or listen to in just 15
minutes.

library.mornpen.vic.gov.au/blinkist



COMPUTER EXPLORERS



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

We've had a fun-filled time at TeamKids, with plenty of opportunities for creativity, imagination and hands-on learning!

Slime Lab

Our Slime Lab has been a huge hit! Children have been experimenting with different ingredients, textures and colours while creating their own slime. They've enjoyed testing what makes slime stretchy, sticky, fluffy and bubbly, developing their curiosity and scientific thinking along the way.

Creating with LEGO

Our LEGO creations have been full of imagination! Children have been designing characters and animals and then creating homes that provide everything they need. This has encouraged children to think about shelter, food, safety and the environments different animals and characters might live in.

Book Week Celebrations

We've also been celebrating Book Week with fun activities inspired by some of our favourite stories and characters. Children have had opportunities to explore books, use their imagination and bring stories to life through creative play and activities.

It's been wonderful to see children sharing ideas, working together and following their interests throughout our program!

IMPORTANT DATES



FRIDAY 18TH AUGUST

Mad Hatters Tea Party (ASC)

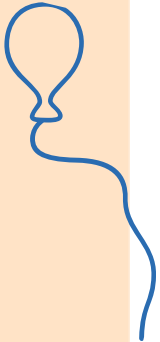
FRIDAY 18TH AUGUST

Footy Dress Up Day/ Parade

FRIDAY 18TH AUGUST

End of Term 3 2:30 finish.
School Holidays incoming!
Let the fun begin.

TEAMKIDS CLUBS ASC WEEK: 8/9



MONDAY

TUESDAY

SUSTAINABILITY



WEDNESDAY

S.T.E.M



THURSDAY

CULTURE



FRIDAY



Service Mobile: 0412 146 722
Office Phone: 1300 035 000

Service Email: hastingsps@teamkids.com.au
Office Email: info@teamkids.com.au