Dear Parents and Community Members

Welcome to the final week of Term 1 of the 2016 school year. With this term being a short one, the term has certainly flown by! I am extremely proud of the improvement we have seen in children’s engagement in learning this term and the quality teaching and learning that occurs at our school each and every day. We are extremely fortunate to have such a professional and dedicated staff at our school.

P&C AGM

I would like to remind parents and community members that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) followed by a general meeting of the school’s Parents and Citizens Association is scheduled to be held in the staffroom on Tuesday 22 March 2016 at 6:30pm. All members of the school community are invited to attend and I encourage all parents and carers to become active members of the association.

Investing for Success Funding

Our school this year received Investing for Success funding which has been of significant benefit to our children. This substantial funding is additional to the school grant and enables schools to provide programs that enhance student learning outcomes based on the needs of our school community.

As a school, we have focused the majority of this additional funding on programs that deliver improved learning outcomes for children with a focus in literacy and numeracy, as well as building teacher capabilities. The Investing for Success funding is provided by the Federal Government and was originally known as ‘Students First’ funding, which was instigated in response to the Gonski Review of School Funding. The Gonski Review was the most extensive investigation of school funding for almost 40 years. Commissioned by the Government in 2010 and chaired by businessman David Gonski, the review panel received more than 7000 submissions, visited 39 schools, and consulted 71 education groups across Australia. The Gonski report identified the need to provide all schools with a base level of funding and to provide schools with additional funding to cater for additional student needs.

The Investing for Success (previously called Great Results Guarantee) funding is a step toward such a needs-based model. For this reason, schools with greater numbers of students with high level learning needs receive significantly more funding than schools in areas with fewer such students.

Not all states in Australia have allocated this additional federal funding directly to schools. In Queensland, the Investing for Success funding has allowed schools the opportunity to initiate programs for students that were simply not possible in the past.

As a result of the programs we have implemented at Hambledon State School using this funding over the past two years, we have noted a significant improvement in students’ results in reading and writing. This was also reflected in student diagnostic testing results as well as other standardised tests.

The Investing for Success funding for this year and next year was announced in 2015. We are unsure at this point what will happen beyond 2017. Educators across the country remain hopeful that all federal political parties will identify education as a key federal election issue, and ensure that the needs-based model proposed by Gonski will be fully implemented into the future. This would ensure that schools have long-term funding certainty to continue to support learners, especially those most in need.

Parent Teacher Student Discussions

Thank you to all the parents and carers who were able to participate in the Parent Teacher discussions last week. I am pleased to hear that a number of parents have made alternate arrangements to discuss their child’s learning progress with teachers due to unavailability of time in the scheduled week. As I have written in the last few newsletters, I am a firm believer that children’s learning is maximised when there is an effective school / home partnership. Attending these discussions is a great way for all parties to strengthen this relationship. Being a school of approximately 800 children, I am pleased to see the parents and carers of 370 children attend these meetings. As a school we have made great progress in increasing our parent/carer participation rates for these meetings. Below is a table comparing our 2015 results to 2016:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>69.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>41.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>51.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>35.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>37.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>53.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 6</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>31.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whole School</td>
<td>37.5%</td>
<td>46.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I would also like to acknowledge all the work and preparations staff did readying themselves for these meetings. Their hours of preparation and attendance to the meetings clearly demonstrates their commitment to improving children’s learning.

Keep a Watch on Our School These Holidays

With the holidays fast approaching, we need you to look out for after-hours crime in our school. If you see anything suspicious, please call School Watch on 13 17 88.

The School Watch program aims to reduce vandalism, theft and arson in Queensland schools. If you do see something suspicious, please don’t attempt to intervene. Call the School Watch number and let the local police or State Government Protective Security Service deal with the matter.
Student Handbook - Personal Appearance

Just as standards of behaviour and speech are considered important, so are standards of personal neatness, tidiness and grooming. Health and Safety are also issues considered. An example of the importance of personal appearance occurs with hair which should always be clean, neat and tidy, and preferably tied back. All aspects of personal hygiene should receive appropriate attention.

