

Henry Fulton Public School Newsletter

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2026 TERM 1 WEEK 6

From the Principal's Desk....

It's been a great but busy couple of weeks. We've had lots of opportunities for our students and 'groups' have begun. We've had extraordinary interest in our school choir, dance groups and gardening/sustainability group. We've had our choir and dance participants for PULSE off to rehearsals and a wonderful K-6 assembly where we badged a number of our new school leaders.

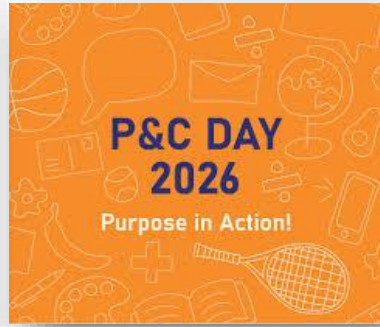
This week we have a team swimming at Penrith Zone, and I wish them all the very best of luck for each of them and their races. They'll be accompanied by Mr Govender and Miss Antonelli. We've been preparing for NAPLAN coming up in Weeks 7, 8 and 9 and so it will be a busy next few weeks, too. We look forward to our 'clean up Australia' day this Friday 6th (postponed from last Friday due to the rainy week).

This week we also acknowledge the great work of our P&C. They are all about building community and contributing to our school where everyone feels included. Super involvement, and wonderful fundraisers is what the school has always relied upon and enjoyed. So, many, many thanks to all our parents but especially our P&C led my Mark Williams. The school is very grateful for your efforts and partnership.

Last Friday afternoon our P&C offered a sweet treat gift to our parents which I hope were really enjoyed. Thank you to those who came along to make the cookie bags up. Use the scan code to join the P&C, get information and be involved. Happy P&C Day.



Our busy P&C helpers making up the sweet treat gift for P&C Day 2026



Our fabulous, first class awards for 2026



Our wonderful House Captains, Library Monitors, SRC, Peer Play Leaders and Sound Technicians for 2026



Clean-Up Australia Day at School

Clean-Up Australia Day at School will be the Friday, on 6th Feb instead of last week. Send in some garden gloves if you have them.



P&C Meeting – 10th March

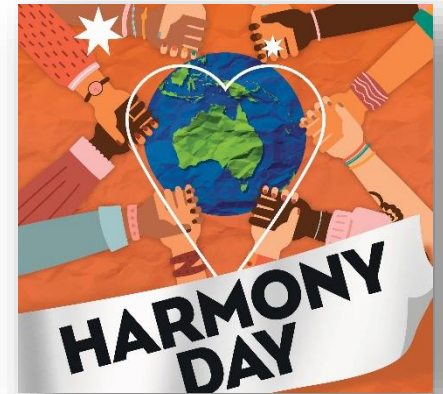
Our next P&C meeting will be Tuesday 10th March commencing at 7.00pm in the staffroom. All very welcome! This month's meeting we are hosting Karen McKeown who will be here to hear all about our school and P&C and answer any questions if we have them.

This week you may receive the information about our P&C Easter Raffle. It's always such a great success and very well supported by families and friends. The draw will be held on Thursday 2nd April, the last day of term. On this day we'll also have an Easter parade. More information to come but as usual it's a very exciting parade and everyone participates. Start thinking about an Easter bonnet, hat, crown, poster, and so on. Home-made or not, they are always so much fun to wear and see everyone in the parade.

Harmony Week/Day

Harmony Week is the celebration that recognises our diversity and brings together Australians from all different backgrounds. Harmony Week is also about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, from the Traditional Owners of the land to our most recent arrivals.

We will celebrate a Harmony Day on **Thursday 19th March** and we invite everyone to wear orange to show support for cultural diversity and an inclusive Australia.



Did you know....

- ***Australia is one of the world's most successful multicultural countries and our cultural diversity is at the heart of who we are.***
- ***Over half of Australians were born overseas or have at least one parent who was born overseas.***

That's why it's so important that we celebrate our country's diversity through Harmony Week. And celebrating that no matter where you come from, we're united by the Australian values of freedom, respect, fairness, democracy and equal opportunity.

