

HUNTERS HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL

'Excellence in Learning for Success in Life'



AMITY Newsletter 2023

Term 2 Week 8



T: 9816 4404

E: huntershil-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

W: <http://www.huntershil-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

Message from the Principal



Parent Information Sessions

Thank you very much to all who attended our New Curriculum parent information session last evening. It was lovely to share what we are doing with your children in classrooms, and hopefully provide you with contextual information to support your understanding.

If you were unable to make it, on our website you will also find some information:

- A web address (you will need to cut and paste it) to department resources to guide you on ways that you can support your child/ren's English and mathematics learning at home.
- Links to NESA (NSW Education Standards Authority) parent and carer information guides.

You will find these in the 'Learning at our school' tab separately under the sub-sections of 'English' and 'Mathematics'.

We have one more session scheduled for 2023!

Reading K-6 — Wednesday, 15 March 2023 6:30 – 7:15pm (Week 8 Term 1)
New Curriculum — Wednesday, 14 June 2023 6:30 – 7:15pm (Week 8 Term 2)
Student Assessment - Wednesday, 30 August 2023 6:30 – 7:15pm (Week 7 Term 3)

Generally the sessions will cover best practice, what the topic means for HHPS, and what it means for you and your child. Sessions will be held at school and delivered by the executive staff.

Reminder notices and more information will be forwarded via Sentral closer to the dates.



Business as Usual

The term has been flying by! With a beginning of term which was jam-packed with extra events and activities, the second half of the term has been more 'business as usual' with students and teachers working hard on getting stuck into a less interrupted flow of regular teaching and learning. HHPS is a hub of activity throughout the day as everyone is immersed in the variety of activities that take place each and every day in the course of everyday learning. Not only are we looking towards wrapping up Term 2 activities, we do have Raw Art on at the moment which the students and teachers are enjoying – look forward to welcoming some hand-crafted creations into your homes, the Spelling Bee is taking place in Years 2 – 6 and groups are forward planning for 'Open Day' performances. Watch this space!



Teacher Professional Learning

Topics included in last fortnight's newsletter will be continued throughout this term.

'Those who seek to have their students learn, must be learners themselves.'



Instead of 'By Michael Grose'

Our 'By Michael Grose' articles were accessed from our Positive Parenting membership. Positive Parenting has now changed to Happy Families. Happy Families resources are developed by parenting expert Dr Justin Coulson PhD. On the Happy Families website, should you wish to look into it, you will find a variety of articles and other such resources that our membership invites parent access to.

You will find the website login details and password following, which is the same for everyone in our school community. We trust that you find some helpful insights.

Unique URL - <https://schools.happyfamilies.com.au/login/hhps>

Password - happyhhps



Changed Your Details?

Please ensure that you notify our office ASAP if you have had a change in personal details such as address or contact numbers; work, mobile or home.

Kim Dudgeon



Grades do not define our worth

By Rebekah Delahoy

I remember the first time I felt like my pre-schooler was falling behind. I had just met another 3-year-old who could read. Actually read, not just remembering the words to a favourite story like my pre-schooler did. In fact, my kid was only just mastering the alphabet song! Should I have been spending more time with phonics flashcards? Maybe we needed to start doing worksheets? Was I doing something wrong?

Yes!

But I didn't need to pull out the flashcards. What I was doing wrong was focusing on observable outcomes. We want to see growth in the way our kids can count and read because those are the things we can easily measure. But the real work of pre-school and even primary school is much more important than A B C and 1 2 3. It's the work of teaching our kids social skills, the not easily measured attributes of being able to wait for a turn, process uncomfortable feelings, and problem solve.

Obviously, we do want our children to learn their A B Cs and 1 2 3s too. But we don't need to rely on tests and homework to measure their learning. We should be able to see it in the way they talk about the problem at hand, the way they apply knowledge to new situations, and in the way they creatively build on what they know.

We also don't need to compare them to their peers to see how they measure up. Childhood is a period of rapid growth and learning. But learning isn't linear, and it isn't consistent across every child. One child may be thriving academically – able to spell words even adults struggle with like 'definitely' and 'facetious'... but they can't do the monkey bars yet. Another child may be a competitive gymnast... but hasn't learnt all their times tables yet. And yet another child may be a maths whizz...but still needs to work on making eye contact with people while they're talking.

