PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Community Members

Welcome to week 5 of the term and it only seems like yesterday that we were on our first week back. I continue to thank those parents and carers that make themselves available to learn about their child’s classroom. It is very important that children see a connection between home and school and realise that we work together as a team to provide them with the best possible educational opportunities. When children see that you communicate regularly with, appreciate and support their teacher, they realise that you value education and are interested in their learning.

As I walk around the school every day, it is pleasing to see all the children in uniform (building a strong sense of pride in our school) and being actively engaged in classroom learning. I am certain this trend will continue in our focus to make our school the best it can be. We have had a great start to the year and this has been a result of the time and attention that our teachers have dedicated to ensuring they are setting up strong routines and transitions within and outside of the classroom and explicitly teaching our students. It is important we acknowledge the time and work our staff put into making our school the best it can be. There is a common misconception that teachers only work 9am – 3pm each day and have heaps of holidays. School teachers are salaried employees and their actual hours of work amount to at least 40 hours per week, and on top of that work is usually taken home on weekends or at night (e.g. marking, anecdotal records, preparation etc.). We are extremely lucky at Hambledon to have such hardworking dedicated staff that have the interests of children as their paramount consideration.

P & C Meeting

I was happy to see a number of parents and community members attend our first P & C meeting of the year, last week. Already, the association is planning a great year of events to support the school, and I encourage all community members to be generous with your support and help when these times come around. The AGM will be held on Tuesday March 15th 2016 in the staffroom at 6:30pm. All are welcome to attend.

Messages for Children

As part of our whole school focus to maximise prime learning times (generally morning and middle sessions of each day), we do not unnecessarily interrupt classes during these times. Over the last few weeks there has been an increase in the number of calls to the office about how children are supposed to get home from school. These messages can disrupt the continuous learning environment that is being delivered in classrooms. I understand emergency situations can arise that cause the best planned arrangements needing to be altered, however to minimise disruption to learning time, please ensure after school arrangements are known to children before they leave for school in the morning.

Mobile Phones and Electronic Recording Devices

In the first few weeks of the year there has been an increase in the number of children who are bringing mobile phones or similar recording devices to school. The topic of mobile phones and these electronic devices was discussed at the P&C Meeting last Tuesday night. The school and P&C are currently reviewing this policy, however at the meeting there was unanimous support for the school to follow its policy in the Student Handbook as below:

MOBILE PHONES
Students who bring mobile phones to school do so at their own risk. Students should hand their phones in to the office in the morning and collect them in the afternoon, where they will be secured.

Any phones left in a child’s bag are done so at their own risk. The school does not take any responsibility for lost, stolen or broken phones. Phones must not be used between 9.00am and 3.00pm and will be kept at the office for parents to collect if this is the case.

I would ask that parents and carers please support the school in advising children of the expectation that devices are handed into the office (rather than left in bags). This is for care and confidentiality reasons for all children at our school (as no photos should be taken at school unless authorised by the Principal or his/her delegate) and will also ensure the phones are more safely secured.

Personal Appearance and Uniforms

At Hambledon State School, we look great at all times!

• We wear our school uniform with pride – our school shirt, shorts/skorts and our school hat.
• We are neat and tidy at all times and our hair is well groomed and in a style suitable for school.
• We remember not to have tracks, Mohawks, rat’s tails or hair colour in our hair.
• We wear our school bucket hat for all out of class activities to keep us safe from the sun.
• We always wear safe, closed in shoes to school.
• We only wear simple jewellery to school – up to 2 plain sleepers or studs, wristwatch, plain signet ring and medical identification if needed.
• We leave our faces clear of makeup.
PB4L
Dear Parents and Carers,
Welcome to week 5 of the first term. It is hard to believe we have already reached the halfway point for the term. The students have been working so hard in these first few weeks of the year and it has been encouraging to see such great efforts around our fantastic school. The students in last week’s parades did an amazing job. We were very impressed by the mature way that they conducted themselves, in particular the 3-6 parades, where they sat quietly and respectfully. The students listened and responded to our guest speakers and to our 2016 student leaders. A great effort! Also impressive is the greatly reduced amount of litter we are seeing around the grounds. We are expecting this to continue so please reinforce our school values at home.

As you may recall, this term we are starting our Positive Rewards Program. This is where our students may earn a bronze, silver or gold level according to their conduct in the previous 5 weeks. Our teachers this week will be giving the first bronze levels to those who have earned them. These are based on criteria set by our school PB4L team in consultation with key stakeholders. The levels will also correspond to the end of semester behaviour grade in students’ reports. The first recipients of the bronze level this week will receive a school approved icy pole as recognition of this achievement.

