A Message From The Principal

NAIDOC Celebration and Indigenous Cultural Day

Over the past couple weeks, our students have had the opportunity to celebrate indigenous culture. Our NAIDOC Day celebration was a great success and I would like to thank Mrs Murray for her organisation of the day’s activities and also thank Mrs Murray’s mother Mrs Robyn Jacob for the great assistance she provided in the organisation of the day. Our twenty-one Aboriginal students had a further opportunity to celebrate their culture last Wednesday at a Community of Schools cultural day. Due to staff illness a number of staff had a role in ensuring the children could participate in this event. Thank you to Mrs Murray, Miss Glynn and Mrs Elgood.

Southern Stars Performing Arts Festival

This week will be a big one for our dance group and choir with rehearsals on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and performances on Friday and Saturday. I wish the children involved all the very best with their performances and I am really looking forward to seeing them perform on Friday night at Wollongong Entertainment Centre. Thank you to Mrs Dorrington, Miss Glynn, Mrs Elgood and Mrs Murray for the time they have spent in preparing the children for the concert.

Teacher Absences

Over the past few weeks a number of staff have been struck down by illness and we have been able to employ casual teachers to cover their classes on most occasions but there have been some days when we have been unable to cover all classes and have had to split some classes. I apologise for this but unfortunately many other schools have been in the same situation and the demand for casual teachers has been incredibly high. I know one day last week that Mrs Johnson phoned over twenty teachers and was unable to get one for the next day.

NAPLAN

Last week, NAPLAN results were released with our school’s results showing some excellent individual performances as well as some pleasing performances in some of the areas of testing. The data the school has received shows some areas that the school can target for improvement. Most of these areas were identified during the review that we carried out towards the end of last year when preparing for the writing of the 2015-17 school plan.

Successes:

- 32% of Year 3 students were in the top two bands (5 and 6) for reading.
- 39% of Year 3 students were in the top two bands (5 and 6) for spelling.
- The average level of growth for Year 5 students since their Year 3 testing is above the State average in Reading and Spelling with 57% of students making greater than expected growth in Reading and 64% students demonstrating greater than expected growth in Spelling.

Areas for improvement:

- We have a large number of students in Bands 2, 3 and 4 for Year 3 and Bands 4, 5 and 6 for Year 5 across all areas of the testing and need to look at ways of moving these students into higher bands.
- There is room for improvement in our reading results. As part of our school plan, the teachers have commenced training in a program called ‘Focus on Reading’ which has a high level of emphasis on the explicit teaching of six
metacognitive strategies called the ‘super six’ which are aimed at improving children’s comprehension. This program has started to be implemented in classes but will become more prevalent as we move through Term 4 and into next year.

- Our results in Numeracy are of concern. The metacognitive strategies used in ‘Focus on Reading’ will also assist in helping students to better understand word problems that are posed to them in Mathematics. There also needs to be an emphasis on improving students understanding of early arithmetic strategies and place value. As a teaching staff, we will be looking at ways in which we can improve student’s skills in these areas. As the school pays for all students to have access to the Mathletics program, one way of helping children to improve would be to make use of this program at home to practise some of these skills.

Film by the Sea Festival

As mentioned in last week’s newsletter, Imogen Smith was successful in being selected as a compere for the ‘Film by the Sea’ Festival, which is an outstanding achievement. One of her roles as a compere, which came quite unexpectedly, was the opportunity to interview the patron of the festival, actor Bryan Brown with a film crew at his home last Friday. Imogen tells me she had ‘fun’ and that Bryan Brown is ‘very nice and very Australian’. This was undoubtedly an experience Imogen will never forget.

Mind Marathon

Last Wednesday, twelve students (six girls and six boys) from Years 5 and 6 participated in the Mind Marathon at East Hills Boys High School. The children worked in teams of six to solve a variety of problems based on the Key Learning Areas of English, Mathematics, Science, History and Geography as well as utilising their general knowledge. From all reports, the students had a great day and enjoyed the learning experience. Thank you to Mrs Hannan for organising our participation in the event and taking the students on the day. Thank you also to Ms Fleming and Mr Yousaf for assisting with transport on the day. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Finally, thank you to Mrs Hogan, Mrs Allen and Miss Ritchie for volunteering to help with the canteen sausage sizzle last Wednesday.