But just as we need to remember not to compare our kid to their peers, we also need to teach our kids not to compare themselves to their peers. This is important for students who are struggling, but just as important for those who seem to be at the top of the class. Here's how you can teach them, by teaching yourself first:

Step 1. Remind yourself that grades aren't everything You probably grew up believing that your life prospects depended on the outcome of each test and exam you did. But look around you. Can you pick the ATAR score of your co-worker? Which of the parents in the school pick-up line was the best speller in grade 1? Which of the people at your church or gym or pottery class failed their Geography exam in high school? Can't tell? Of course not! Our grades are part of our story. But they do NOT define our story.

Step 2. Remind yourself that grades are much less important than social skills We can teach a computer to do just about anything these days... except have feelings. In an increasingly digitised and technological world, if you want your child to have skills that truly set them apart, focus on helping them grow their emotional IQ. Empathy, creative thinking, grit...these are all things that are much more important than being able to spell flawlessly.

Step 3. Remind yourself that "comparison is the thief of joy" Every child is on their own learning journey. Some kids may seem to be in the fast lane. Others may seem to be in the slow lane. But instead of comparing your child to another, compare them to where they were a year ago. Reflect on what they have learnt to do. Think about what they could work on further.

Step 4. Cultivate a growth mindset If your child comes to you saying "I can't do fractions"... or "I'm no good at colouring in the lines"... or "I don't understand phonics"... just add the word "yet".

"I can't do fractions...yet" reminds them that while they can't do it now, they can learn them one day.

"I'm no good at colouring in the lines...yet" encourages them that with practice, they can get better.

"I don't understand phonics... yet" reassures them that they might understand it tomorrow.

Being able to accomplish great things doesn't depend on high test scores. It doesn't depend on being better than others. It just depends on an inner conviction that greatness can be accomplished. Believe in your child.

K-2 Awards

Congratulations to the K-2 students who received a mention at the week 7 and 8 Assemblies for great work!



Dates to Remember

Thurs, 22 June	NSW Premier's Spelling Bee (details were in the week 6 newsletter)
Fri, 23 June	K-6 Assembly 9:05am
Thurs, 29 June	Walk Safely to School Day @ HHPS
Fri, 30 June	Last day of Term 2
Tues, 18 July	First day of Term 3

Hunters Hill Public School

☎ 02 9816 4404

✉ huntershil-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au



Kindergarten Orientation

New Parent Information Evening:
Wednesday, 2 August 2023 at 6pm

Teddy Bears' Picnic:
Wednesday, 20 September 2023 at 12pm

Kindergarten Orientation Visit 1:
Thursday, 2 November 2023 at 9:15am

Kindergarten Orientation Visit 2:
Thursday, 16 November 2023 at 9:30am

Debating

We are excited to introduce to you our debating teams for 2023 as well as sharing some updates. Our Year 6 teams are divided into two groups: the Banksias and the Jacarandas and are currently competing in the Premier's Debating Challenge.

In round one, both teams took the long, arduous journey to Boronia Park Public School. While the Jacarandas unfortunately lost their debate, the Banksias emerged victorious.

Round two brought a new challenge for both teams as they took on North Sydney Public School. Although the Jacarandas prepared well, they faced tough opponents and fell short of a win. However, the Banksias continued their winning streak through some strong rebuttals and engaging points.

As the competition progresses, round three promises to be another big challenge. The Jacarandas are gearing up to face Gladesville Public School while the Banksias will engage in a battle of ideas against Greenwich Public School, where they will strive to maintain their unbeaten streak. Round four will be the most exciting of all with both Jacarandas and Banksias facing off against each other.

While the Year 6 teams are well underway, our Year 5 students will compete in the Ryde District Debating Competition next term. We have high hopes that the Acacias and Westringias will bring the same level of enthusiasm, determination, and debating skills that their Year 6 peers have demonstrated.

Samantha Jansz & Tim Moreta (Debating Coordinators)





Sport News

It is with great excitement that we share some remarkable sporting achievements by our talented students.

