

HUNTERS HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL

'Excellence in Learning for Success in Life'



AMITY Newsletter 2023

Term 1 Week 10



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Message from the Principal



Term 1 at HHPS

We have certainly hit the ground running this year and find ourselves with only one more week of school left before the Easter holidays. It has been a hive of activity at HHPS and all the students and staff have been working extremely hard. We know that parents, carers, families and friends are all part of the process of making school a successful experience for our students and that all of you have been working hard as well. Thank you to everyone who has supported us and our students in our efforts throughout the term.

We have seen the return of some activities, we have missed others, and we have initiated some that are new. We look forward to re-starting our journey with you and your children next term as we seek to achieve student success and wellbeing, teacher professional development and best practice, quality parent/carer partnerships, and continuous school improvement.

Our School Improvement Plan 'Strategic Directions' and 'Initiatives' have now been confirmed and remain as follows:

Student Growth and Attainment	High Quality Teaching	Collaboration and Partnerships
English Mathematics Student Wellbeing Practices	Evidence-based Practice Student Assessment	Collaborative Practices Partnerships

Our 2022 Annual School Report will be available on our website from the beginning of Term 2.



Harmony Day

Harmony Day is officially 21 March each year. To allow sufficient planning time to do the day justice HHPS will be holding Harmony Day activities next term on Tuesday, 16 May. You will find information from the organisers later in this newsletter.



ANZAC Service

This year's school ANZAC commemoration will be held next Wednesday, 5 April 2023 at 10:30am. Students from Years 2-6 will be involved. Parents are invited to attend should you wish.



Easter Hat Parade

The Easter Hat Parade for **K-2** students will be held in the afternoon on **Thursday, 6 April 2023**. The parade will be held in the Fig Tree Playground from **2:15pm**. Parents and family members are welcome to attend.



Save the New Dates – Parent Information Sessions!

There are a number of 'high profile' topics that we have been either working on or preparing for over the past 12 – 24 months, and you may have seen or heard some changes in your child's homework or language. To give you an understanding of what we have been up to and what to expect moving forward, we are holding three whole school parent information sessions. Topics to be covered are:

- ~~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 HGPS, 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.



Misplaced a Note?

Please note that if you have misplaced a note sent home from school, that it will be available on the school **website** (Communication > Notes). Replacement copies will not be provided by the school.



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.



Winter Uniform

Just a reminder as we head into Term 2, that winter uniforms should be worn on students' return to school after the holidays.



Happy Easter Holidays

From all of us to all of you, we wish you a Happy Easter and a safe and relaxing holiday. School resumes for students on Wednesday, 26 April 2023.

Kim Dudgeon



INSIGHTS

happy families. 

ISSUE 4 | TERM 1 | 2023

Learning to take on challenges

Challenges are the pathway to growth. When our children habitually avoid challenges, their learning stalls. When they learn to understand, value, and embrace challenge, their learning accelerates. So, helping our children develop a healthy relationship with challenge becomes one of the most important ways we can help them become better learners.

How does your child respond to a challenge?

Does your child avoid a challenge, seeking their “path of least resistance” in learning?

Or do they select the challenges they know they can do? Looking like they are working hard, but secretly avoiding mistakes by not taking on anything too challenging?

Maybe your child takes on challenges because the teacher tells them to. They follow the teacher’s instructions and are led through challenging tasks.

Perhaps your child takes on challenges because they need to. They have something they want to achieve, a goal in mind. Their relationship with challenge is born out of necessity so they can reach their goal.

But imagine if your child embraced challenges. In the spirit of John F. Kennedy when he said, “we do these things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard!” Imagine if when they were given the choice of doing something hard, or something easy, they’d choose the more challenging task, because they understood that challenge is the pathway to growth.

Becoming a Skilful Learner

How our children respond to challenges is a key element of what I call Learnership™ – the skill of learning. Learnership is a skill developed over time. It helps our children (and us) to get more out of every learning opportunity. Most importantly, Learnership is something we can teach our children that helps them to thrive both in school and life.

As parents we can help our children on the path to becoming better learners, by helping them develop a healthier and more productive relationship with challenge.

Comfort Zone V’s Learning Zone. What’s the Difference?

The first step in helping your child develop a healthy relationship with challenge is to teach them the difference between their Comfort Zone and their Learning Zone.

We've all heard that we need to get outside our comfort zone and challenge ourselves, but how many of our children truly understand what that means?

For many people, getting outside their comfort zone means trying something new. But something new, isn't always something challenging. Very often "new" is simply an "easy thing we haven't done yet". There is little struggle involved in this type of challenge, it comes with a great deal of certainty, and confidence that we'll succeed. These challenges feel more like a task. They keep us busy, but they don't help us get better. These types of challenges are in our Comfort Zone.

