

### **Hornsby Heights Public School**

## LETTER Aim High

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TERM 3 WEEK 10

**ISSUE 70** 

**23 SEPTEMBER 2025** 

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**



### SCHOOL

Wednesday 24 SEPT: P&C MUFTI

day collection

Thursday 25 SEPT: Yr 3-6 Assembly

in Hall from 2:30pm

Friday 26 SEPT: Last day of Term 3

Term 4

**Monday 13 October** 

**Staff Development Day** 

**Tuesday 14 October** 

**Students return for Term 4** 

**Wednesday 15 October** 

**Dance Ensemble rehearsal 8am** 

**Thursday 16 October** 

K-2 Assembly in Hall from 2:30pm

Friday 17 October

**Summer HZSS Round 6** 

**Tuesday 21 October** 

**ABHS - Yr 5 STEM enrichment** opportunity

**Thursday 23 October** 

Yr 3-6 Assembly in Hall from 2:30pm; Kindergarten 2026 Information Evening 6pm Hall



Friday 26 SEPT: HZSS Summer -Round 5

SCHOOL CALENDAR LINK:

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



ABOVE: Our Regional Public Speaking finalist Remy D.

PRINCIPAL

### REGIONAL FINALS WINNER

emy D in Year 5 was a finalist in the Regional Public Speaking Competition for the Multicultural Perspectives Public Speaking Competition. This is nothing new to Remy who was also in the same position last year! Remy is a wonderful public speaker and we are super proud of him. Remy had to deliver a prepared speech as well as an impromptu speech.

We are looking forward to showcasing the rest of our student's talent via our Stage 3 debating program being held next term. HHPS has a wonderful debating program, public speaking program and it is something we highly value at the school. When children learn to debate and speak in front of others, they're not just learning how to talk - they're learning how to listen, think on their feet, and share their thoughts with confidence. It's amazing to see how these skills help them become more confident and clearer in expressing themselves, both in the classroom and out in the world.

Continued on Page 2.

### Continued from Page 1.

These activities also teach our children to respect different opinions and work together as a team, which is such a beautiful part of growing up. Plus, getting comfortable speaking in front of a group can help ease those nerves and give them a boost of courage they can carry with them forever.

Here at our school, we love seeing our students take on these challenges and grow into thoughtful, confident individuals. It's all about giving them the tools they need to shine in every part of their lives. Thanks for being part of this journey with us!

### **Thank You P&C**

Our Eco garden seating area is getting an upgrade and will be replaced with a sandstone tiered seating arrangement. A big thank you to the P&C who agreed to help fund this with the school. Also thank you to the P&C who donated \$30 000 towards us buying our new fleet of chrome books for Stage 3 so that we can decommission our Bring Your Own Device system and have them available for each Stage 3 child at the school. The P&C are very active at our school and are all full-time working parents that give up their time to help us as volunteers. The P&C are made up of school subgroups. The P&C's School Club have recently run the Father's Day gift stall, the Eco Garden Club helped us with the Kindy Showcase by bringing the chickens out for a meet and greet and general information about the Eco Garden. Parents from P&C's School Club will also be helping us with supplying nibbles at the upcoming Kindergarten Information Night as well as presenting information to the community about what the P&C does at the school. The Band Committee from P&C were busy arranging a special band afternoon last week and will soon be setting up for trials and recruitment for 2026 bands.

# **Are You and Your Child Sun Smart?**

Spring is finally here! With the change in season comes a rise in ultraviolent (UV) radiation. In NSW, average spring UV levels consistently exceed UV 3 and can damage unprotected skin. This means daily sun protection is essential - even on cool or cloudy days! Download the free SunSmart Global UV app to check the current and forecasted UV in our area. Sunscreen can be found in every classroom and is taken on excursions and sporting activities. Please ensure your child come school with sunscreen already on and then reapplies at school with either the school sunscreen or their own.

### **Kindy Showcase**

It was so lovely to welcome all of our new 2026 Kindergarten Children to our school this Tuesday to experience a little showcase of HHPS and a school tour. A big thanks goes to the P&C Eco Garden Club, the students that performed in the concert and our Stage 3 leaders on the day. Thank you to Mrs Dunn who arranged the day and all teachers for supporting with this event. In 2026 we will be welcoming 3 Kindergarten Classes.