At the end of the next 5 week period, students may qualify to move to silver level and after the next 5, gold. As stated earlier in the term, the rewards will differ according to the level of achievement. When finalised, the complete rewards schedule will be available through this newsletter and on the school website.

Have a great week.
Peter Begemann– Deputy Principal Student Engagement & Welfare

TUCKSHOP TERM SPECIAL
PIZZA SLICES
(Order Tuesday for lunch Wednesday)
Ham & Cheese
Hawaiian
Meatlovers
$1.50 per slice

“LANGUAGE COUNTS”
The terms used for people with disabilities all too frequently enforce stereotypes and false ideas. While some words/phrases are commonly used by many, including those with disabilities, usage is likely due to habit rather than intentional meaning. However, conscious thought about what we say, and when we say it, may help to more positively reshape how we communicate about disability in society.

“People-first” or ‘person-first’ language is a way of describing disabilities that involves putting the word “person” or “people” before the word “disability” or the name of a disability, rather than placing the disability first. Some examples are: The child with Autism not The Autistic Child, or the boy with ADHD not the ADHD boy.

The purpose of people-first language is to promote the idea that someone’s disability label is just a disability label – NOT the defining characteristic of the entire individual.

We can all make a difference by simply looking at the language we use.

Enjoy your week
Tania Loneragan
Head of Programs of Differentiation

MOUNT SHERIDAN PLAZA SPELLING BEE
The Mount Sheridan Plaza Spelling Bee will commence in the next few weeks. Hambledon State School will once again be represented by some outstanding spellers in two of the categories! Congratulations to the following students who were selected to represent our school:

Category 1 (Years 3 & 4)-
Shelby-Rose, Senara, Ashton, Joshua (reserve)

Category 2 (Years 5 & 6)-
Cooper, Mykel, Aiden

Over the next few weeks, these students will be part of lunch-time spelling sessions and will compete in the first round of the Spelling Bee on Saturday, 5 March. We wish them all the best! Please continue to check our newsletter for dates and times regarding the Spelling Bee.

Sharon Begemann– Teacher & Event Organiser
MARY HAD A LITTLE LAMB

Mary had a little lamb,
She also had the flu.
And when she left her school,
The others had it too.

So anytime your children are sick
Please keep them home with you.
Then the children in our school
Will be happier and healthier too!
Parents/Community Corner

Medicating Students at School

All medications that come into the school MUST be labelled with a pharmacy label stating child’s full name and dosage. A form then has to be filled out by parent/carer giving first aide personnel authority to administer medication.

If this procedure is not followed medication cannot be administered.

This includes Paracetamol etc, eye drops, creams and asthma puffers.

2016 Council Elections

Saturday 19th March

Polling booths will be located at Edmonton PCYC on Walker Road

NOT Hambledon State School

FOR FUN FRIENDSHIP AND ADVENTURE
DO YOU ENJOY HAVING FUN?
MAKING NEW FRIENDS
TRYING NEW AND EXCITING CHALLENGES?
THEN GIRL GUIDES COULD BE JUST WHAT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR.

GIrLS BETWEEN THE AGES OF FIVE AND SEVENTEEN CAN BECOME A GIRL GUIDE.

Girls in Guiding achieve goals, improve communities and grow in confidence.

GUIDING IS FOR ADULTS AS WELL
Any woman 18 years and older who is prepared to make the Guide Promise can be an adult member.

Take advantage of the personal and professional development opportunities that Guiding offers. Develop skills in areas such as leadership, event planning, advocacy, communications and more. Mentoring and training programs are available.

Make a Difference in the Lives of Girls and they will make a difference in yours.

To Begin Your Adventure

Contact: Melanie Portelli on 0416041510
Or email melpor26@gmail.com

P&C Information

The next P&C Meeting will be March 15th
6:30pm in Staffroom

Thankyou for your support throughout 2016

TUCKSHOP ROSTER

Ring by 8:00am if you can’t make it!

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- Reading, Spelling, Writing and English
- Mathematics all year levels
- Study Skills
- Chemistry, Physics
- FREE ASSESSMENT. PROFESSIONAL TUTORS. ESTABLISHED 16 YEARS.

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Free trial call Greg 0407 592 544

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- Safety Switches - Smoke Detectors
- Sheds/Garages - Switch Board Replacements
- Security Lighting - Power Points

“Not Job Too Small”

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