

### **Hornsby Heights Public School**

# SLETTER Aim High

8-20 Somerville Road Hornsby Heights NSW 2077 | PH: 02 9476 5133 | E: hornsbyhts-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au | W: www.hornsbyhts-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

TERM 1 WEEK 10

**ISSUE 60** 

1 APRIL 2025

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**



# SCHOOL

Wednesday APR 9: Easter Hat

Parade at 2:15pm

**Thursday APR 10: Canteen Special** 

**Food Day** 

Friday APR 11: End of term



ABOVE: The new Year 6 shirts have arrived and don't they look amazing?



Friday APR 4 & 11: No HZSS due to ground closures



Wednesday APR 2: Dance ensemble rehearsal finished until Term 2 Week 1



Wednesday APR 2: Eco Garden working bee

SCHOOL CALENDAR LINK:

https://hornsbyhts-p.schools.nsw. gov.au/school-calendar.html

# PRINCIPAL

# THE IMPORTANCE **OF READING**

s we embark on another exciting term, I want to emphasise the vital role that reading plays in our children's lives. Reading not only enhances their literacy skills but also fosters creativity, critical thinking, and empathy. To cultivate a love for reading at home, I encourage you to set aside dedicated reading time each day, perhaps during bedtime or after school. Create a cosy reading nook where your child can explore books that spark their interest. Additionally, consider visiting your local library together to discover new titles. By prioritising reading in our daily routines, we empower our children to become lifelong learners and confident communicators.

Continued on Page 2.

# **Anaphylaxis at Hornsby Heights PS**

At our school, we have a small number of children who could have a potentially life threatening allergic reaction. They are found across our school from Kindergarten to Year 6.

How can parents help these children?

- Choose alternative sandwich spreads to peanut butter and Nutella. Inform your child that these foods can trigger an anaphylactic reaction
- Reinforce the school's NO FOOD SHARING message.

### **School Duty Of Care**

Please be aware that the school does not open until 8:40am. Students who arrive earlier than this need to be booked into Before School Care as the school's duty of care does not take place until 8:40am when there is a teacher on duty. The school closes also after the school bell goes and our playgrounds are not in use after this time.

### **Teacher Planning Days**

This term, all teachers will have the opportunity to take half a day off class to focus on planning and developing teaching and learning programs for the upcoming term. This dedicated time will allow our educators to collaborate, and design engaging lessons that cater to the diverse needs of our students. We believe that investing in our teachers' professional growth ultimately benefits our students' learning experiences. Thank you for your continued support as we strive to provide the best education possible for our school community.

### **Staffing News**

We would like to take a moment to share some wonderful news about Mrs Laura Rosier, who will be going on maternity leave at the end of this week as she prepares to welcome a new addition to her family. We are excited for her and wish her all the best during this special time. We will keep you updated on her return and look forward to welcoming her back after her leave. Mrs Rosier has not had a class this year and so no class will be affected by her leave. Mrs Rosier has been working with classrooms this term, particularly in K-2 with a focus on implementing our InitiaLit program.

Mrs Susan Lundstrom is retiring from our school. Although she has been on leave for the past two years, she has made many contributions as a classroom teacher and EALD (English as an Additional Language or Dialect) teacher. Her dedication and support have positively impacted our students and staff. We want to thank her

for her time here and wish her all the best for her retirement. She will be missed by our school community!

Mrs Nicole Tudor, our Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Instruction (APCI), will be taking long service leave for the entirety of Term 2. During her absence, we are pleased to announce that Mrs Anna Medina will be stepping in as the relieving APCI from Mondays to Wednesdays. Mrs. Medina is already an APCI at another school and brings a wealth of experience to our team. For Thursdays and Fridays, Mrs Murrie, who is a well-known casual at our school and has a strong rapport with the KDT class, will be taking over. We are confident that both Mrs Medina and Mrs Murrie will provide excellent support during this time, ensuring a seamless transition for our students. Thank you for your understanding and support!