# What Age Should My Child Have a Mobile Phone?

As a principal, I often receive inquiries from families regarding the appropriate age for children to receive their own mobile phones. This is a significant topic, and many parents thoughtfully consider it in our increasingly digital world. While there is no universal answer, as each child and family is unique, several key factors can help you make this important decision. Mobile phones can be valuable for communication and learning, but they also come with a set of responsibilities and challenges. For younger children, particularly those in primary school, it is generally advisable to wait until they demonstrate sufficient maturity to handle the responsibilities associated with phone ownership. This often means considering the later primary years or early high school, but ultimately, it depends on your child's individual readiness. Once your child is ready to have a phone, it's crucial to establish clear guidelines regarding its use. This includes discussing appropriate online behaviour, setting limits around screen time, and fostering open conversations about safety and respect in digital interactions. It's essential that children understand not only how to use their phones but also how to navigate the potential risks they may encounter.

Given the increasing concerns about issues like cyberbullying, excessive screen time, and the impact on mental health, many parents find themselves wrestling with this decision. A thought-provoking article in the Sydney Morning Herald highlighted the "Wait Mate" movement, started by two mothers who felt the social pressure to provide their children with mobile phones before they were ready. This initiative encourages parents to delay giving their child a phone until high school, and you can read more about it here.

To support families grappling with this decision, here are some helpful resources:





**eSafety** parents

### Your child's first smartphone – are they old enough?

LINK LINK

https://www.esafety.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-06/EC-ESP-First-Mobile-Phone-Flyer.pdf

https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/issues-and-advice/are-they-old-enough

# Here are some general tips for parents:

- Consider whether to introduce your child to social media through a mobile, especially with the new age restrictions coming into effect for children under 16 on December 10.
- Set clear rules around phone usage, including when and where phones can be used, and maintain the right to check compliance.
- Encourage open conversations about online safety and respectful communication.
- Utilise parental controls and monitoring tools to guide safe usage and ensure they are sufficient.
- Model healthy technology habits for your children.

Ultimately, the decision should be based on what best supports your child's safety, learning, and wellbeing. Research increasingly indicates that waiting can be beneficial. By taking a thoughtful approach, families and schools can help students harness the advantages of technology while remaining protected.



### **Intention to Return in 2026**

A letter has been sent today via school bytes regarding numbers for 2026. We require each family to fill this form out so that we can plan classes and staffing for 2026. Thank you for your prompt response with this.

### **Summer Uniforms**

From Term 4 we will be wearing our summer uniforms. As the weather is nice and warm now, students are also allowed to start wearing them from now.

### **Nagoya Sister City Art Exchange 2025**

We are delighted to announce that student artists from our school have been selected to represent NSW public schools in the 2025 Nagoya Sister City Art Exchange. This is a wonderful achievement and recognition of our students' talent and creativity. Now in its 47th year, the exhibition will be held at the Nagoya Citizens Gallery Yada, in late November 2025. It brings together student artworks from NSW alongside those from Nagoya (Japan), Los Angeles (USA), Mexico City (Mexico), Reims (France), Nanjing (China), Tashkent (Uzbekistan), and Turin (Italy). This international exchange provides a unique opportunity for students to showcase their work on a global stage, gain insight into diverse artistic styles, and build cultural understanding. Being selected helps inspire young artists to pursue further creative opportunities while fostering international friendship and pride in their achievements.

### **Selected students**

Student name: Aurora F

Year: 6

Artwork: Deep Roots, Bright Future

Student name: Kirally H

Year: 2

Artwork: Lion

Student name: Nate T

Artwork: Fairy Penguin

Student name: Kayleigh M

Year 3

Artwork: Sunset

### **Wellbeing Dog Survey**

PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO COMPLETE THIS PARENT **SURVEY** 

> https://forms.gle/ Ps7FA4YKPgS4d1VAA

### LINK





**BV KATRIN CORNELL** Hornsby Heights Public School

# FEEDBACK

AT HHPS, our staff are continually looking for ways to strengthen their teaching practice.