To be truly challenged our children need to stretch themselves beyond their current abilities. These types of challenge feel like a problem. Unlike a task where the path to completion is easily recognised, the solution to this challenge is not immediately apparent. They leave us feeling uncertain, and they involve struggle. The challenge feels "hard". When our child feels like this, it's a good sign they are in their Learning Zone.

Being in your Learning Zone feels uncomfortable. When our children find themselves in the Learning Zone, their first reaction is often to get out of it. Suddenly anything else seems like a more attractive option. They look for distractions, seek out easy options or adopt any number of avoidance strategies.

Struggle is temporary

It's important to help our children recognise that the feeling of struggle and discomfort that comes with being in their Learning Zone is temporary. It passes. Many children believe if they are struggling now, then the next step in learning will involve even more struggle. They believe that the further they go, the more uncomfortable they'll feel. So naturally, they turn away from further struggle.

The reality is that effort is the currency of growth, and struggle is the price we pay for that growth. The reward is that what we experienced as hard today, becomes easy tomorrow. It doesn't get harder and harder and harder. It's hard, then it's easy. Then they move on, and the next step is also hard, until they make that easy. Being in the Learning Zone, and experiencing the struggle that comes with it, is not only a normal part of learning, but also an essential part of growth.

Parenting for more skilful learners

As parents we have an important role in helping our children become more skilful learners. This begins by helping them develop a healthy relationship with challenge. By teaching them that effort is the cost of growth, and normalising the struggle that comes from being in their Learning Zone, we help them become "comfortably uncomfortable" with challenge, and put them on a path of continuous growth.



AUTHOR

James Anderson

James Anderson is an international speaker, author and educator. In an educational landscape focused on teachers, James' work focuses on learners. His signature work defines Learnership™ – the skill of learning. He answers the question: What does it mean to be a skilful learner? For further information visit jamesanderson.com.au. You can also listen to James and Dr Justin Coulson discuss Learnership™ on the Happy Families podcast episode #529 (The Growth Mindset) and #559 (How to Create Skillful Learners).



K-2 Awards

Congratulations to the K-2 students who received a mention at the week 9 and week 10 K-2 Assemblies for great work!



Certificates of Merit

At last week's K-6 Assembly, the following students were recipients of Certificates of Merit, for excellent effort, work or citizenship:

1J

Ivy M

2M

Max A, Anthony H

2S

Dante D, Audrey N, Max O

3/4N

George E, Archer O

5P

Olivia C

6M

Charlotte E, Cleo M

Uniform Shop

Opening hours:

The uniform shop will be open on the following days for **exchanges, fittings and second-hand purchases only**. Please note that new items may only be purchased via Flexischools:

- Thursday, 6 April (last day of Term 1) Pop up shop in the Eulbertie Courtyard 8.30am-10.30am - all second-hand stock will be on display.
- Wednesday, 26 April (first day of Term 2) 8.30am-10.30am.

If you have any winter uniform items to donate, please bring them to the school office. Any questions, please contact: uniformconvenor@hhps-pandc.org.au

Dates to Remember

Mon 3 - Thurs 6 Apr	Year 2 Swim School (week 2)
Wed 5 Apr	HHPS ANZAC Day Commemoration
Thurs 6 Apr	Easter Hat Parade (K-2) 2:15pm and Last Day Term 1
Tues 25 Apr	ANZAC Day Public Holiday
Wed 26 Apr	First Day Term 2
Tues 9 May	School Photo Day
Tues 16 May	Harmony Day Celebration (change of date)
Wed 17 May	Cross-Country Carnival (Yr 3-6 and those in Yr 2 turning 8 this year)

Harmony Day 2023

Harmony Day 2023

Everyone Belongs



The Australian community celebrates Harmony Day on 21 March each year.

Our school will be celebrating our community's multicultural diversity on **Tuesday, 16 May**.

On this day students are asked to wear **cultural dress, or orange clothing**.

In preparation for class activities for Harmony Day we ask that over the holidays you share with your children stories and interesting facts of your country of origin, such as:

- language spoken
- cultural dress - when is it worn?
- where is your country located?
- what is your climate like - are there any climate related pastimes such as skiing, cricket or events to pass the seasons
- food

We are looking forward to a colourful and interesting celebration on 16 May.

Mr Jim Fogarty (Year 3 Teacher and Harmony Day Co-ordinator)
Mrs Kathi Towns (EAL/D Teacher)

Hunters Hill High School students visit Year 2

This term, Year 10 students from Hunters Hill High School visited our Year 2 classes. The design and technology class lead two focus group sessions to investigate what our Year 2 students were interested in. They then had to develop and make an educational toy based on those interests and bring their products back into the classroom. All students enjoyed getting to know their mentors and playing incredible games together.