See you in orange on the 19th March.

NAPLAN

NAPLAN will take place from **Wednesday 11 March to Monday 23 March 2026**. Students in Years 3 and 5 are expected to participate in 4 NAPLAN tests:

- writing
- reading
- conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation)
- numeracy.

All schools in NSW complete NAPLAN online. However, Year 3 students do the writing test on paper. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the format of the tests before the NAPLAN test window.

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills your child is already learning at school. It is important to remember that NAPLAN is not about passing or failing. It is about assessing learning progress. The best approach for preparing your child for NAPLAN is to encourage your child to do the best they can on each day, make sure everyone gets a good night's sleep and has a healthy breakfast. Also, please make sure your child is at school on time.

Catch-up tests

Where possible, we will arrange catch-up tests for individual students who were absent on the day of a scheduled NAPLAN test.

'Community Cuppa' Invitation to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background families

We will be hosting a 'Community Cuppa' this afternoon to prepare and work on Personalised Learning Pathways. We look forward to a productive afternoon with the children and families involved in the creation of these important plans.

School zone/parking around the school

Please be reminded that our bus bay at the front of the school is in a school zone. Our school zone operates between 8–9.30am and 2.30–4pm and there are signs. This means that between these times, you cannot pull up and stop in this area to let out your child/ren and you cannot park there. We often have rangers patrol our perimeter and they WILL issue infringements.

We also have zones marked for 'Kiss and Drop', No Parking and No Standing. Disobeying parking signs can attract a fine starting at \$235.00. Please consider that we have children walking, riding, crossing roads and making their way in and out of cars and buses. Please don't park across the road in the No Stopping zone and call your kids over the road, don't double park and ask your children to walk between cars.

Please be mindful of our neighbours too, by not parking or stopping in driveways. Many thanks in advance.

Riding to School

It's a great way to get to school - on a bike, scooter and so on. These are to be walked on and off school grounds and there is an expectation that children will have a helmet and wear it at all times.

School Uniform

We have a great school uniform. The students always look amazing whilst at school and on excursions. Please be reminded that the school uniform does not include multi-coloured or coloured and patterned hats, caps and beanies, jumpers and certainly no gym gear/active wear and bike shorts. You will find that our supplier Midford will be able to meet your every need and we also have 'second hand clothing' at school. Call the office to check sizes if you need something.

Most of our uniform items have a school logo and our preference is for black shoes.

In order for everyone to remain safe at school, I also ask that students not wear jewellery or keep it to an absolute minimum. Make-up, of course is not necessary at school either.

Sport News

Congratulations Oscar Mc for being selected for the Penrith Zone AFL team. Well done, and we look forward to a great competition.

Over the past few weeks, we have had a number of students try out for a variety of representative teams and are yet to be notified if they've been successful. Good luck to all of them.

*Finally.....*Our PULSE Alive choir and dance groups will perform at Rod Laver Arena on Friday 20th March and we can't wait for this one. It's usually a great show, lively, colorful, energetic and entertaining. We hope they have fun and make us proud!



See you around school.

G Palamara
Principal

Dates for your calendar

Mar

3rd Mar "Cuppa Afternoon" for Indigenous families
 4th Mar Zone Swimming
 10th Mar P&C Mtg
 11th - 23rd Mar NAPLAN
 16th - 22nd Mar HARMONY WEEK
 18th Mar Student Voice
 18th Mar Sydney West Swimming
 19th Mar HARMONY DAY Celebrations
 27th Mar K-6 Assembly

Apr

2nd Apr EASTER CELEBRATIONS
 2nd Apr Last day of Term 1
 3rd Apr Good Friday
 20th-21st Apr Staff Development Days
 22nd Apr First day back for students
 24th Apr ANZAC Day Assembly @ 9.10am
 24th Apr School Cross Country @ 9.30am
 25th Apr ANZAC Day
 27th Apr ANZAC DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

May

10th May MOTHERS DAY
 12th May P&C Mtg

June

10th June SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

Assemblies in 2026

Term 1

Week 9-Friday 27th March

*Week 10-Friday 2nd April, EASTER CELEBRATIONS

*** A celebration event and not a regular assembly a such**

NB: Assemblies in Term 2, 3, and 4 will be confirmed in the coming weeks.