### **Year 6 Shirts**

We are excited to announce the arrival of our new Year 6 shirts! These shirts have been designed to celebrate our Year 6 students as they embark on their final year of primary school. Featuring a design by Year 6 student Willow C., the shirts will not only foster school spirit but also create a sense of unity among the students. Year 6 students received their shirts today, and we encourage them to wear them proudly throughout the year.

## PAX Behaviour Games – Beat the Timer and Granny Wacky Prizes

This year we have been introducing the PAX Behaviour Games at HHPS. PAX means peace, productivity, health and happiness, and is what the PAX Good Behaviour Game helps create and strengthen in each classroom. PAX GBG consists of proven behavioural strategies used daily by teachers with students. By the end of Term 2, students will have been taught the 10 "Kernels" that align with the 5 social emotional core competencies. Please see information on Beat the Timer and Granny Wacky Prizes later in the Newsletter.



By KATRIN CORNELL
Hornsby Heights Public School
PRINCIPAL



**Granny's Wacky Prizes** are used to reward the class for a job well done. These quick, fun group activities are far more rewarding than stickers or tangible items. Granny's Wacky Prizes teach students that working hard, working together, and making good decisions pays off for everyone.

### Right away, Granny's Wacky Prizes will help students...

- Set and achieve their goals.
- Become more patient.
- Celebrate their own success as well as that of their classmates.

### In the long run, Granny's Wacky Prizes help students...

- Make clear associations between cause and effect.
- Voluntarily work toward group success.
- Avoid impulsive or problematic choices.







# Here are some questions you can ask your child about using Granny's Wacky Prizes:

- 1. What Granny's Wacky Prize did you get today? How did you get that prize?
- 2. What is your favorite Granny's Wacky Prize?
- 3. Do you have any ideas for some new Granny's Wacky Prizes?



Granny's Wacky Prizes use the <u>Premack Principle</u> to enhance positive reinforcement and brain activity through randomness and physical movement.

HORNSBY HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL HORNSBY HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL 3



# DOX Good Behavior Game Beat the Timer

Beat the Timer is a tool designed to help students complete tasks quickly, efficiently, and safely. It provides a fun way to get things done without dawdling or bothering others, which can happen when activities drag on. This approach helps everyone get things done quickly and safely and helps everyone get along.

### Right away, Beat the Timer will help students...

- Focus and stay on task longer.
- Be less distracted and follow directions more completely.
- Get along with classmates and have less "down time" at school.

### In the long run, Beat the Timer helps students...

- Be able to focus and complete the task at hand without putting it off.
- Seek out and work hard at new and challenging opportunities.







### Here are some questions you can ask your child about using Beat the Timer:

- 1. When did you get to play Beat the Timer today? Did you win?
- 2. What do you think you'll have to do to try to beat the timer next time?
- 3. When do you think we could play Beat the Timer at home?



Beat the Timer uses reduced allocated time to improve efficiency in completing tasks, while reducing conflict and unwanted behaviors.