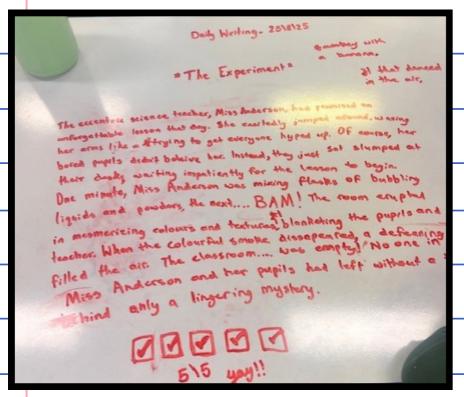
This term, our focus is on giving quality feedback.

**Our professional** learning around feedback this term is in the form of classroom observations, where teachers are viewing their colleagues teach a writing lesson.

We are specifically looking at how other teachers give specific, actionable feedback that is directly related to the learning intentions and success criteria of a lesson.

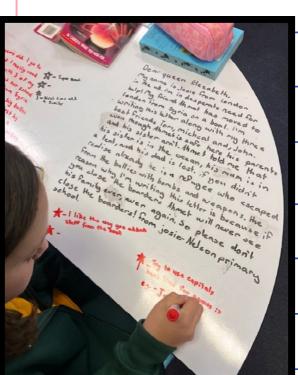
We are trialing many different strategies in our classrooms and it is exciting to hear students recognising feedback as part of the writing process and as an important part of learning.

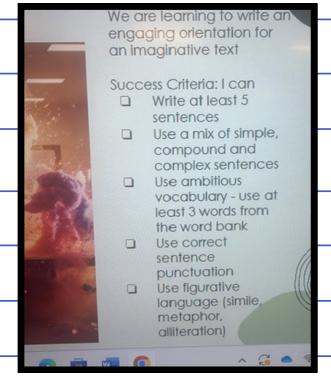
# FEEDBACK



A Year 5 writing lesson showing self and peer feedback related to the learning intentions and success criteria.

The teacher refers to the success criteria throughout the lesson to help students stay on track.





# FEEDBACK



Year 2 students went on a gallery walk at the end of a writing lesson to critically view each other's work.

Students placed a counter on a piece of work they liked or that met the criteria of the lesson.





Students were then asked to give reasons why they placed their counters on particular pieces of writing (as they learn to give feedback)

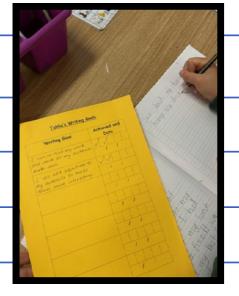
# FEEDBACK



In Year 1's writing lesson, students were learning to use time connectives such as 'First', 'Next' and 'After'. Prompt cards were used to keep them on track and verbal feedback was given when used correctly.

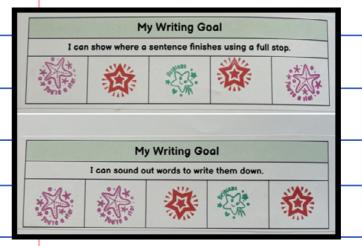
Year 1 students have writing checklists to remind them to use capitals, punctuation, re-read their writing and check their spelling.





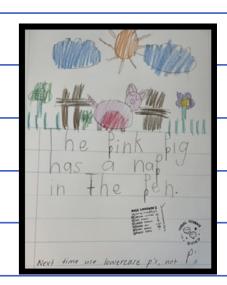
Individual writing goals in stage 1 keep students focused so they can produce writing that is reflective of their ability.

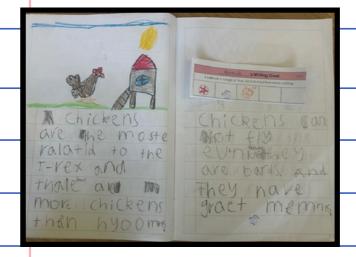
# FEEDBACK



Students in Kindy have individual goals determined by the teacher based on learning intentions for writing lessons.

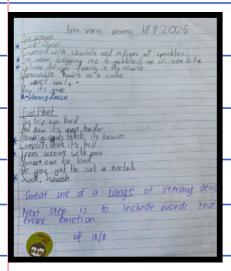
We use feedback stamps and students are involved in making sure their writing includes capitals in the correct place, full stops, spaces between words and checking that their sentence makes sense.