Have a great week.
Ken Smith

---

**NOTES SENT HOME LAST WEEK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOTE</th>
<th>PERMISSION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Speech – Kindergarten</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathletics – KG &amp; KB</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 3 Camp Departure Day</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years 3 &amp; 5 NAPLAN Results</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SCHOOL DIARY**

**TERM 3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 26th Aug</td>
<td>Zone Athletics Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 26th Aug</td>
<td>Southern Stars – Dance &amp; Choir Rehearsals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 27th August</td>
<td>Southern Stars – Dance &amp; Choir Rehearsals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 28th August</td>
<td>Southern Stars – Dance &amp; Choir Rehearsals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 31st Aug</td>
<td>Stage 3 Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 1st September</td>
<td>Stage 3 Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 1st September</td>
<td>Kinder Public Speaking School Finals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 1st September</td>
<td>Stage 2 Public Speaking School Finals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 2nd Sept</td>
<td>Stage 3 Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 3rd Sept</td>
<td>Calmsley Hill Farm Kindy – Exc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 4th Sept</td>
<td>Father’s Day Stall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 7th September</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 9th Sept</td>
<td>Regional Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 11th September</td>
<td>Movie Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 14th Sept</td>
<td>Kindy 2016 Parent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 15th Sept</td>
<td>Information Night 7pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 15th Sept</td>
<td>Stage 3 Public Speaking School Finals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 18th Sept</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SPORT**

**PSSA**

**Rugby League - Juniors**

Last Friday, the junior boy’s rugby league team played Sackville Street. This was our last game for the season and the boys once again played with excellent enthusiasm and passion. Unfortunately we didn’t come away with the result going down 32-18. Both sides played with many students missing but in the end Sackville Street were too strong up the middle of the field breaking through
our defence too easily. It was a fantastic season and all the students involved consistently showed great sportsmanship, desire to win and passion and should be congratulated for their excellent behaviour and effort they showed this season. All boys have shown that they have a bright future if they continue to pursue Rugby League inside and outside school. I encourage all students to be involved next year and wish them luck in the following sporting endeavours for this year.

Tries: Jayden, Jai and Mitchell.

Rugby League - Seniors

Last Friday, the senior boys and girls rugby league team also played Sackville Street. For all the year 6 students involved this year, this was there last game representing Hammondville at Rugby League for PSSA. All students rose to the occasion and played fantastically in both defence and attack winning 52-16. We played a much weaker Sackville Street team, but all students need to be commended on their sportsmanship as many students spent long amounts of time off to allow Sackville Street to have a bigger involvement in the game. All students played extremely well and finished off their careers in Rugby League at Hammondville in great style. Once again it was a fantastic season and all the students involved consistently showed great sportsmanship, desire to win and passion and should be congratulated for their excellent behaviour and effort they showed this season. I wish all those students in year 6 good luck for their sporting aspirations in high school and encourage the year 5 students to try out again next year. Well done for a great season senior team!

Tries: Pat – 3, Joey – 2, Tom – 2, Jack – 1 and Andrej – 1.

As a reminder, all students involved in Rugby League this season will need to bring their jerseys back to Mr. Withers as soon as possible. Big thanks to all the families of the students who came down each and every week to support the students throughout the year.

Mr. Withers

Junior A Boys Soccer

Last Friday, the Junior A Boys Soccer played Dalmeny. Our boys played really well and won the match 5-0. A great team effort where all players contributed. Well done, Boys.

Goal Scorers: Kobe 2; Harry 2; Kiarne 1

Junior B Boys Soccer

Last Friday, the Junior B Boys Soccer also played Dalmeny. Although we played well, Dalmeny were able to take their opportunities when they occurred. Our passing was good and there’s no reason why we couldn’t reverse the result in a similar game.

Goal Scorers: Josh 1

Senior Boys Soccer

Last Friday, the senior Boys Soccer team played Dalmeny at Hammondville Oval. In what was a top of the table clash, Dalmeny came out wanting the ball more and were stronger in winning possession. Although the score did blow out at the end, we need to be hungrier for the ball across the park.

Bad luck, boys. This may serve as a bit of a check leading into the semi-finals.

Goal Scorers:

Mr McInney

Junior Girls A Soccer - Week 6 - 6-0 Win

The girls A team played an impressive game against Sackville. Thank you to Mr.Betts for helping out. The girls have increased their skills, passing and working very well as a team. Goal scorers Anika 4, Maeve 2.