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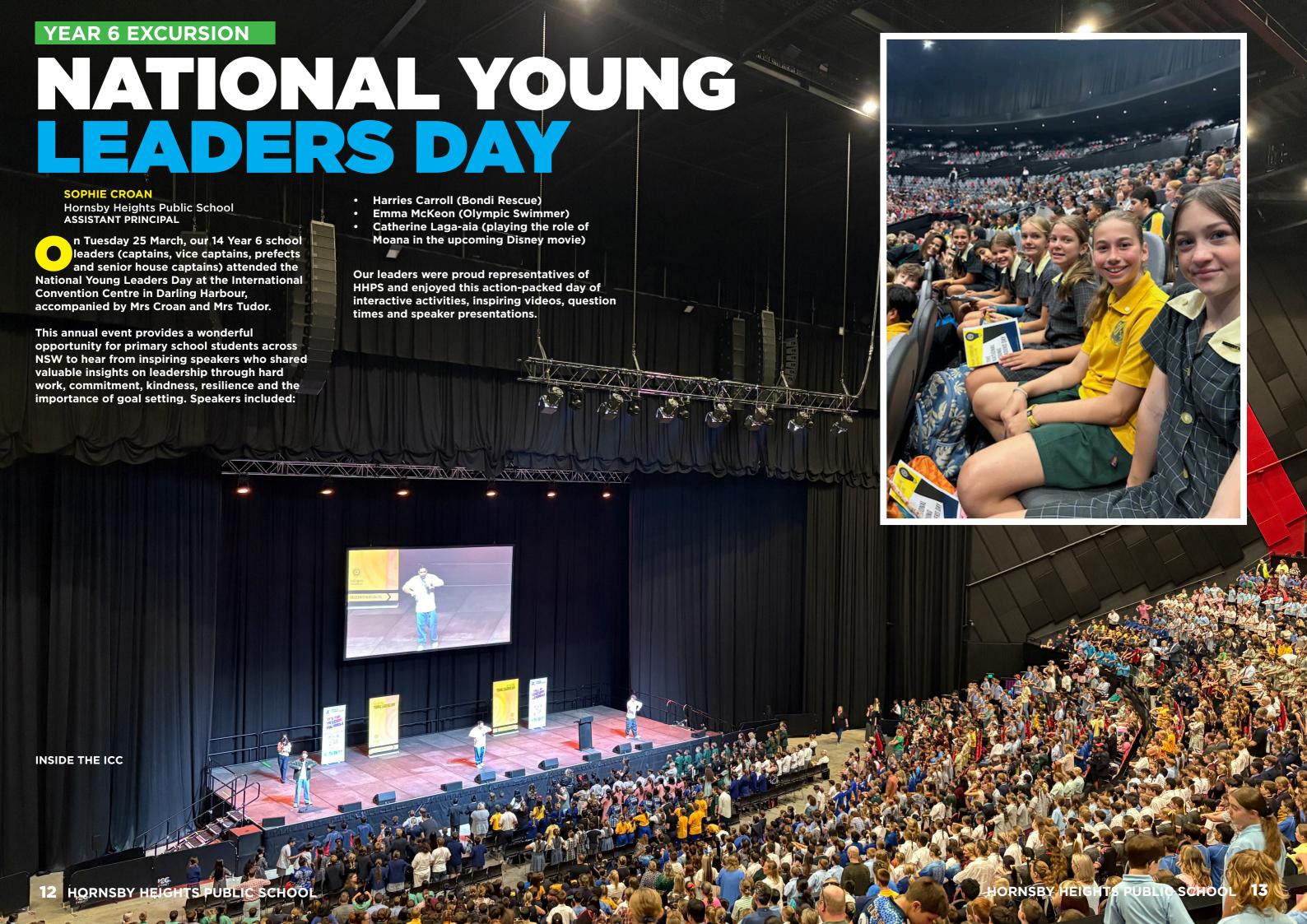


THE NEW YEAR 6 SHIRTS **ARE HERE** 

Year 6 2025











**EMMA MCKEON - MEETING** 



**CATHERINE LAGA-AIA - GUEST SPEAKEER** 





































# HHPS EASTER HAT PARADE

WEDNESDAY 9TH APRIL 2:15PM

JOIN US UNDER THE COLA FOR OUR ANNUAL EASTER HAT PARADE!

