Dear Parents and Community members,

It's hard to believe that we are now entering the 4th week of the term and it is wonderful to report that children have settled well into the routines of school. Our school is one that gives learning the highest priority through functioning in an orderly learning environment where there is mutual respect between all people to foster the continuation of effective home/school partnerships. This will ensure that children have a successful and rewarding year at school that will allow them to achieve to their potential. While children will engage in a variety of subjects at school, I believe that primary schools should have a strong focus on ensuring that every child leaves at the end of year 6 literate and numerate.

Parent Information Evening
A number of our Parent Information sessions were held last week, with a number of other year levels holding theirs this week. It has wonderful to see so many parents attend these sessions and if your child’s year level is holding it this week I would encourage you to take the opportunity to be part of your child’s education. Research shows that schools working cooperatively with parents in areas of high impact, such as reading, writing and numeracy lead to high quality learning outcomes for students. The students at Hambledon are fortunate to have caring parents and excellent teachers to help them with their journey.

Establishing good habits
It is important to set up a routine for children from day one. This assists students throughout their schooling. Having a consistent routine both before and after school assists your child into settling into the school year and developing the habits that help them in achieving right through to the end of high school. Have a designated place that is quiet for them to complete homework and other school tasks. This can be the dining room table if you do not have a separate area. Even from Prep it is a great building block to have them come home and spend some time reviewing their day or doing a small reading task with you.

It is also important that right from day one we encourage students to build independence. Having students carry and unpack their own bags for example helps them to settle into a structured routine and enables them to be independent learners.

I know I am not the only person who came back from the school holidays and didn’t realise the change at the front of our school. If you haven’t already noticed, the Council has swapped the position of the STOP DROP GO and bus zone. This change has lead to some confusion with cars parking in the designated bus zone and preventing buses from being able to safely pull in to pick up students. As outlined in last week’s newsletter, following the Traffic Laws in relation to the STOP DROP GO and bus zone is not only a legal requirement but also ensures the safety and well-being of the children who attend our school.

Tanya Sutton
Support Administrator Years 1-2

Did you notice a change?

School Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>$160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4 – 6</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEP Based</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P &amp; C Family Contribution per family (tax deduct.)</td>
<td>$50</td>
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</table>

Instrumental Music

| (own instrument) | $25 |
| Instrumental Music | $65 |

REMINDEIRS IN BRIEF

- Year 4 Parent Info Night Tuesday 17th February 5:30-6:00pm
- Year 6 Parent Info Night Tuesday 24th February 5:30 start
- Arts Performance Friday 6th March
- ICAS – Digital Technologies, Science, Writing, Spelling-Closing Date Wed 1 April
- ICAS – English, Mathematics-Closing Date Wed 11 June

If you want your newsletter emailed, please send to EditParentNews@hambledoss.eq.edu.au
Importance of oral language – ideas to encourage talking

‘How was school today?’ ‘OK.’ Every afternoon, parents across Australia get the same frustrating one-word answer. Here are some ideas to get your child talking about school.

Strategies for talking about school with your child

Your child will probably be tired and hungry or thinking about other things when he/she first gets home. So easing the transition from school or after-school activities to home can help your child feel more like talking.

For example, you can simply let your child know that you’re glad to see him/her, and talk about non-school topics for a while. Younger children will probably also like help unpacking their bags and going through any notes before you ask about school.

Saving questions about homework for later on can also take the pressure off! Every afternoon or evening will be different. Even if your child usually loves to share his/her day with you, there’ll be days when he/she doesn’t want to talk.

Sometimes it’s a matter of sensing his/her mood and picking the right moment. Some days there might not be a right moment at all, and that’s OK.

Simple, specific questions about parts of the day can get your child talking. For example:

- What was fun?
- What did you like best at school today?
- What does your classroom look like at the moment?
- Who did you play with/talk to at school today?
- What subjects did you do today?
- What did you buy or take for lunch?
- What projects are you working on at the moment?
- What do you think the weather will be like tomorrow?

When you ask your child about his/her day, try to use open-ended questions. These invite answers that are longer than ‘yes’, ‘no’ or ‘OK’.