The girls B team had a fantastic win against Sackville 6-0. There was great passing and team work and Ashlee scored her first ever 2 goals for the team. Madeline scored 2, Isabella 1 and Deja 1 goal each.

Senior Girls Soccer - 2-0 Win

The girls played very well and had a deserving win against Sackville, Sophie 1, Ella 1.

Mrs Zanapalis

PSSA 28/8/15

Semi Finals

Girls Soccer – To be advised

Boys Soccer – Ash Road

Netball – Woodward Park – Juniors Only,
Seniors will be going to watch so a bus fare will need to be paid.
Rugby League – Finished (Did not make the semis)

GENERAL INFO

SMS System

Hammondville Public School will no longer be utilising the SMS System for notifications to parents. Please ensure you have the Skoolbag app on your mobile device to keep informed of all activities as they arise.

Is Your Child Starting School in 2016?

Hammondville Public School is now taking enrolments. If you or anyone you know has children ready to start school, please let them know that we are ready and waiting for their enrolment. Feel free to come up to the office and see one of our friendly office staff.

Kindergarten 2016 Parent Information Night

If your child is ready to start school next year, please come to our Kindergarten parent information night on Monday 14th September 2015 at 7pm in the school library.

Please register your attendance at the office by calling: 9825 3948

Premier’s Reading Challenge

As of the 21st August, the Premier’s reading Challenge was completed.

Thank you to all participants. Certificates will be handed out sometime in Term 4. More information will follow. Thank you.

Mrs S Stanley

Canteen Sausage Sizzle - 19th August

Thank you to our wonderful mum volunteers - Lisa Allen, Tracy Hogan and Paula Ritchie. Also, thanks to our Year 6 helpers, Andrew C, Annabel C, Maya B, Sophie P and Lachlan M who made sure that all classes received their lunch.

Sue Craig & Tracey O’Hanlon

School Banking

Students, please ensure that your bank book is placed in your class banking folder before being bought down to the office. This ensures that your bank book and money are safe.

Thank you
Sue & Colleen

The Learning Difference Convention

If anyone is interested in attending The Learning Difference Convention to be held at Rose Hill Gardens on the 27th & 28th August I have 2 free passes to the exhibition hall available. For more details visit www.learningdifferenceconvention.com

Mrs Warwick
Learning Support Teacher

Social Media Parent Information Evening

Due to an overwhelming response from our school community, Hammondville Public School will be hosting an information sharing evening about the importance of positive choices when using social media. This presentation will be hosted by Senior Constable Rachel Kennedy of the Liverpool Local Area Command. Listed below is all the relevant information for the evening. If there are any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact the school.

We look forward to seeing any of our Hammondville families at the evening.

Date: Wednesday 7 October (Week 1 term 4)
Time: 6:30pm start (Presentation will run for approximately 90 minutes)
Location: School Library

Mr McNenny

Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Regional Finals

Our thoughts are with Lily Austin as she competes in the Regional Finals of the Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition held at the Arts Unit in Lewisham today. Lily has proven to be an excellent ambassador for Hammondville Public School and we wish her all the best.

Mrs Warwick
Public Speaking Co-ordinator
South West Sydney Public Speaking

On Wednesday last week Stage 1 students competed in our school finals of the South Western Sydney Public Speaking Competition. Our finalists included:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Finalists</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1C</td>
<td>Eve Scott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1V</td>
<td>Logan Douglas, Tahlia Lockart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2R</td>
<td>Emily Campbell, Madeleine Holz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Jules Cross, Oscar Lindbom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2FM</td>
<td>Mitchell Knot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3J</td>
<td>Daniel McMahon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class representatives presented a prepared speech from the topics:

- It’s great to a child.
- The best time of the year.
- My favourite meal.

The quality of the speeches was outstanding and the adjudicators had a very difficult task selecting only 1 winner to move onto the local finals.

Congratulations to Jules Cross who was our winner and Oscar Lindbom our runner-up.

Jules will represent our school at Wattle Grove Public School early next term.

Well done to all our finalists.

Mrs Warwick
Public Speaking Co-ordinator

Lost & Found

A pair of children’s reading glasses have been found in the playground. Please see the office.