Library News

The 2026 NSW Premier's Reading Challenge has started.

The NSW PRC opens on Monday 23rd February and closes on Friday 18th September. The Challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience quality literature. It is not a competition but a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely. All students who successfully complete the challenge receive a certificate, with gold certificates awarded to students who complete the challenge for 4 years and platinum certificates for those who complete the challenge for 7 years.

Kindergarten to Year 2 students will complete the challenge during their library time while students in Years 3-6 will complete the challenge in their own time. For more information about the Challenge look at the website:
www.premiersreadingchallenge.nsw.edu.au.

Students in Years 3-6 who would like to be a part of the Challenge will need to register online using their school username and password. Once registered students can add books read to their Student Reading Record (SRR). Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding the challenge.

Happy Reading,

Mrs Kim Bedingfield

Teacher librarian

Sustainability Group Kicks Off for 2026!

Our Sustainability Group got off to a fantastic start last week, with students eager to roll up their sleeves and dive into caring for our vegetable gardens. They enthusiastically cleaned up the remnants of the summer crop, harvested fresh produce, and jumped straight back into composting by collecting food scraps from Crunch and Sip.

Henry Fulton will continue to participate in several key sustainability initiatives throughout the year:

Return and Earn

The SRC will keep collecting containers from around the school to support this program. We'll maintain our commitment by sending 50% of our Return and Earn fundraising to Vinnies. Last year, we donated a total of \$190.30, making a real difference in our community.

Waste Free Wednesdays

Families are encouraged to pack waste-free lunch boxes each Wednesday to help reduce school waste. We promote mindful waste reduction every day. The group is also exploring new ideas to further promote sustainable living within our school community this year. We look forward to sharing more exciting updates as the year progresses!

P&C News

What a whirlwind fortnight at Henry Fulton! Between PSSA trials across a stack of sports, PULSE dance and choir rehearsals in full swing, and new dance groups coming together, the school has been absolutely buzzing. And a huge shout-out to our first assembly of the year—made even sweeter by the P&C cookie surprise.

Did you manage to snag a cookie on the way out? If you did, we hope it made your day (and if you didn't... there's always next time). Please scan the QR code to stay in the loop with everything the P&C has on the go. A big thank you to long-time P&C legend Alisan, plus our wonderful new members Cess and Yohanna for helping hand them out, and to Jess for her top-tier organisation and support in spreading the word.

Next up is our biggest fundraiser of the year: the **Annual Easter Raffle**, being drawn on **Thursday 2nd April** as part of our Easter celebrations. Notes and tickets will come home with students this week, and we'd love your help to make it a cracker. We're chasing donations of anything Easter-themed—big or small! Whether it's books, toys, headbands, craft items, or the classic chocolate egg, it all helps us build prize packs for the draw. We made over 100 prize packs last year and we'd love to do it again, thanks to your generosity. Donations can be dropped to the front office from today.

Finally, our next P&C meeting is on **Tuesday 10th March at 7pm in the staffroom**, and we're excited to welcome special guest local State MP **Karen McKewon**. We'd love to see you there—new faces are very welcome.

If you've got any questions, please reach out any time, we have active socials, our email PandCHenryFultonPS@gmail.com as well as members always hanging around who are up for a chat.

Melanie Slater
P&C Secretary

What's Coming Up

NAPLAN-Parent and carer information YEARS 3 and 5 ONLY

NAPLAN will next take place from **Wednesday 11 March to Monday 23 March 2026**. Students in Years 3 and 5 who are enrolled at a school are expected to participate in 4 NAPLAN tests:

- writing
- reading
- conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation)
- numeracy.

All schools in NSW complete NAPLAN online. However, Year 3 students do the writing test on paper. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the format of the tests before the NAPLAN test window.