For example:

- What does your classroom look like at the moment?
- Who did you play with/talk to at school today?
- What subjects did you do today?
- What did you buy or take for lunch?
- What projects are you working on at the moment?

Tips for talking about school

These tips can help you get a conversation going:

- Give your child your full attention. Put aside whatever you’re doing and look at her when she talks to you about anything, especially school.
- Take seriously whatever your child tells you. For example, you can say things like, ‘That’s really interesting. Then what happened?’ or ‘And how do you feel about that?’

Use informal moments to talk with your child about his day at school – for example, car trips, walking together, cooking or watching TV together.

Michelle Bussell
Support Administrator Prep Year

The weekly 4 PB4L focus will be ‘Walking to Parade’. This is an area that our school identified as requiring explicit teaching of expectations. When our students are fully aware of the expectations of their conduct as they walk to parade and take their seats, the effect is that there is a sense of order and school community.

Our teachers are working each day to embed class and school wide expectations with all of our students. Our shared goal to make our great school an even better place to learn and work. We hope to have some effect on shaping our students as future citizens, equipped to make positive contributions to society.

We thank you for your support as we continue to our daily work together. The school has begun 2015 very well and our students continue to do an amazing job each day where our overarching school goals of ‘Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be a Learner’ are upheld and carried out by all.

Peter Begemann
Support Administrator Years 4-6

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools

Welcome to the 2015 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS). For over 30 years, ICAS has taken place annually in schools throughout Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei, the Pacific Region and South Africa. Your child is invited to participate in ICAS in 2015. ICAS provides an opportunity for all students in Years 2 to 12 to gain a measure of their own achievement in an external testing situation. It provides teachers, parents and students with comprehensive reporting of results in the areas of Digital Technologies, English, Mathematics, Science, Spelling and Writing. The tests are a useful preparation for national tests and the student report is useful for highlighting your child’s strengths and weaknesses. Our school facilitates these activities conducted by the University of NSW for families who choose to gather other evidence about their child’s performance in different subjects. Ask at the library for past papers available to peruse and consider. Please note the closing dates for entries. Payment can be made at the school office noting – child’s name, class, subject and payment. Your child can now prepare for ICAS and other skills-based tests with EAA’s new Practice Online series. Practice Online is a series of ten interactive online tests designed for school children in Years 2-12 developed by UNSW team of subject experts. All students receive a certificate and an individual student report indicating which questions they answered correctly and their score compared with the rest of the students tested. The certificate and individual student report are also suitable for your child to include in a portfolio. For more information please visit the Educational Assessment Australia website at www.eaa.unsw.edu.au

Closing Dates for Digital Technologies ($8), Science($8), Writing($17), Spelling ($11)- Wednesday 1st April

Closing Dates for English ($8), Mathematics ($8)—Wednesday 11th June

Liz Jorgensen Teacher-librarian

SEP

Over the next few newsletters I would like to draw your attention to how as a school we support all students to reach their potential. Each week we will explain the different types of teaching that may occur for your child.

Here at Hambledon we practise a whole school approach to supporting diverse learners. This whole school approach directs support to different levels of student need.

Three layers provide a continuum of support with increasingly focused and personalised teaching and intervention at each successive layer — including increasing levels of adjustments, monitoring of student learning and behaviour, and involvement of support staff.

Schools identify the appropriate layer of support through analysis of student data and ongoing monitoring of student progress.

Tania Loneragan—Head Of Special Education

SCHOOL INFORMATION

P-6 ARTs Performance - 6 March 2015

Each year we facilitate entertaining and informative professional arts performances for students. As well as focusing on curriculum content, they showcase performance arts to students. For term 1 2015 our show is ‘Making Friends’.

Making Friends looks at building new relationships, fitting in and dealing with bullying. Amusing, updated, fractured fairytales, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs and the Three Little Pigs, both written in rhyming couplets are used to entertain while getting the show’s simple ‘ABCs’ strategy across.

A - Ask if you can play.
B - Be polite & kind.
C - Co-operate.
S - Smile and say hello

The cost will be $4 per student due to office by Thursday 26 February. Payment envelopes will be distributed to students.