One of the topics for discussion at the P&C Meeting tomorrow tonight is to discuss and review this matter for our school. All schools have expectations of Personal Appearance contained in the Parent Information Handbooks. Practices in other schools appear to prescribe the following items as unacceptable for children at primary school:

- Tattoos
- Make up
- Nail polish/lacquer and false nails
- Hair colours must be natural. (Exemptions are made for Sports Days or special fund raisers when children are permitted to use washable colours)
- Dreadlocks
- Multiple or extreme hair adornments or cuts/styles (including but not limited to dreadlocks, rats tails, tracks and mohawks)
- Wrist bands
- Clothing that promotes alcohol, cigarette products or drug use (including caps and hats)

With regards to jewellery, many schools generally have a policy that jewellery other than a wristwatch should not be worn. The exceptions to this generally include when a child:

- Has pierced ears – only small discreet sleepers or studs may be worn
- Wears a religious necklet or a culturally significant item
- Wears a Medical Alert Bracelet
- Prescription glasses
- Rings, necklaces, eyebrow/nose/tongue/belly studs are not to be worn

If you have any thoughts about this proposal then I would appreciate receiving this information.

Student Leadership Team Induction Ceremony (Years 4-6)

Family and community members are invited to attend our Student Leadership Team Induction Ceremony, which will be held this Thursday 24th March, at 9.15am in the SHAC. Morning-tea will be provided after the ceremony for invited family members and special guests. A photo opportunity will also be provided.

Sharon Begemann
Teacher & Event Co-ordinator.

PB4L

As we move to the last week of Term 1, it is time for the second round of the Hambledon State School Positive Recognition Program. As you may remember, in Week 5 our students could achieve up to a Bronze level which was recognised with an icy pole. This time as well as Bronze, our students can achieve up to a Silver level, which will earn a lunch time session in the computer lab. The main aim of this program is to show our students that their day to day conduct and attitude towards work do not go unnoticed. Everyone needs a ‘Well done’ or a ‘Good job’ every now and again.

Secondly, Thursday is the last day of the term. On this day, our 2016 student leaders will be recognised at a special parade. School leaders, Indigenous Leaders, Sports House Leaders, Student Councillors, Vice Student Councillors and Library Assistants will all receive their badges presented by our VIP guests. We look forward to the day and to encouraging our students to have a go and take on this opportunity for self-development and growth.

In PB4L we have been focussing on Bullying No Way over the last 2 weeks to recognise the Bullying No Way day for action last Friday. Many of our students have been able to clearly articulate what constitutes teasing or indeed, bullying and how these two issues can affect others. Our students have been learning about what to do if you see, or are the subject of teasing or bullying. A few weeks ago our lessons on the High 5 strategy were also looking at similar skills.
**Student Leadership Camp at Holloways EEC.**

On the 3rd and 4th of March our Student Leaders attended a Leadership Camp at Holloways EEC. The camp was an extremely worthwhile experience and the students gained many new skills and ideas, which I am sure we will see reflected in their leadership role this year.

**Sharon Begemann**
Teacher & Event Co-Ordinator.

I was grateful for the opportunity to participate in the Student Leadership Program on the 3rd & 4th March. I brought to the camp a respectful attitude and willingness to learn. After two days at the camp, I left with an invaluable experience.

My personal highlight was pushing my own boundaries and completing the 9 meter high-ropes course!

I enjoyed watching the sunrise on the beach and increasing my knowledge, confidence and learning new skills for my new leadership role.

**By Paige.**

In the action plan session, we had to come up with two types of plans for the year. One was environmental and the other was based on school and the wider community.

Our environmental plan was to get rid of litter and the way we are going to do that is educate students about the effects of littering in our school.