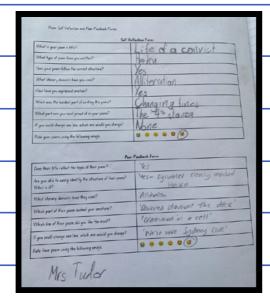
Individual writing goals help to keep students on track.

# FEEDBACK



In Stage Two poetry, students were encouraged to write a first and second draft where feedback was given by their teacher and peers. They all understood that the goal of feedback was to improve their writing.

Feedback checklists were are very clear and linked to the success criteria for the lesson.





The final part of the writing process is publishing a poem that students are proud of.





# OUR 6 AREA REPRESENTATIVES



Summer 2025 ~ Players of the week

Week - 9, Term 3

Round: 4

League Tag played against Waitara

Cricket & T-Ball/Softball played against Berowra



Sport	The sco	res were:	Players of the Week	
League Tag Jr A	Hornsby Heights 9	Waitara 4	Lily and Xavier	
League Tag Jr B	Hornsby Heights 4	Waitara 2	Tilly I & Tyler M	
League Tag Snr A	Hornsby Heights 10	Waitara 1	Max F and Ollie M	
League Tag Snr B	Hornsby Heights 10	Waitara 0	Ava M, Luke F, Matteus P & Poppy G	
Cricket juniors	Hornsby Heights 68	Berowra 71	Ollie T	
Cricket Seniors	Hornsby Heights 46	Berowra 69	Jack H & Josh C	
T-Ball	Hornsby Heights	bye	-	
Softball	Hornsby Heights	bye	-	



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

n Friday 22nd August, HHPS students attended a very wet Zone carnival at Sydney Olympic Park.

The rain didn't dampen our student's spirit, as they gave their personal best to achieve some amazing results for Hornsby Heights to place 5th overall out of 15 schools in our Zone.

A fantastic effort from our Senior girls relay team who will progress through to Sydney North Championships in week 10.

A special mention to Claire H who achieved Senior Girls age Champion runner-up.

Congratulations to all our Area representatives: Eliza G, Matilda B, Claire H, Matilda H, Beth C and Luke H.