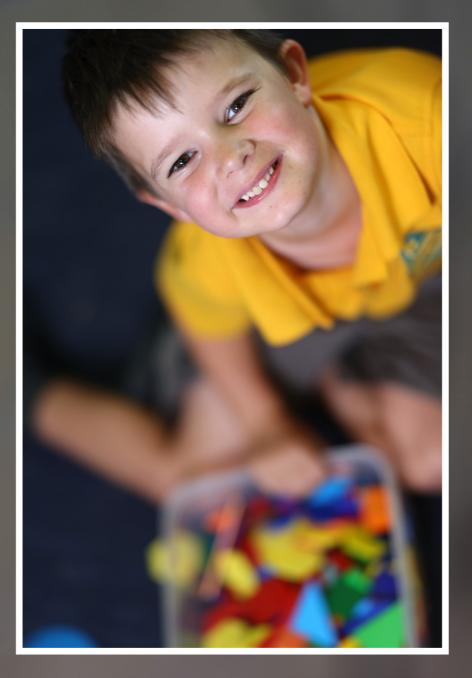
PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE BEFORE 2PM AS THE CHILDREN WILL BE OUT IN THE PLAYGROUND FOR THEIR RECESS BREAK.



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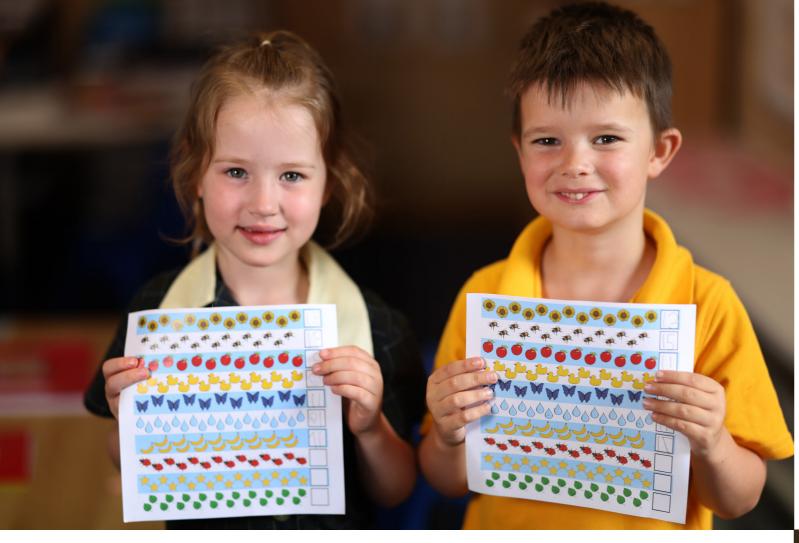




















# **ANZAC DAY CEREMONY**

Our ANZAC Day Ceremony will be held Friday 4 April via Zoom. This will be run by our School Captains and will feature a guest speaker for the Commemorative Address. The Zoom session will be open from 12.00pm. You can access the event via the link below.



# KINDERGARTEN

INFORMATION - 2026 -

Starting school is such an exciting time.
We are looking forward to being part of
this journey with you!

MINI SHOWCASE AND SCHOOL TOUR FOR PARENTS/CARERS & 2026 STUDENTS

Tuesday 23 September 2025 9:30am - 11:00am in the School Hall

Come along to see and hear about some of the programs we have on offer and take part in a school tour led by our senior students.

# PARENT INFORMATION EVENING IN THE SCHOOL HALL

Thursday 23 October 2025 6:00pm

This is an introduction to Hornsby Heights Public School and information on preparation for school. Meet the Principal and the current Kindergarten Team!

# KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION VISITS & SCHOOL TOUR

Tuesday 18 November and Tuesday 25 November 2025 from 9:30am to 11:00am

Children visit Kindergarten classrooms and participate in various activities. All enrolment paperwork must be provided to be eligible to attend. Further information regarding these sessions will be provided at the Parent Information Evening (please note these sessions are for the children only). It is important that children attend both Orientation Day sessions to support the transition to school.

PRINCIPAL: Katrin Cornell
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: Debbie Dunn
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL Curriculum and Instruction: Nicole Tudor



# Top Nutrition = Top Marks

Welcome to SWAP IT!

SWAP IT supports you to make informed choices about your child's health and wellbeing. Good nutrition leads to greater wellbeing for your child and can even have a positive impact on how well they do in class.

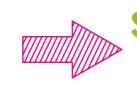
One swap from a sometimes food to an everyday food can make a big difference.