A Gilbert Update

Private Teddy Gilbert is off on another adventure! This time he is travelling to the other side of the world, and Mrs Ford will be making sure that he eats his vegetables and changes his socks. Students can follow Gilbert’s travels on his blog on, ED – Our World Classroom. Gilbert might pop back t school from time to time (he is, after all, a very clever bear!) and you can ask Mrs O’Hanlon for clues to his next location.

During my absence, Mrs Tracey O’Hanlon will be available to assist our ADF families, and can be contacted through the school office.

Mrs O’Hanlon will give clues each week in the newsletter as to where Gilbert will be for that week, so here we go:-

He has travelled to a country much bigger than Australia. It has 50 states, it has a President, not a Prime Minister. Have you guessed the country? Have you guessed the country?

This week Stop 1 is Aloha, sun & surf, Diamond Head, USS Arizona Memorial. Stop 2 - across the mainland to a city famous for its Zoo and SeaWorld. Stop 3 - a very famous city with lots of celebrities and Universal Studios.

You can come and let me know if you have worked out where Gilbert and Mrs Ford are.

Monday/Tuesday I am in the canteen. Wednesday/Thursday I will be around and about the school.

Tracey O’Hanlon

Sandpit

Congratulations to everyone who donated to the sandpit. We have now reached our goal of $500. A big congratulations to Stage 3 for earning the most money in the last couple of weeks.

Thank you from the SRC.

Donations

Thank you to everyone who kindly donated material, wool etc. to our craft group. We are now looking for donations of any scrapbooking material which would be kindly appreciated. Thank you.

Mrs Stanley & Mrs Ford

Woolies Earn & Learn

With two weeks to go, our tally is 9,120.

Keep sending in your sticker sheets and check with your family, friends and neighbours if they have any. In the next two weeks, I’ll be able to give you the date when all stickers will need to be at school. The more stickers we collect the more gear for the classrooms.

Tracey O’Hanlon
World's Greatest Shave

This Thursday, 27th August is the day I’m getting my head shaved. I’m still looking for sponsors. All money I raise goes to the Leukaemia Foundation to help in research and to support families in many ways.

Thank you for your support.

Morgan O’Hanlon

BEYOND THE FRAME SOUTHERN STARS 2015

Rehearsals for Southern Stars 2015 Beyond The Frame are in full swing with students taking part in a wide range of dance and vocal rehearsals around the state. The buzz around the show is growing daily and tickets are selling more quickly this year than ever before so we encourage you to buy your tickets through Ticketmaster (Adult $48, Pensioner and student over 12 $38, Student/Child under 12 $27 and Family pass $140) as soon as possible to make sure you don’t miss out.

Beyond the Frame, featuring 3000 public school children, will take place over four performances at the WIN Entertainment Centre in Wollongong on Friday August 28 (10am and 7pm) and Saturday August 29 (2pm and 7pm).

To keep up with all the news about Beyond The Frame including recent media stories and picture galleries, as well as profiles of performers and teachers involved in the show, visit the Southern Stars – The Arena Spectacular Facebook site. Like us and share with your friends and family!

CANTEEN NEWS

Helpers Required

We are in need of more canteen helpers for Term 4. If you are able to help once or twice a term, please contact Sue or Tracey at the canteen.

Please Note:

110 ml small juice (60 cents) and Icy Cups (70 cents) are unavailable until further notice, we need to find a new supplier. We will advise you when they are available again.
*Reminder – Go Cookies are 80 cents each.

Tempting Tuesday Treat: Why not try our tempting & healthy treat this Tuesday? Available at the canteen this Tuesday is: Pikelets with Jam - 40 cents each.

*Please note that when placing a lunch order from the canteen; please make sure you write your name & class on the bag.

*Reminder – The canteen ladies are unable to heat up any food brought in from home, thank you.

Found

A wallet has been handed into the office. If you have lost your wallet, please see the ladies in the office.

Thank you.

UNIFORM SHOP

Uniform Pool Terms 3 & 4 2015

Attended 2:30pm - 3:00pm Wednesday afternoons only.

At all other times, please take purchases to the school office.

Prices:

Non - logo uniform tops and jumpers $1 each
Logo tops, jumpers, sports uniforms, shorts, track pants $2 each
Parkas, Backpacks, Dresses, “new” stock of old designs $5 each
Hats, library bags, stockings, sports socks etc. $2 each

Please keep the room tidy!

Thank you, Tracey, Sylvia & Michelle