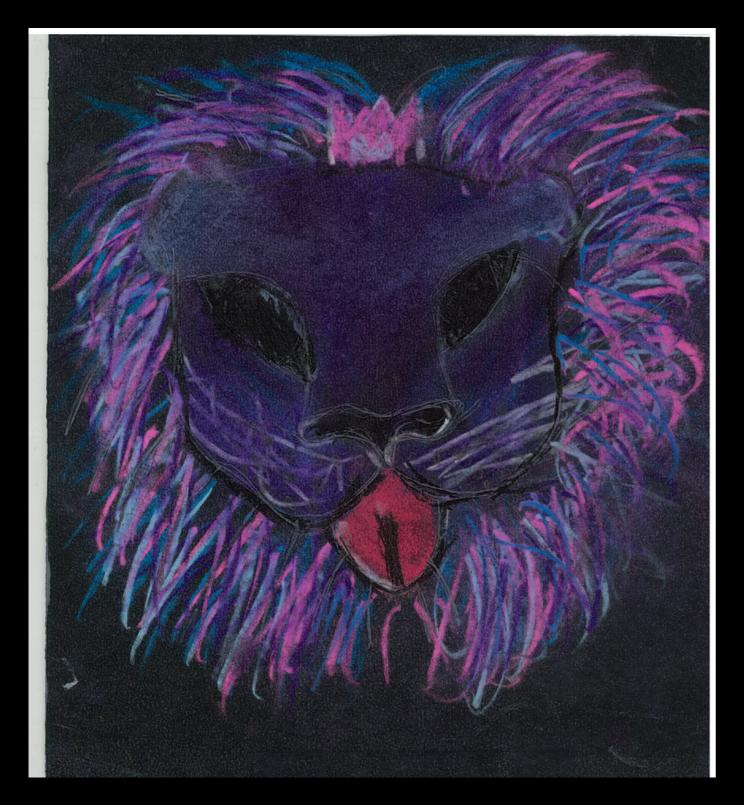










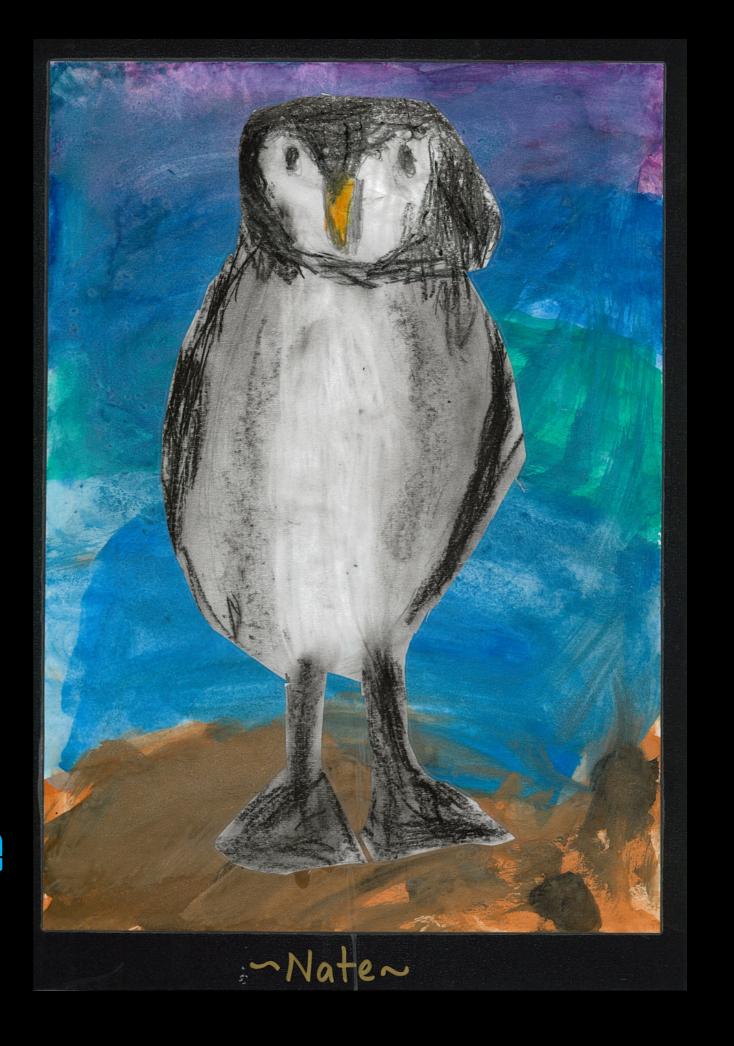


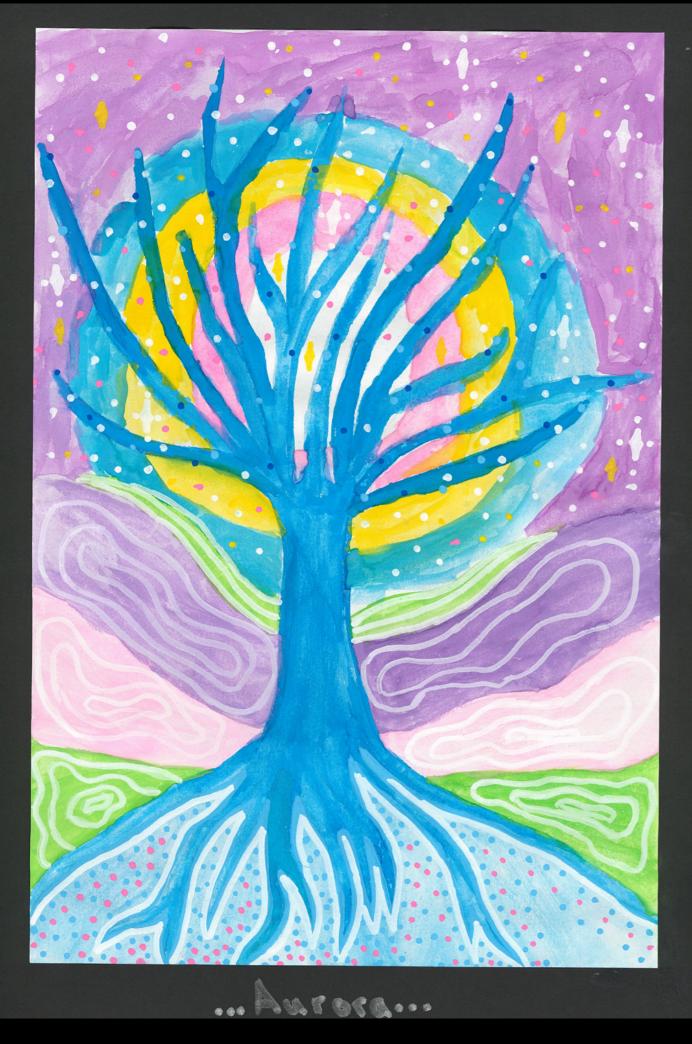
# Nagoya art exchange

Student name: Aurora F Year: 6 Artwork: Deep Roots, Bright Future

Student name: Kayleigh M Year 3 Artwork: Sunset Student name: Kirally H Year: 2 Artwork: Lion

Student name: Nate T Year 1 Artwork: Fairy Penguin

















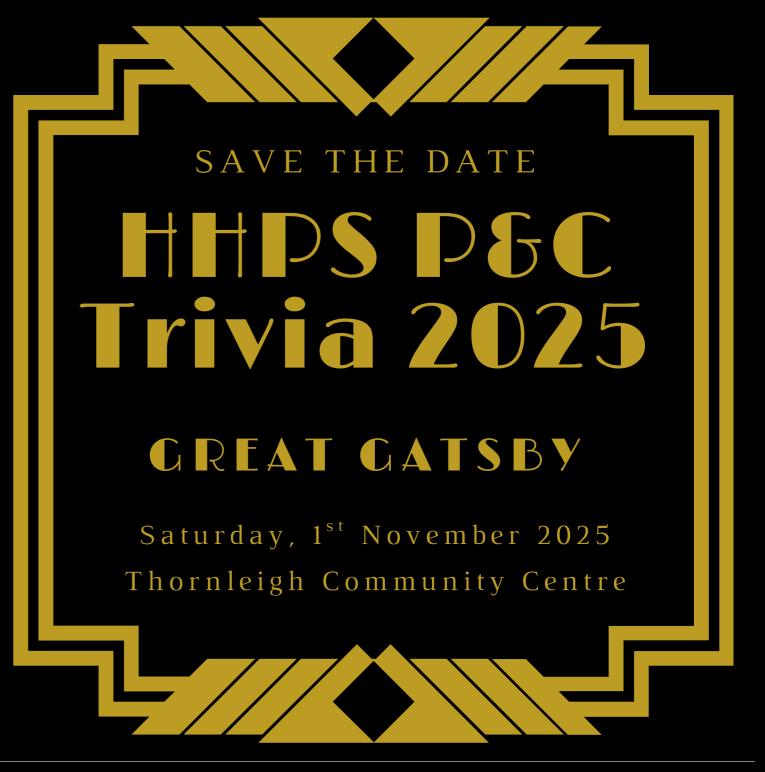






## **Susan Mylius**

I love children and it's great teaching Scripture to the children at our local school. Before I retired I used to teach high school maths and it's been a huge learning curve for me to learn to relate to younger children. It helps that I am now a grandmother. I think it's so important that every child gets a chance to hear about Jesus and God's love for us. One of the things I like best about Scripture teaching is the questions that the kids ask. I love hearing what they're thinkingsome outside the square - often quite profound. It's a joy and a privilege to be in the classroom with them.





# A great opportunity to stock up for summer.

**Sunday 26th October** 

10:00-11:30 am outside the Uniform Shop

Qkr, Cash and Eftpos available Second hand sale and new stock available to purchase on the day

We'd love donations in the lead up to the sale.

Please drop them off to the uniform shop on Friday mornings or to the office at other times.



# Circle of Security® Parenting Course

For caregivers of kids aged 0-7 years

- Understand challenging behaviours
- √ Feel more confident as a parent.
- Build a secure relationship with your child

WHEN: 7 Saturday afternoon sessions 2-4pm

Starting 18th October 2025

WHERE: MyGlary - 519 Pacific Highway, Mount Coloh

COST: \$395 (total for 7 session)

FORMAT: Videos, handouts, discussions, practical

examples and time for questions!