Here are some great ideas you can swap today:

- Cake to scone.
- Chips to popcorn.
- Juice to plain milk.

# SWAP FROM







Chocolate cake

Fruit scone

You will receive weekly tips and ideas about healthy swaps you can make!

For more tips on making a swap visit: <a href="www.swapit.net.au/swaps">www.swapit.net.au/swaps</a>

# WHAT ARE EVERYDAY AND SOMETIMES FOODS





# Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:





Make friends



**Build skills** through fun

# Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life







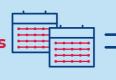




















education.nsw.gov.au

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# **Parent & Carer Hub**

When supporting your children's mental health, we know the best outcomes happen when we work together and practise.

Head over to our Parent & Carer Hub to learn more about the evidence-based strategies being taught in the classroom, so you can enhance their impact at home. You'll find activities you can practice to support your family's wellbeing.



Click here or scan this QR code to learn more about our Parent & Carer Hub.



# SYDNEY NORTH NEWS





By **VANESSA SAKAJANI**Hornsby Heights Public School
SPORTS COORDINATOR

wimming superstar Isla Z. is attending the Sydney North Swimming championships today at Sydney Olympic Park. We wish her good luck as she races against others in our Area.

Congratulations to Parker N. who has made it through to the Sydney North trials for boys Softball.







# Unpacking the new PDHPE syllabus - with Mrs Sakajani

The aim of PDHPE K–6 is to empower students with the essential knowledge, understanding, skills, values and attitudes to promote wellbeing and lead a safe, active and healthy life.

The learning experiences in PDHPE provide students with a range of self-management and interpersonal skills to promote and advocate for the health and wellbeing of themselves and others.

The syllabus for PDHPE K-6 (2024) is based on evidence highlighting that:

•the development of self-management and interpersonal skills support success in learning (Opstoel et al. 2019)

# What we do at HHPS to support this:

- The Resilience Project
- UR Strong program
- Healthy Harold van visits
- Cyber Safety courses
- Taking ownership of belongings and actions
- Explicit teaching of selfmanagement skills in PE in Yrs K-2
- Yr 3-6 PE focus every term on different self-management skills
- Social light: opportunities to interact outside of school and make connections

# What you can do at home to support this:

- TRP GEM cards at home to promote emotional literacy
- TRP- engage in parent modules
- Use 'U R Strong' language
- Pinpoint at home the use of great interpersonal skills
- Encourage and support independence at home - give kids a go at things without taking over
- Develop routines
- Enrol students into sports programs to experience winning and losing
- Have conversations about what a good sport looks like
- Strategies for morning routines with less devices
- Play board games and make sure your child loses sometimes. Model how to win/lose



# ECO GARDEN UPDATE THE ECO GARDENERS



By **LAUREN GIAQUINTO**Hornsby Heights Public School

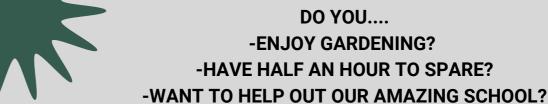
he Eco Garden Committee is always looking for additional helpers and welcomes all families to be involved in any capacity.

A couple of times a term the Eco Garden is open for school families to come and do some gardening and light maintenance. If you are interested in helping us out (even just for half an hour!) please wear enclosed shoes, a hat and, if possible, bring along your gardening gloves. No gardening experience required! See below for the 2 dates this term (please note the change of date of the 2nd session).

 NEW Date - Wednesday 2nd April from 2-3:10pm - the perfect way to kill the time while waiting to pick up your kids! Please meet Wendy in the garden once you have been to the office and signed in as a volunteer

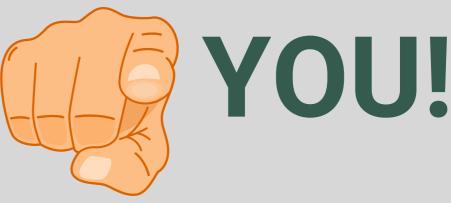
## **Next committee meeting:**

The Committee meets once a term via Zoom. The next meeting will be held on Monday 12th May at 7pm. For Zoom details or if you would like to find out more, please contact Julie at ecogardenhhps@gmail.com. All welcome to attend!