An amazing and successful collaboration! A great experience working with some of our ex-primary school students.



Sport News

Hunters Hill PS students have been making waves in sports this year, with some impressive performances in both swimming and PSSA competitions.

At the **Sydney North Swimming Competition** held last Wednesday, four students from the school - Aidan M, George E, Max M, and Alex X - teamed up for the relay events, representing the school with pride and strength. Aidan M also achieved a fantastic fifth place in the 50m freestyle event, showing off his impressive swimming skills. Well done to all of these students for making Hunters Hill PS proud!

In **Summer PSSA**, the school has had a great start to the year with no games being washed out, which is always a relief. All teams have represented the school proudly, and with the last round for Term 1 coming up this Friday, it's time to check the [Ryde Zone website](#) for the current table. Summer PSSA will continue in Term 4, so there's still plenty of time to continue to improve and strive to make the finals at the end of the year. Make sure you keep practicing over the winter.

Looking ahead to **Winter PSSA**, Hunters Hill PS will be entering teams in Soccer (Boys and Girls Junior and Senior Teams), Netball (2 Junior and Senior Teams) and Tiger Tag (Mixed Junior, Mixed Senior, and Girls Senior). Unfortunately, there wasn't enough interest across the Ryde Zone to run an AFL competition this year, but there are plenty of opportunities to try new sports and learn new skills.

HHPS will be entering Teams in the Paul Kelly AFL Cup.

For those keen to get involved in PSSA Winter, **two trials will be held next week**, Mr Fogarty will let you know of days so you can come prepared. It's a fantastic opportunity to represent your school, make new friends, and improve your sporting abilities.

Congratulations once again to all the students who have represented Hunters Hill PS in school sports this term. Keep up the great work, and we look forward to seeing what you achieve in the future.



LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

TERM ONE 2023

Welcome to HHPS library to all students and their families.

Congratulations to these Year 6 students who have volunteered to be Library Monitors for 2023.



Helena O



Oliver M



Stella H



Elisia W



Jeremy M



Hugo B

Their duties include assisting me during lunch time with games and computers, borrowing and returning books as well as shelving. The monitors will take a leading role in any library event such as our annual book carnival and visiting speakers.

LIBRARY TIMETABLE

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
9.00 - 9.45			
9.45 - 10.15			
10.15 - 11.00		3/4M	5P
RECESS			
11.30 - 12.15	KX	1J	2S
12.15 - 1.00	KJ	1R	2M
LUNCH			
1.45 - 2.15			
2.15 - 3.00	3F	4/5M	6M

Borrowing

Kindergarten - Y2: 2 books

Years 3-6: Up to 4 books



Premiers Reading Challenge (PRC)

The PRC opened for 2023 on 27 February and will close on 18 August. Years 1-6 will log on to the challenge at school so they will all have the opportunity to attempt the challenge and competently use the website. The Kindergarten children will need parental assistance to log on and to record their reading log.

All parents can investigate the PRC website for information through their search engine and can access the website to record on the reading log by using the username and password their child uses at school to access the student portal. Please let me know if you need any further assistance.

Challenge	Number of books you must read	Minimum number of PRC books	Maximum number of Personal Choice books	PRC booklists you can read from
K-2	30	25	5	K-2, 3-4, 5-6
3-4	20	15	5	3-4, 5-6, 7-9
5-6	20	15	5	5-6, 7-9
7-9	20	15	5	5-6, 7-9, 9plus
3-9 (refer to rule 7b)	20	15	5	All booklists

The children who complete the challenge receive a certificate from the premier's office if they complete the challenge.

Year of completing PRC	Award received
First year	Challenge completion certificate
Second year	Challenge completion certificate
Third year	Challenge completion certificate
Fourth year	Gold certificate
Fifth year	Challenge completion certificate
Sixth year	Challenge completion certificate
Seventh year	Platinum certificate
Eight year	Challenge completion certificate
Ninth year	Challenge completion certificate
Tenth year	Challenge completion certificate
Every year from Year 3 to Year 9 (inclusive). Therefore only Year 9 students are eligible, along with year 10 students in 2021 (please see rule 11b below)	Medal

For more information please refer to the PRC website.
Good luck everyone. Happy reading.

WORLD BOOK ONLINE

World Book Online is a wonderful resource that is available to all the children at HHPS. Children can log on at school or at home to help them with research, homework and speeches they are using for debates or public speaking.

The Website is worldbookonline.com

The log on ID is – hunter

The password is – amity.

World Book Online eBooks

HHPS has added the eBook platform to our subscription and the school has access to hundreds of books online. The books are both fiction and nonfiction and can be read for work and pleasure.