Supporting your child

NAPLAN assesses the literacy and numeracy skills your child is already learning at school. It is important to remember that NAPLAN is not about passing or failing. It is about assessing learning progress. The best approach for preparing your child for NAPLAN is to encourage your child to do the best they can on the day. Excessive preparation or the use of coaching providers is not recommended. If you have any questions about NAPLAN, please contact your child's teacher in the first instance.

Students' digital skills

The digital skills needed to complete NAPLAN are skills students use in everyday classroom activities.

Students do not need to be able to touch type. The online test is **not** about keyboard skills.

Public demonstration site

The [public demonstration site](#) is available for students, teachers and parents to get familiar with the types of questions, tools and functions used in the NAPLAN tests. It includes demonstration tests for each NAPLAN year level, test domain (writing, reading, conventions of language, and numeracy), and alternative tests for students with disability.

Disability adjustments

Adjustments are available for [students with disability](#). The adjustments should reflect the normal support a student receives in classroom assessments.

Contact your child's school to discuss possible adjustments. If adjustments are available for your child, you will need to sign a parent or carer consent form.

Withdrawals and exemptions

You can withdraw your child from NAPLAN tests.

Your child may be exempt from NAPLAN tests if they have:

- significant disabilities that severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests
- a language background other than English and have recently arrived in Australia (less than a year before the tests).

Contact your child's school for further information about withdrawals and exemptions and to sign a parent or carer consent form.

Tailored testing

NAPLAN reading, numeracy and conventions of language tests use a tailored test design. Tailored testing adapts to student's responses. It provides a more precise assessment of individual student performance.

Students at each year level start with a similar set of questions. Depending on the number of questions a student answers correctly, their next set of questions may be more, or less, difficult.

Students should not be concerned if the questions are more difficult than expected. A student's NAPLAN result is based on both the number and difficulty of questions they answer correctly. A student who completes a more difficult set of questions is more likely to achieve a higher score and a higher proficiency level.

For more information on tailored testing [visit the NAP website](#).

Catch-up tests

Where possible, schools may arrange catch-up tests for individual students who were absent on the day of a scheduled NAPLAN test.

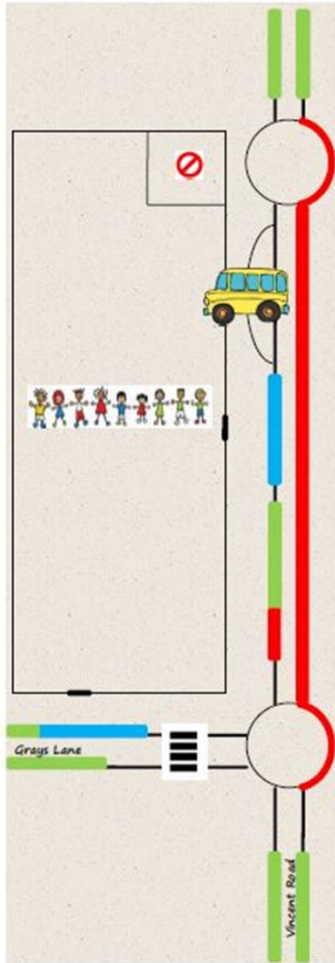
'Good to Know' - Important Information for Parents

Safety Around Our School

The school regularly informs the community about how best to stay safe around the school. Most importantly parents will find the "Kiss and Drop" flier in this newsletter. We encourage the following of road rules at all times, and we expect nothing less than vigilance and appropriate care taken when dropping children at school and picking them up in the afternoons.

Unfortunately, at times we see dangerous driving around our school. We see illegal parking and stopping in unsafe places and we also see parents putting their children in extremely unsafe situations. Please assist by parking safely, walking an extra bit further to collect your children, using the "kiss and drop" zones as they are intended and observing road rules and road signs.

We ask that parents NEVER walk through the school/staff car park to access the school. This is not a safe area for pedestrians and is STRICTLY LIMITED to those with Principal approval ONLY.