# THE ECO GARDEN NEEDS



- Come down to the Eco Garden to help with some light gardening on:
  - Saturday 15th March from 2-4pm (kids must be accompanied by an adult)
  - CHANGE OF DATE Now Wednesday 2nd April from 2-3pm (a great way to help out while waiting to pick up your kids! Please sign in at the office)
- **X** MORE INFO

See the HHPS Newsletter or contact Julie at ecogardenhhps@gmail.com



# 3 Expectations

It's easy as 1,2,3 to help our Well-being Dog to learn to relax.













### An update from Poppy

I am nearly 6 months old already! I'm getting bigger each day (not too big – I'm still a small puppy) and I'm getting to go and explore lots of different places such as the beach, outdoor markets, Bunnings, and cafes (I LOVE having a pup cup as a treat).

### Things I like:

- Playing with my toys (my favourite is my tug rope)
- Eating boiled eggs
- Ice cubes I love playing with them and crunching on them!
- Waking Miss Ridley up very early in the morning
- Stealing socks and running away with them
- Meeting new people
- Having playdates with my best friend, Glenny (there's a picture of us together at the top!)
- Digging holes in the sand at the beach
- Playing in my tunnel
- Watching The Lion King it's my favourite movie!

#### Things I dislike:

- Going to sleep when it's bedtime
- Having a bath
- Returning the ball to Miss Ridley I make her come and get it instead
- Very loud and sudden noises
- Putting my toys in my toy box I prefer to scatter them all around the house

I can't wait to meet everyone in Term 2!



# Essential Learnings – Term 1 Week 10

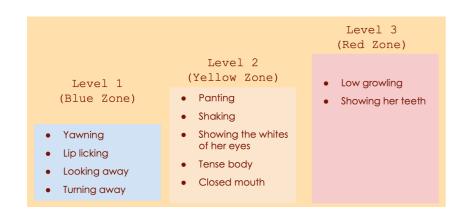


Please read this fortnight's essential learnings and talk about them with your child/children.

These are very important to help me feel safe and relaxed when I come to work at HHPS.

#### **Stress Signs in Dogs**

• We need to notice when Poppy is showing signs of feeling stressed.



• When Poppy is stressed, we need to give her lots of space and keep the environment quiet.

#### **Showing Teeth**

Dogs are different to humans. If Poppy shows her teeth this does not mean she is smiling.
 It means she is stressed and needs some space.

#### **Barking and Growling**

- Dogs bark or growl to tell us something. They might be scared, excited or happy
- Poppy loves to growl when playing with her toys. This doesn't mean she is angry.







# P&C MEETING

# This WEDNESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> April. 7pm in the teacher's staffroom.

(enter via the doors near lost property)

# **ALL WELCOME!**

If your child enjoyed the school disco last Friday and you'd like to be involved with future events - come on by!

We look forward to seeing you there!

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# **Summer Uniform**

HORNSBY HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL

# **Sports Uniform**

HORNSBY HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL























# **Girls**

- Bottle green/navy/yellow plaid check dress
- Bottle green culottes and gold polo shirt
- Bottle green jacket, sloppy joe or jumper
- White short socks (socks must be visible)
- Black school shoes

# **Boys**

- Gold short sleeve polo shirt
- Grey shorts
- Grey short socks with green/ gold band
- Bottle green jacket, sloppy joe or jumper
- Black school shoes

# **Girls**

- Bottle green shorts
- · Polo shirt in house colour
- Sports shoes and white socks
- Green track pants (in winter)

# Boys

- Bottle green shorts
- · Polo shirt in house colour
- Sports shoes and white socks
- Green track pants (in winter)

**Rebuilding Public Education** 

# Asquith Boys High School and Asquith Girls High School upgrade Planning update | March 2025

### Investing in our schools

As part of the NSW Government's plan to rebuild public education, the 2024-25 Budget is delivering record education funding, including \$8.9 billion for new and upgraded schools. This targeted investment will ensure growing communities get access to a world-class public education.