Monica Juresic- Teacher/Librarian



Performing Arts Update

Instrument Try Out/End of term concert

If your child is interested in trying out a string instrument, please come along to the Life Congregational Church on Thursday, 30 May at 5:15pm. No experience is necessary – we are looking to recruit many new musicians.

Following the try-out, we will have our end of term concert (at 5:45pm) with both the Stringlets and Chamber Orchestra performing, followed by a BBQ at the Sunroom. All are welcome!

If your child is interested in ANY musical instrument or style, opportunities exist in all of our ensembles (vocal, strings, jazz band and guitar). If your child would like to try out please contact the HHPS Performing Art Committee (music@hhps-pand.org.au.)

Democracy fundraiser for performing arts

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed time, baked goods or money at our democracy sausage sizzle/cake stand at the NSW state election on Saturday, 25 March. The event was a huge success, raising record funds to support our performing arts program.

The children also did their part, with the Chamber Orchestra and Jazz ensemble both performing excellently on the day.



Festival of Instrumental & Choral Music

A reminder of our Chamber Orchestra dates for the upcoming Festival of Instrumental music:

Rehearsals: Thursday, 18 May – 9:15-1pm

Tickets become available: Friday, 19 May at 9am

Concert day rehearsals: Friday, 16 June 12-4pm

Evening concert: Friday, 16 June 7-9pm

The Festival of Choral Music is taking place in August:

Monday, 14 August – Festival of Choral Music – for children in the Jacaranda Singers group.

HHOOSH Vacation Care

Hi Families,

April 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: Tuesday, 11 April - Friday, 14 April

Week 2: Monday, 17 April - Friday, 21 April

Week 3: Monday, 24 April

The Centre will be CLOSED:

Monday, 10 April Easter Monday

Tuesday, 25 April Anzac Day

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** Tuesday 11, April 2023 to receive the early bird booking price.

Please be aware that bookings made after Tuesday, 11 April 2023 are **unable** to be transferred or refunded.

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 as well as the Ancillary Fee Schedule that will commence Tuesday, 11 April 2023.

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

[April Vacation Care Program 2023](#)

[April Vacation Care Information 2023](#)

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

[April Vacation Care Menu 2023](#)

[April Vacation Care VR Quest Waiver Form](#)

Excursion Authorisation Forms must be completed prior to the day of an excursion. Waiver Forms where required must be completed as well. **Failure to do so will lead to your child/ren being unable to attend the service.** It is not the centre's responsibility to chase parents/guardians for forms in which promote a child's safety.

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!

Kind Regards,
HHOOSH

School photographs will be taken on Tuesday, 9 May 2023



Please note: Traditional or Composite group and the presentation format are chosen by your school. Sibling photos, if available, can also be ordered online and must be ordered prior to your photo day. A late fee will apply for photos purchased after ordering has closed.

how to order

order online

Online payment options include Visa, Mastercard and PayPal. Alternatively, you can choose to pay over 10 weeks using LatitudePay.

STEP 1

Go to www.advancedlife.com.au on your computer, phone or tablet.

STEP 2

Enter your school code:

ZLG FNF TQM

in the 'order and download' box.

This will take you to your school's secure online ordering site.



STEP 3

Click on 'Order Photos' and complete your details and procedures. During this process you can place orders for additional children at your school and sibling photos, if available



School photographs will be returned to your school 4-6 weeks after the day of photography

IMPORTANT - "not for publication" students

If you have instructed your school that your child's image is "not for publication" (sometimes called "do not publish" or "not for media release" instructions), the school will ensure that your child is not presented to our photographers on photo day and school photographs will not be available for purchase. If you wish to change your instruction, then you must notify your school, so they change their records and identify your child as able to be photographed for school photography purposes. All students presented to our photographers by your school on photo day will be photographed, their images will appear in school photography packages with their fellow students and these packages will be available

Contact us: www.advancedlife.com.au/contact



EXPECT RESPECT

THURS 4 MAY TO 8 JUNE

This six-week program is for women who are living with or have recently experienced domestic abuse.

- Distinguish the difference between relationship issues and abuse.
- Create awareness that domestic abuse is more than physical abuse
- Explore factors that may keep someone in a relationship with an abusive partner
- Enable women to gain practical and emotional support
- Enhance a woman's self-awareness of her needs and awareness of her children's needs, if applicable
- Explore safe options for you and how to make healthy decisions

Free program runs for 6 weeks during school terms.

Free childcare available but must be booked in advance as places are limited.

To enrol please call us on 9971 4499 or email

admin@wacf.org.au



Supporting women
when they need it most.

**Northern Sydney
women's support
program**

Thursdays

10am – 12noon

ENROL TODAY

**Make safe,
informed decisions**

**Women's support
group**

**Respectful
relationships**

**Women & Children
First**

9971 4499

admin@wacf.org.au