HENRY FULTON PUBLIC SCHOOL

We are a **PARK & WALK** school

With

2 KISS & DROP ZONES

- Kerbside pick-up/drop-off **ONLY**
- 2 min time limit
- Stay with your car
- **NO WAITING IN ZONE**

NO PARKING

Fines apply if in...

- No Standing Zones
- Kiss & Drop Zones
- and if **DOUBLE PARKED**

!!! Please don't...

- **RUSH!** Be patient and move on when necessary
- Collect children while double parked

For more info contact the front office

*Definitely not to scale

2026 dates for your Calendar

Term 1

- Staff Development Days (4): Tuesday 27 January to Friday 30 January
- **Students return on Monday 2nd February to Thursday 2nd April**
- **Last day of Term 1 is Thursday 2nd April**

*Autumn school holidays – Tuesday 7th April to Friday 17th April

Term 2

- Staff Development Days (2): Monday 20th April and Tuesday 21st April
- **Students return on Wednesday 22nd April to 3rd July**
- **Public Holiday - Monday 27th April for ANZAC DAY**
- **Public Holiday - Monday 8th June for King's Birthday**
- **Last day of Term 2 is Friday 3rd July**

*Winter school holidays – Monday 6th July to Friday 17th July

Term 3

- Staff Development Day (1): Monday 20th July
- **Students return on Tuesday 21st July to Friday 25th September**
- **Last day of Term 3 is Friday 25th September**

*Spring school holidays – Monday 28th September to Friday 9th October

Term 4

- Staff Development Day (1): Monday 12th October
- **Students return on Tuesday 13th October to Thursday 17th December**
- **Last day of 2026 is Thursday 17th December**

*Summer school holidays – Friday 18th December to Wednesday 27th January 2027

*Return date for students in 2027 - TBC




NEPEAN CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS HIGH SCHOOL

OPEN NIGHT






Tuesday 10 March | 6pm - 8pm

Nepean CAPA High School is a semi-selective, comprehensive high school that provides opportunities to excel in the areas of Academia, Creative & Performing Arts, Sport, Leadership and Vocational Training.

Nepean provides students with a caring and supportive learning environment with a broad curriculum and a range of opportunities to enable learners to develop and succeed.






CAPA AUDITION APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!

CIRCUS ARTS | CREATIVE ARTS | DANCE | DRAMA | MUSIC

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO APPLY
nepean-h.schools.nsw.gov.au

115-119 Great Western Highway, Emu Plains | P: (02) 4728 7200 | E: nepean-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au



Reminder to parents and carers:

Apply now for 2026 School Opal cards

Getting to school by bus in 2026

Will your child be catching the bus to school next year? Applications are now open for a 2026 School Opal cards. As this is a busy time of year, we highly recommend applying before the end of this year. It's also a good idea to check the bus timetable to help make your child's journey to school as easy as possible.

School Opal cards

- All students catching the bus in 2026 will need a School Opal card.
- Under the [School Student Transport Scheme \(SSTS\)](#), eligible students can apply for free or subsidised travel between home and school.
- For more information about the SSTS and how to apply for a School Opal Card, visit <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/#/> (best accessed from a desktop computer) click 'Apply now'.

Bus timetables

Busways operates your school's bus services. To find your child's school bus timetable:

1. Go to busways.com.au/nsw
2. Click 'School Services' in the navigation bar, then proceed to [school timetables](#)
3. Enter the school's name in 'Enter a school name' field
4. Select the school's name to open the timetable.

If you are unable to find or search for the school's name, use the drop-down menus on the same page to find the school. Once the timetable is opened, you will be able to identify which school bus services are available in your area for your child.



*We have a facebook page.... please
share and tell your friends.... It's a
great way to keep informed.*



[How to create a parent portal on School Bytes](#)



Parent App

Available now!

Download on the App Store or Google Play by clicking the image below.



Key Features

- Get real time push notifications from your school
- Stay signed in and save your card for secure payments for fees and excursions
- Give consent, sign forms and respond to attendance alerts
- View the school calendar and news

