



2026 TERM 4 EDITION 1

# NEWSLETTER

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2026



## IMPORTANT DATES

|                                                             |                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Thurs 15 <sup>th</sup><br>October                           | 2027 Prep Transition<br>2:15pm - 3:00pm |
| Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> -<br>Thurs 22 <sup>nd</sup><br>October | Year 3 & 4 Adventure Camp<br>The Ranch  |
| Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> -<br>Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup><br>October   | Year 5 & 6 Urban Camp                   |
| Fri 30 <sup>th</sup><br>October                             | World Teacher's Day                     |

Tues 3<sup>rd</sup>  
November

Melbourne Cup Day  
Public Holiday

Thurs 12<sup>th</sup>  
November

Semper Dental Onsite

Fri 20<sup>th</sup>  
November

STUDENT FREE DAY

## Principal's Message

### Welcome Back for Term 4

What a beautiful start to Term 4! The sunshine and warmer weather have brought a wonderful energy to our school, and it's fantastic to see students engaged in so many exciting learning experiences, fun activities, sporting events, and transition programs as we head toward the end of the year.

### Foundation 2027 Transition Reminder

Our next 2027 Foundation Transition Session will be held on Wednesday 14th October from 2:15 pm to 3:00 pm. This session will include lots of important information to help your child prepare for school life at Hastings Primary—so please don't miss out!

### Internal Transition

We're also excited to share that all year levels will participate in transition sessions this term, helping every student prepare confidently for the year ahead.



### Sun smart - Sun Protection

As we move further into Term 4 and towards summer, we will continue to reinforce our SunSmart practices across the school. We will be ensuring that students and staff are appropriately sun protected and that our routines and expectations support everyone's wellbeing as the weather becomes warmer. Hats are available from the school office. Our SUN PROTECTION Policy [LINK](#)

### Student Free days in Term 4

This term we have **ONE** Student Free Day remaining

- Friday November 20th
- Team Kids will be available on this date!

Tu Toa, Kia Kaha  
Stand Strong, Have Strength  
Mrs. Simone McDonald Principal



# ***Victorian Education Excellence Awards Finalist - Outstanding Primary Teacher***

***~ Jesse Waters ~***

*Jesse Waters is an outstanding primary teacher whose creative, evidence-based practice is making a strong impact on student learning and engagement at Hastings Primary School.*

*Jesse creates rich, student-driven learning experiences that build strong foundations in literacy while celebrating inclusion, curiosity and identity.*

*Her work has extended beyond the classroom through bilingual family engagement, innovative inquiry learning and culturally inclusive projects, including mentoring a disengaged student to help design the school's first culturally inclusive Koorie uniform.*

*Jesse's practice reflects deep professionalism, strong relational teaching and a clear commitment to improving outcomes for every student.*



*Mrs. Simone McDonald*  
Principal

## **Farewell and best wishes to Sarah-Anne**

It is with mixed emotions that we say farewell to Sarah Anne, who finished at Hastings Primary School at the end of last term to take up a new Education Support role at Tooradin Primary School. Since joining our Education Support team, Sarah has been a valued member of the Hastings PS community. She has brought her knowledge and experience of the Early Years, along with her genuine care for students and commitment to supporting their learning and wellbeing.



Sarah has made a wonderful contribution to our school and has embraced opportunities to support students and work collaboratively with our staff. While we are certainly sad to see her leave, we are excited for Sarah as she takes this next step in her professional journey.

Alongside her work, Sarah is also studying to become a primary school teacher, and we wish her every success as she continues to pursue her passion for teaching and learning. Her experience working within a primary school environment will no doubt continue to support her development as she works towards achieving her teaching qualification.

We would like to thank Sarah for her dedication, care and positive contribution to Hastings Primary School. She will certainly be missed by our students and staff.

We wish Sarah every success and happiness in her new role at Tooradin Primary School and in her continued studies. We look forward to following her journey as she works towards becoming a teacher.

Thank you, Sarah, and all the very best for this exciting next chapter!