### **Project overview**

From 2026, Asquith Boys High School and Asquith Girls High School will transition to become 2 standalone co-educational Years 7–12 high schools accepting Years 7, 9 and 11 from 2026 and all cohorts from 2027.

This follows comprehensive community consultation undertaken by the NSW Department of Education in the Hornsby-Berowra surrounding area school communities.

A project to upgrade the schools to ensure they are fit-for-purpose is now in planning. The project will deliver upgraded facilities including adjustments to the schools' IT and administration systems, new signage and specialist classrooms, as well as toilet and changeroom facilities.

We will share more information with the local community as the project progresses.

### **Progress summary**

The department has been working closely with the schools' leadership teams to develop early designs for the project to ensure the right school facilities are designed for each school community.

A Project Reference Group (PRG) has been established for the project and includes representatives from the Department of Education, school Principals, the Director Educational Leadership, planners, and design professionals.

The role of the PRG in the planning phase is to make recommendations and provide key information from an operational, educational and logistics perspective, to ensure the needs of the schools can best be met within the scope of the project.

### Next steps

Designs for the upgrade will be progressed and shared with the community as they are further developed.





This project is in the early planning stage. The information below takes you through the journey of upgrading or building a new school.

Planning

#### Early planning

- Consideration and studies of demographic trends, education requirements, the condition of the existing school buildings, catchment boundaries, heritage requirements, transport links and partnership opportunities.
- . Doing so means that we:

engagement

commences

- · consider the needs of the local area now and into the future.
- ensure the right school is designed for the community.



**HOW TO** 

**UPGRADE OR** 

**BUILD A NEW** SCHOOL Delivery The construction works program to deliver the upgrade to the school is developed in collaboration with the school and where Engagement of technical specialists, local appropriate, the local community.

· Ongoing consultation with Principal, staff and other school users.

· Throughout detailed design and construction updates are provided to the local community.

#### **Approvals** Workshops continue with

school and local community to understand challenges and constraints and identify future

identified approval is needed in

order to progress from planning through to project delivery.

Subject to government approval to proceed

- councils and other government agencies.
- Statutory planning approval process.
- Opportunity for local community to view and provide feedback upon submission of the Development Application.
- Scope of work and concept design is further defined

Consultants such as architects and project managers are

Investigation and review of site and development of master plan

• Master planning considers options for the general size, shape

Operational, educational and service delivery factors are

and form of buildings for a specific school site.

A Project Reference Group (PRG) is established.

understood and considered by the PRG.

Email: schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au Phone: 1300 482 651

schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au



### Frequently asked questions

#### 1. What is the school intake area?

The new 2026 local intake area has been uploaded to School Finder. This can be accessed at schoolfinder.education.nsw.gov.au/.

Students in the local intake area for the below primary schools will feed into the currently named Asquith Boys High School:

- Hornsby Heights Public School
- Hornsby North Public School
- Hornsby South Public School
- Mount Colah Public School.

Students in the local intake area for the below primary schools will feed into the currently named Asquith Girls High School:

- Asquith Public School
- Mount Kuring-gai Public School
- Berowra Public School
- Brooklyn Public School
- Cowan Public School
- Wideview Public School.

#### 2. When will the transition take place?

In 2026, Years 7, 9 and 11 will be co-educational as aligned with the school's new catchment areas. New students enrolling in Years 8 and 10 in 2026 will join either Asquith Girls High School or Asquith Boys High School as per the school's current single-sex designation and transfer to their local school in 2027. Families will be supported to ensure a smooth and cost-free transition in these cases. In 2027, each school will be fully co-educational for Years 7-12.