Firstly, we would like to extend our best wishes to Lucy P, Cressie F, and Molly M, who are competing at the Sydney North Cross-Country event today. These three exceptional athletes have put in countless hours of training and preparation to reach this level of competition. We are incredibly proud of their determination and commitment. Lucy, Cressie, and Molly, we wish you the best of luck! We eagerly await hearing about your performances and successes.

In addition to the Sydney North Cross-Country event, we would also like to acknowledge the achievements of our PSSA sports teams. To all our PSSA athletes, congratulations on your outstanding performances. Your dedication, teamwork, and sportsmanship are truly commendable. We are thrilled to witness the progress you have made, both individually and as teams.

It is important to recognise that success in sports is not solely measured by victories and medals. It is the effort, resilience, and passion demonstrated by our students that truly shine through. We encourage all students to continue embracing the values of sportsmanship and to find joy in the process of striving for personal improvement.

Once again, congratulations to Lucy P, Cressie F, Molly M, and all our PSSA athletes on your incredible accomplishments. Your hard work and achievements inspire us all, and we eagerly await your future successes.

Jim Fogarty, Year 3 Classroom Teacher and Sports Coordinator

SRC News

Walk Safely to School Day @ HHPS

Date: Thursday, 29 June 2023

Time: Arrive at school from 8:30am onwards

Your Task:

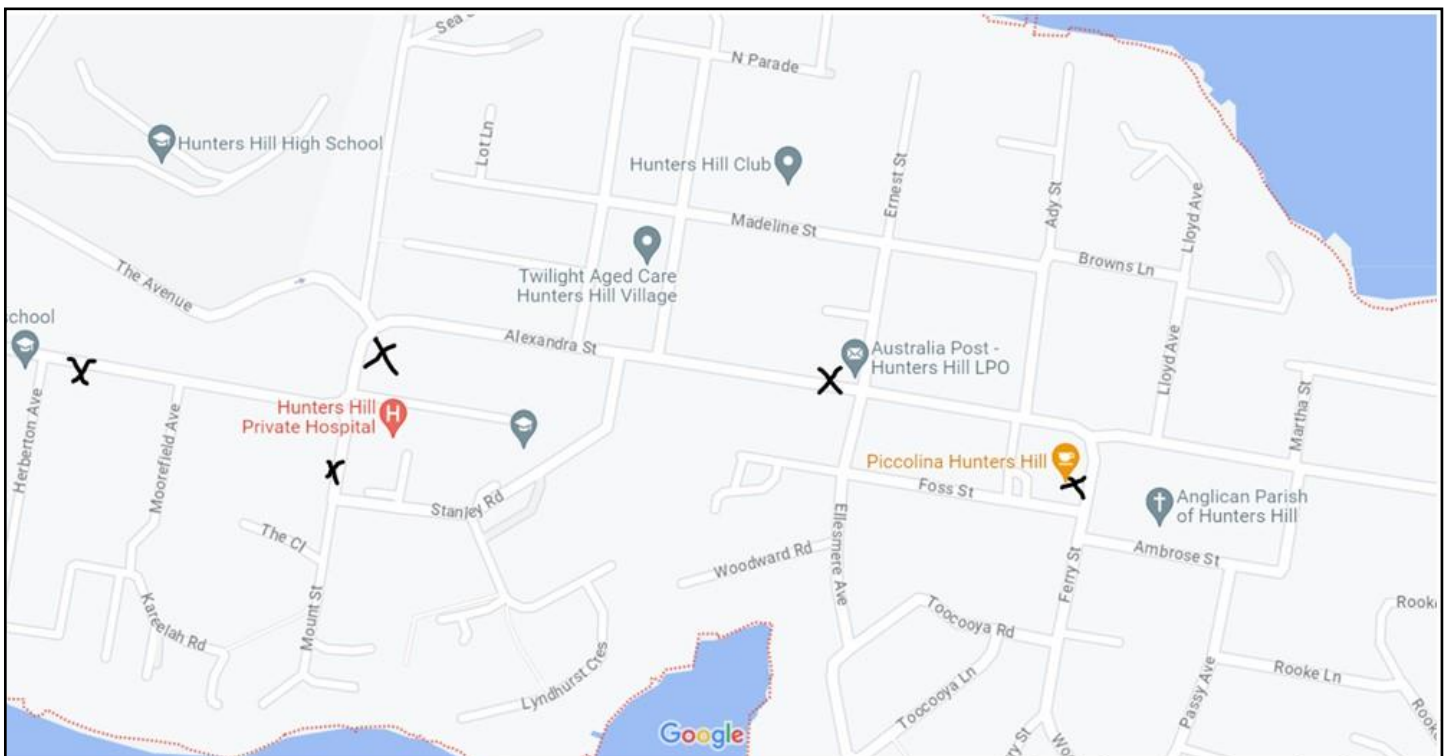
The SRC has organised a riddle competition about road safety that has been 'hidden' around Hunters Hill. You need to practise your road safety skills anytime from next week to walk around and find the riddles (please see the map below). Answer all the questions on the competition sheet and bring it to school on Walk Safely to School Day @ HHPS to win a prize.