## **Welcome to Our New Staff**

*We are delighted to welcome **Josie Game, Angus Mooney** and **Maddison Hocking** to the Hastings Primary School team for Term 4.*

*While they are new members of our staff team, all three are already familiar faces around HPS, having spent time with us and getting to know our students over the past couple of months. This familiarity will provide a wonderful foundation as they join us more formally for Term 4.*

*Josie, Angus and Maddison will be working across the school to support student learning and wellbeing, collaborating with our teachers and staff to provide additional support and learning opportunities for our students.*

*Please join us in making Josie, Angus and Maddison feel very welcome as they become part of the Hastings Primary School team. We are looking forward to the contribution they will make throughout Term 4!*

*Welcome to HPS, Josie, Angus and Maddison!*



*Mrs. Simone McDonald*  
Principal

## **Preparing for 2027**

*And, as is always the case at this time of year, the end of the school year will arrive before we know it. We will soon be preparing to farewell our Year 6 students as they take their next steps into secondary education, while also undertaking our internal transition processes to support all students as they move into their next year level.*

*Term 4 is also an important planning period as we consider our 2027 grade structure and staffing profile. A great deal of thought, care and professional consideration goes into this process. Our primary focus is to develop a structure that best supports student learning, wellbeing and progress, while also considering the needs of the school and each cohort as a whole.*

*We understand that families may have thoughts, preferences or particular considerations regarding their child's class placement or teacher for 2027. We ask that families please support the school by allowing this process to occur without making individual requests directly to teachers or staff.*

*The grade structure and class placement process involves consideration of a range of factors, including student learning needs, class composition, wellbeing, social dynamics, educational needs, available staffing and the overall balance of each class. These decisions are made carefully and professionally, with the aim of creating the best possible learning environment for all students.*

*If a family has a specific or significant consideration they would like the school to be aware of as part of the planning process, please do not approach individual teachers regarding class placements. Instead, families are welcome to book an appointment with the Principal to discuss their circumstances, or submit their request in writing via the school email address: [hastings.ps@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:hastings.ps@education.vic.gov.au).*

*This ensures that any relevant information can be considered appropriately and consistently as part of the broader planning process.*

## **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.

## Supporting Marnie

As many of you are aware, our school captain, Marnie, has recently been diagnosed with cancer. This is understandably a difficult time for Marnie and her family, and our thoughts are very much with them as they navigate the journey ahead.

As a school community, we are committed to surrounding Marnie and her family with care, compassion and support. Later this term, we will also come together for a special fundraiser to show our support and help raise awareness. Further details will be shared with our community at the appropriate time.

We kindly ask that everyone respects the privacy of Marnie and her family during this challenging time. Please avoid speculation or sharing information that has not come directly from the family, as this can create additional stress and anxiety. If your child has questions or concerns, please encourage them to speak with a trusted adult at school, where we can support them appropriately.

If you have any questions about the wellbeing supports available to students and families at school, please don't hesitate to contact me.



## Community Pantry and Boomerang Bags

Our Community Pantry is located in the school office, next to the sick bay, and is available for any HPS family who may need a little extra support.

The pantry is stocked with food and everyday essentials, and families are welcome to take what they need, when they need it — with no judgement and no questions asked.

Whether you need a few items to get you through the week or simply want to make use of what is available, the pantry is there for our community.

We are incredibly grateful to FoodBank for the donations and supplies to keep our pantry stocked. Every Friday we always have fresh bread available to take home at the end of the day aswell. We kindly ask that you take 1 loaf per family so that there is enough for everyone.

I am also excited to introduce our new Boomerang Bags initiative for Term 4! These reusable bags have been lovingly decorated by our fabulous ES Team and are ready to make their debut in our community.

They are a little bit practical, a little bit fabulous and, a must-have accessory for Term 4!

Take one when you need it and use it for your shopping, library books, or whatever else you can think of. You can keep it and use it again and again, or, true to the Boomerang Bags spirit, return it when you're finished so someone else can use it too.

A big thank you to our wonderful ES Team for bringing a little colour and creativity to the bags!



*Mrs Rebecca Legge*  
Assistant Principal

# ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL REPORT

## Michelle Aldridge



### Busy Times @ HPS

The final weeks of Term 3 were jam-packed with learning and fun! Here is a snippet of how we wrapped up the term.

### Swimming Lessons

During the last week of Term 3 our school has went to Pelican Park at different times of the day for swimming lessons! Everyone was split into groups of 4-7 people so we could practise our swimming with people at a similar level.

We did swimming on 4 out of the 5 days this week, so we got lots of chances to practise and improve our swimming skills. Everyone had an absolute blast and there were lots of fun moments along the way!

#### Tai and Marlee



### RUOK? Day 2026

**Congratulations** to our Student Leadership Team for the successful RUOK? Day activities! They ran a skipping challenge, quiet colouring, black board mural, ball games, and the annual photo booth.

Remember: Every day is a perfect opportunity to ask, "RUOK?"

The following page has some photos from the event for you to enjoy.