Liz Jorgensen Teacher-librarian
## Parents Corner

(P&C Meet once a month –Next Meeting– 17th February at 6.30pm)

### Presentations This Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STUDENT OF THE WEEK</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Jack</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>Ava</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hannah</td>
<td>Carlah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tajhanna</td>
<td>Stephanie</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Shayla</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Priya</td>
<td>Zac</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zach</td>
<td>Judith</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>Lopez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rebecca</td>
<td>Veronia</td>
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**HAPPY GRAMS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Edward, Mitchell</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kelly, Anabelle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Caitlyn, Kelsie Layla</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charlie, Tupac, Harrison</td>
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**GOOD PLAYGROUND GOTCHA AWARDS**

(Presented last week on parade)

**HONESTY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Atlanta, Maddison, Tamasin, Tamalyn

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### KID’S CORNER

**2A-Mrs Sweetnam**

2A have been partitioning and representing 2-digit numbers in lots of different ways. They worked in groups to create a poster representing one 2-digit number.

![Poster](image)

**3A-Miss Unwin**

This term 3A has been learning how to write persuasive texts. Students have been forming their own opinions on various topics and thinking of arguments to support their opinion.

*Hambleton State School is the best!*

_How could you possibly go to any other school? I agree that Hambleton State School is the best because it has delicious tuckshop food, lots of fun play areas and great teachers._

Written by Koby, 3A.

*Cairns is the best place to live!*

_How could you possibly live anywhere else but Cairns? I agree that Cairns is the best place to live because there is amazing wildlife, a beautiful esplanade and a fun, free lagoon._

Written by Grace, 3A.

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### Tuckshop News

**Tuckshop Roster**

Ring by 8:00am if you can’t make it!

40408666 - school office

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tues</th>
<th>17 Feb</th>
<th>Linda Linneman</th>
<th>Robyn Hayward</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>18 Feb</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Thurs</td>
<td>19 Feb</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>20 Feb</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>Rae Peeters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>23 Feb</td>
<td>Christian Thurston</td>
<td>Linda Linneman</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Term 1 Special Single Serve BBQ Meat Lovers Pizza’s $3.00**

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### DENTAL HEALTH STAND

**WHEN:** WEDNESDAY 18TH February 2015 and FRIDAY 20TH February 2015 between 8.00 - 9.00am

**WHERE:** At your school near the tuckshop.

Please come and talk to the staff from the Balaclava School Dental Clinic. We will have pamphlets, water and toothpaste to give away.

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**P & C News**

This week sees our first meeting for 2015 take place. Tuesday night 6.30 pm. We would love to see you there!! Many of our hardworking and longstanding members have left the school and some new faces are needed!

What does your P & C provide? Meetings are only held on average twice per term and a large range of important topics and info is discussed. This includes a Principals report, Tuckshop report, news from the community (council etc), Student Council info, curriculum info, national exam results, staff changes and general running of the school. The P & C is also responsible for the tuckshop and provision of insurance for all volunteers within the school. This means if there is no P & C, the tuckshop would close and there would be NO volunteers within the school (reading groups etc). Of course, there is also the all important fundraising organisation and allocation of these funds. Events held are not only to raise money, they also play an important role within the school community. These include school discos, Mothers and Fathers Day Stalls, BBQ and food stalls at sports days etc.

The last 12 months has seen some fantastic provisions for our school, including:

- Reading books $6 000
- Updating and replacing bell system $25 000
- Grant for establishment of Veggie Garden $1 000
- New Tuckshop Mural, new electrical box mural (front of school) and the fantastic interactive games murals in the Junior area $11 000
- Chaplaincy Program support $2 500
- Improving Attendance program support $2 500
- And in the pipeline…. New timber bench seats including “Buddy Seats” approx. $2 000, new signage and line markings to improve safety in STOP, DROP, GO areas approx. $2 000

WOW, that’s a LOT of funding and support to improve our school. None of this could happen without the P & C. Come along and see what its all about to keep improving and supporting our school, our staff, our students - your children.