Competition sheets will be available from SRC members from next week at school.

The SRC will be waiting for your arrival at the school gates on Walk Safely to School Day and they will check your answers to see if you can get the prize!

What is the prize? Join in the fun, find the riddles, practise road safety and then you can find out!

SRC Representatives



HHOOSH Vacation Care

Hi families,

I hope you all had a fantastic long weekend.

July Vacation Care is approaching and the centre hopes you are all excited as we are for these upcoming holiday program activities. There is endless amount of fun and learning catered to all children!

The Centre will be operating:

Week 1: Monday 3rd July - Friday 7th July

Week 2: Monday 10th July - Friday 14th July

Week 3: Monday 17th July

The hours the centre operates during Vacation Care is 8:00am - 6:00pm.

All children enrolled in primary school can attend our program.

Please book **before** Monday 3rd July 2023 to receive early bird booking price.

Please note, refunds or transfer of bookings are **not** available **after** Sunday 2nd July at 6:00pm.

Our program and information can be found at: [HHOOSH Vacation Care Webpage](#)

There is new information in our Vacation Care Program which includes important Vacation Care reminders.

1. MONEY

From these holidays onwards, **NO MONEY** will be permitted to be brought by children to purchase food/drinks at any venue.

Please ensure to BYO morning and lunch unless stated otherwise.

2. TRANSPORTATION

It is highly important that **children are dropped off and signed-in before the arrival time allocated for the excursion activity.** The service will not wait for families who arrive late and will not accept meeting children at the venue.

3. EXCURSION AUTHORISATION FORMS AND WAIVER FORMS

Excursion Authorisation forms and Waiver forms (where needed be) **MUST** be completed the day **BEFORE** the excursion. If it is not completed the day before, your child will not be able to attend.

The service will **NOT** accept authorisation forms the day of the excursion.

Below are links to all the necessary documents for July Vacation Care 2023:

[July Vacation Care Program 2023](#)

[July Vacation Care Information 2023](#)

[July Vacation Care Excursion Authorisation Form 2023](#)

[July Vacation Care Menu 2023](#)

[July Vacation Care Ultimate Sydney Waiver Form](#)

[July Vacation Care Bubble Soccer Waiver Form](#)

Please note, physical copies of the program, excursion authorisation form, Ultimate Sydney waiver form and Bubble Soccer waiver form are all readily available in HHOOSH's centre next to the sign-in/out iPad.

If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact Chantell via phone on 0424 474 064 or via email hello@hhoosh.com.au Thank you and we look forward to seeing you!

Free family fun with the Parliament of NSW

**MONDAY-FRIDAY
3-7 JULY 2023**
ONLINE

Welcome!



PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN UP TO 12 YEARS

Mirri Mirri cultural education session

Monday 3 July, 1-2 pm
Wednesday 5 July, 1-2 pm

Virtual guided visit of the Parliament of NSW

Tuesday 4 July, 9-10 am
Thursday 6 July, 9-10 am

Storytelling session

Friday 7 July, 9-10 am

Storytelling and drawing activity

Visit Australia's oldest Parliament via ZOOM this school holiday for **free** fun educational, activities for children and families.

We have 5 days of fun events planned including storytelling, Aboriginal cultural session and a virtual guided visit through the newly refurbished chambers.



BOOK NOW



BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

P: (02) 9230 2047

E: communityengagement@parliament.nsw.gov.au

**WHERE
ONLINE**

MORE INFORMATION

parliament.nsw.gov.au/events