**FACILITATOR: Susanne Gerstmyer** 



FIND OUT MORE and SIGN UP



# TERM THREE & FOUR EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

### **Monday**

Games Club	Miss Jenson	First Break	Near Hall
Toy Shed	Mrs Wood	First Break	Kindy Verandah
Knitter Natters	Mrs Thorpe	First Break	1T
Choir	Mrs Finlay	First Break	Hall
*Library subject to change	Mrs Demlakian	First break	Library

### 5 5 11

Wednesday

Dance Ensemble	Miss Steward Mrs Ward	8:00am-9:00am	Hall
Games Club	Miss Jenson	First Break	Near Hall
Toy Shed	Miss Wood	First Break	Kindy Verandah
PALS	Mrs Sakajani	First break	Various
*Library open subject to change	Mrs Demlakian	First break	Library

### **Tuesday**

Green Team	Miss Giaquinto	First Break	Eco Garden
Games Club	Mrs Callow	First Break	Near Hall
Toy Shed	Mrs Wood	First Break	Kindy Verandah
Library open-quiet reading only	Mrs Demlakian	First break	Library

### **Thursday**

Maths Olympiad	Miss Wright	8:15am Fortnightly	5W
Chess Club	Mr Claydon	First Break	5C
Games Club	Mrs Callow	First Break	Near Hall
Toy Shed	Mrs Wood	First Break	Kindy Verandah
*Library open subject to change	Mrs Demlakian	First break	Library
Games Club	Mrs Callow	First Break	Near Hall

### **Friday**

Games Club Mrs Callow First Break Near Hall
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# 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 2028 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!

PRINCIPAL: Katrin Cornell
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: Debbie Do

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL Curriculum and Instruction: Nicole Tudor

# 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.

# CANTEEN NEWS

## Term 3

## A note from the committee:

Welcome to Term 3 as we head out of the colder months. Hot Chocolates are still available this term and lots of warm food to fill the students bellies.

CONGRATULATIONS to volunteers Melanie
Grandlouis and Andrew Hassey who are our Term 2
recipients of the \$20 voucher to HB cafe or QBD.

Don't forget to order your OPEN DAY MORNING TEA packs on Qkr.

We are always looking for more committee members so if you would like to join us.

## Food spotlight:

Have you noticed??
Fresh orange quarters are now being offered for over the counter sales.
For 20c your student can buy a juicy orange quarter.



# Looking ahead:

### MONTHLY MEETINGS

TUESDAY 5TH AUGUST

TUESDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER

TUESDAY 7TH OCTOBER

# Volunteering:

Thank you to Melanie, Andrew, Carina, Leanne, Karen, Shirley, Megan, Sarah, Althea, Michelle and Alexandra for helping in the canteen in Term 2

The signup sheet is out for Term 3. You can sign up at

https://signup.zone/hhps-canteen or email us and we can put your name down.

The 'sticker shift' is a 20 minute job at school drop off which helps the canteen out A LOT. We have a play table for younger siblings and you can start your day feeling you have helped the school community.

### Fun Fact:

On our Fun Bun Special Food Day we sold 318 Fun Buns and Fairy Bread slices. The Pink Icing with sprinkles was the most popular - 144 sold. Class 6G had the most with 29 orders and 5C the least with 10.

### Contact:



hhpspandccanteen@gmail.com

# **Transition to School** Webinar for families





The Northern Sydney Early and School Years team is excited to partner with Wayahead to offer a free 'Transition to school webinar' to assist parents and carers for a smooth and successful start to school.

This informative session will focus on understanding and managing childhood anxiety, with practical strategies to support your child through this important milestone. Topics include separation anxiety, the cycle of anxiety, strategies to manage and the "Small Steps" approach - helping children tackle their worries one step at a time.

Date: Wednesday, 10th September 2025

12pm - 1.15pm; or **Two options** available: 7:15pm - 8.30pm

Location: Online via Zoom

Partnered with:





### Scan QR code to register





12 - 1:15pm

7:15-8:30pm

# **Summer 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
- 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

# Sports Uniform HORNSBY HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL











## **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)