1. Ask



2. Listen



3. Encourage  
action



4. Check in

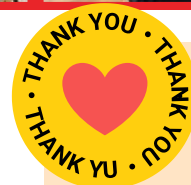
### My Best Self

On the 13th of September, it was the day the 4-6s presented our My Best Self program by performing the Samba, Tango and Jive! Everyone joined in and had lots of fun dancing together. We danced in a circle, moving from side to side and showing off our dance moves.

There were also some special spectators watching us, including Alan, who had taught everyone the dances, and Paul Mercurio! Everyone had a partner to dance with, which made it even more exciting.

We had so much fun performing and showing everyone what we had learnt.

#### Kiara and Oliver



### SSGs

A quick shout out to the families who join us for Student Support Group Meetings each term. The meetings ensure amazing support is given to each student, and provides valuable insights for their teachers.

Miss Michelle  
Aldridge



# STUDENTS of the WEEK



|      |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PA   | Lexi Cleland - Doyle | You have been working so hard to learn your letter names and sounds this year. You have become our word blending superstar. Well done Lexi, your hard work is paying off!                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1/2A | Harper Jones         | Harper, you are showing great organisation in the classroom. Thank you for being a good role model for others. Keep up the great efforts!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1/2A | Zayne Heald          | Zayne, we are celebrating the hard work you are doing in the classroom. Keep up the amazing learning!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 1/2B | Mayla Marcos         | For showing enthusiasm and a positive attitude during swimming and for creating an impressive reflective journal about your swimming experiences. You approached each session with energy, excitement and a willingness to have a go. Your journal showed thoughtful reflection on the skills you developed and the progress you made throughout swimming. Keep up the amazing work, Mayla! |
| 3/4A | Isabelle Cousins     | Well done Isabelle, you approached swimming lessons this week with enthusiasm and displayed growing independence. Keep up the great work!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 3/4A | Gabriel Sumaya       | Gabriel you have shown resilience and challenged yourself at swimming lessons this week. Your positive attitude contributed to your progress. Well done!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 4/5A | Tyrone Goodacre      | Congratulations, Tyrone! It has been wonderful to see you trying your best and showing courage to work outside your comfort zone. Your effort and willingness to challenge yourself are fantastic. Keep it up, Tyrone!                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 4/5A | Kaydence Healey      | Congratulations, Kaydence! It has been wonderful to see your improved attendance and the effort you are putting into your learning. Keep up the fantastic work, you should be very proud of yourself!                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 5/6A | Ruby Turner          | Well done, Ruby, for showing great perseverance when things were difficult. You participated in the My Best Self program even though you initially found it tricky, and you continued to give it a go. Be proud of your determination and effort!                                                                                                                                           |
| 5/6A | Ruby Smith           | Thank you Ruby for your commitment to presenting our school's Acknowledgement of Country each day. Your confidence, respect and dedication to this important part of our school community are truly appreciated. Well done!                                                                                                                                                                 |

## SPECIALIST SUPERSTARS



Bentley B, Nahleah O, 4/5A,  
Albury Wells, Lilly Holland

Congratulations to this weeks award recipients!

Caring, Respecting and Learning

# HOUSE POINTS



2040



1645



1535



1220

# 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.

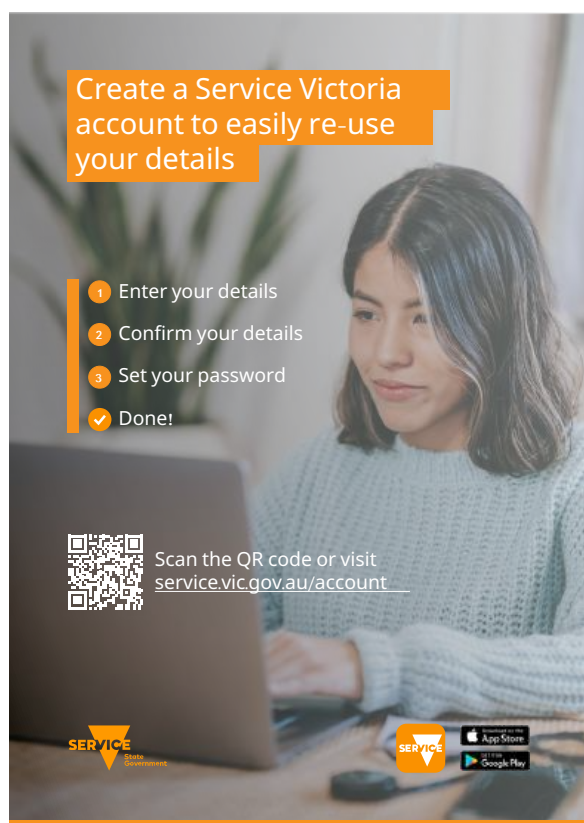
You can check your school zone via the Find My School website.