#### 3. Will students who were enrolled prior to 2026 be required to move schools?

No student who attends either Asquith Girls High School or Asquith Boys High School in 2025 will be required to change schools. While it is expected that most students will transition to their "local" site, a process will be established to enable students, where necessary, to remain at their current school site.

#### 4. What will the schools be called?

A consultation process following departmental guidelines will take place with students, parents and staff, and the local AECG and elders, to determine the new name for both schools. Consultation will begin in Term 1.

In line with the department's policy, the school community will also be consulted on issues such as uniform, logo and other important aspects of the school.

### More information



You can find more information about the project at <u>edu.nsw.link/AsquithBGHS-upgrade</u> or by scanning the QR code.

If you have any questions about this project, you can contact School Infrastructure during business hours on the contact details below.

Email: schoolinfrastructure@det.nsw.edu.au Phone: 1300 482 651 schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au





# Parent/Carer workshops

Positive Partnerships Parent/Carer workshops provide the opportunity for participants to learn and share with and from other parents and carers of school-aged children on the autism spectrum.

The workshops are designed to help you understand your young person and foster productive school, family and community relationships.

Participants can access the following workshop types:

- 1 day (in person)
- 2 days (in person)
- Online sessions (covering a variety of topics)

Free to attend

## **Topics explored include:**

### **Diversity of autism**

- examines parent's knowledge of autism and how autism directly impacts their child at home and school
- investigates a range of practical strategies to use at home and school to improve learning outcomes

### **Working together**

- examines ways for parents to strengthen partnerships between home, school and community
- increases awareness of support and services for families and how they can be accessed
- explores ways parents can advocate more effectively for their child's needs
- helps parents develop a plan for moving forward

### **Understanding sensory processing**

- explores sensory processing and the different ways children on the autism spectrum can be impacted by sensory needs
- identifies strategies that can be used to help manage and support children experiencing sensory processing issues

## Understanding behaviour

(only offered at our 2-day workshop)

- examines the function/purpose of behaviours
- recognising that understanding behaviour is the key to supporting children on the autism spectrum
- explore tools and strategies to understand and respond helpfully to our young people



Scan the QR code for more information about our workshops and resources.

Such supportive and knowledgeable presenters - I feel much more engaged and informed about Autism and where I am better equipped to help my child(ren)! Thank you so much for the opportunity to attend this informative workshop.

(Sandgate Qld - 2 day PC)

# www.positivepartnerships.com.au

This initiative is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education through the Helping Children with Autism package. The views expressed within this program do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government or the Australian Government Department of Education.

# Go4Fun Online

Free 10-week family healthy lifestyle program for NSW primary school-aged children.

Your family's health goals, your way.

### Join now



go4funonline.com.au



1800 780 900







# **GIRL GUIDES MEETS NEAR YOU**

**Active and Creative Kids** 

Would you like your daughter to develop her leadership skills? Learn to work in a team and build confidence and friendships? Be aware of giving back to the community? Learn practical skills? Be environmentally aware?

Then Girl Guildes may be where she belongs



waitarajg@girlguides-nswactnt.org.au







# **LEARN, PLAY & GROW**



# BASKETBALL **GYMNASTICS**



# **NERF/LASER TAG**



**ESCAPE ROOMS** 



**CRAFTS** 



PICKLEBALL



OZTAG **FUTSAL** 



And more! Kids Vouchers Accepted Book 2 days, and get the 3rd at 50% off



**BOOK NOW** 







# Mt Colah Girl Guides

Why do Girl Guides exist? Because Girls do

What does that mean? Come to our open day to find out!



Tuesday 8th April, 5:45-7:15pm



All ages & families welcome

All children visiting must be accompanied by an adult



Mt Colah Guide & Scout Hall

Pierre Close, Mt Colah



Can't make it but want to find out more?

Contact: MtColahDM@girlguides-nswactnt.org.au or visit www.girlguides-nswactnt.org.au