<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](https://service.vic.gov.au/account)

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



# 2027 FOUNDATION TRANSITION



Come and Try Sessions - all welcome

Time: 2:30 pm - 3:00pm

~~Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June curriculum day~~

~~Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June~~

~~Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June~~

2027 Student Transition Sessions

Time: 2:15pm - 3:00 pm

~~Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August~~

~~Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September~~

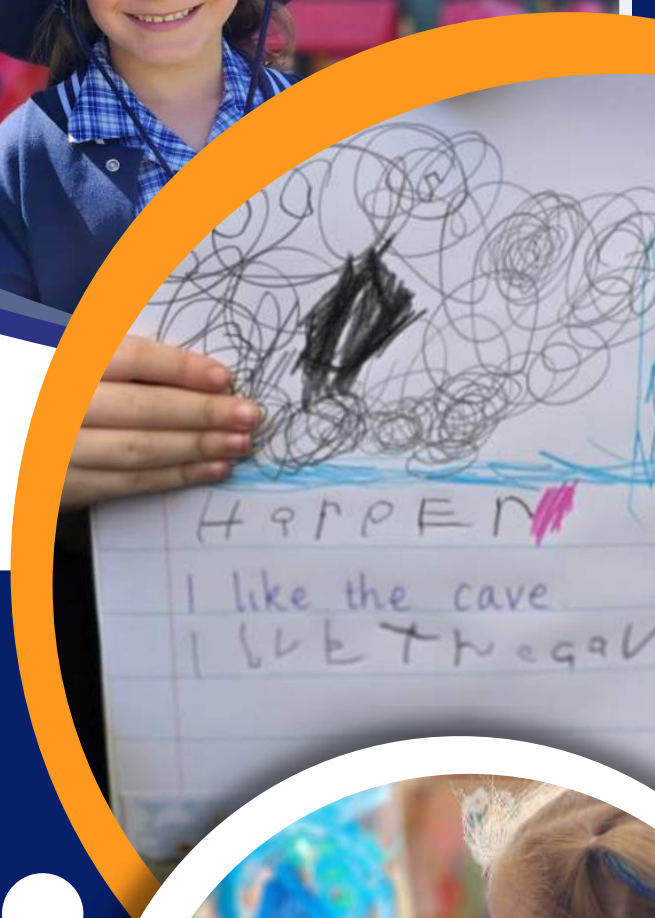
Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November

Statewide Transition

Time: 9:00am - 10:30am

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December



5979 1517



[hastingsprimary.vic.edu.au](http://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](http://westernportlac.com.au)



## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PLAYING NETBALL?



## Hastings Junior Netball Club

are looking for all ages to join their teams  
for the 2027 season, from NetSetGo and above.

Join  
Us!

## ENQUIRE NOW!



At The Hastings Football Netball Club

For more information, please  
Email us at -



[hastingsjuniornetball@gmail.com](mailto:hastingsjuniornetball@gmail.com)

# HASTINGS FIRE BRIGADE

## 2026

# HALLOWEEN SPOOKY STATION

\$5 PER TICKET  
OR  
\$10 PER FAMILY

LITTLE KIDS SECTION  
BBQ SAUSAGE SIZZLE  
REFRESHMENTS



SATURDAY OCTOBER 31  
4-7 PM  
HASTINGS FIRE STATION  
149 HIGH STREET  
3915



## GET FIRE READY OPEN DAY

FUN  
FOR THE  
WHOLE  
FAMILY!

PREPARE • CONNECT • BE SAFER TOGETHER



SUNDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> OCT 2026  
11AM - 2PM



BITTERN FIRE BRIGADE



KIDS ACTIVITIES

Fun for all ages



TRUCK TIME

Explore the trucks  
and squirt the hose



FIRE PREPARATION

PACK GIVE-AWAYS

Helpful resources for  
your home



SES & VICTORIA POLICE

DISPLAYS

Meet the teams and learn how  
they keep our community safe



SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Grab a bite and support  
your local brigade



FIRE SAFETY ESSENTIALS

PRESENTATION AT 1PM

Practical tips to help you and  
your property be better prepared



## GOLD COIN DONATION

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT  
BITTERN FIRE BRIGADE

STRONGER  
COMMUNITIES  
SAFER TOMORROWS

PREVENT | PREPARE | RESPOND | TOGETHER