Our plan is to: start Nude Food Days, organise compost bins, use the scraps from the food bins for compost, then use the compost for a gardening program. We are hoping to supply the tuckshop with some of the food (vegetables) we produce. We will know our action plan is effective.

**By Yves.**

**SPORTS INFORMATION**

**X-Country**

X-Country carnivals will be held on the following dates: Senior (Years 4-6) Wednesday April 13th and the Junior (Years P-3) Thursday April 14th.

Children in Prep-3 will run a short obstacle course on the back oval whilst the senior students will run around the school grounds. All competitors are likely to receive an icy stick at the end of the race. Children are encouraged to wear house sports shirts. Shirts can be purchased from the school tuckshop.

**Necessary details are as follows**

**What to wear:** Hats, House shirts, Shoes

**What to bring:** Drink bottle, Asthma puffers- must be carried whilst running. (if required)

If your child is unsure which house team they are in please see Mr Pudovskis or the office staff.

**Timetable of events (Junior X-Country)**

- 9.10am Boys/Girls born 2007 (1.6km)
- 9.35am Boys/Girls born 2006 (1.6km)
- 10.00am Boys/Girls born 2005 (2.4km)
- 10.25am Boys/Girls born 2004 (2.4km)
- 10.40am Year 3 Boys/Girls

Children in years 4-6 run with children who are born in the same year.

**House elections**

Congratulations to the following students who were elected as sports leaders.

- **Dragons** - Hayden Muller, Heidi Schneider, Teija Budd
- **Minotaurs** - William Rowe, Kayla Luccchesi Jenke, Lachlan Bamblett
- **Centaurs** - Gracie Simeona, Chelsea Edmonds, Kyle Greenwood
- **Gryphons** - Joel Mundie, Mason Smith, Jayda O'Loughlin

**Tennis**

Students in years 3, 4 and 5 have the opportunity to participate in a skills and drills program coordinated by local coach, Mr Guy Thomas.

This program will begin in Week 2 of Term 2, run for 8 weeks and there is no cost.

**Contact Mr Pudovskis if you are interested.**

**Mulgrave Hockey and Baseball trials**

Trials for these sports will take place early term 2.

**Contact Mr Pudovskis if you are interested.**

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**Honesty Acknowledgment**

Amy, Hannah, Elise, Miss Sherry!
Parents/Community Corner

**Mother’s Day Stall**
Preparations for our famous Mother’s Day Stall have started already!
We need your help.
Donations are needed now!
Soaps, shower gels, face washers, wrapped chocolates, hotel soaps and shampoo.
Check your cupboards, maybe you have something you can re-gift to us??
Please bring all donations to The Office.
Thank you!

**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.

**P & C Meeting**
The next P & C Meeting will be Tuesday 22nd March 6.30pm in the Staffroom.
This will be the AGM where all positions will be declared open.
It’s not just about fund raising and sausage sizzles.
This is your opportunity to help shape your child’s school.
Be part of your P & C, and get involved.

**P&C Information**
The next P&C Meeting will be March 22nd 6:30pm in Staffroom
Thankyou for your support throughout 2016

**TUCKSHOP ROSTER**
Ring by 8:00am if you can’t make it!
40408666 - school office

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name(s)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>23 March</td>
<td>Suzette</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>24 March</td>
<td>Lyn, Sorada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>25 March</td>
<td>Lyn, Carly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>26 March</td>
<td>Lyn, Rae, Sorada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>11 April</td>
<td>Christine, Brock</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CUSP**

**SP**

**TE**

**IZA**

$1.50

We need your help.
Donations are needed now!
Soaps, shower gels, face washers, wrapped chocolates, hotel soaps and shampoo.
Check your cupboards, maybe you have something you can re-gift to us??
Please bring all donations to The Office.
Thank you!

**TUCKSHOP TERM SPECIAL**
**PIZZA**
$1.50
Order Tuesday for lunch Wednesday

**CASUAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE**
SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISOR

We are seeking interested persons for a casual position, approximately 1.5 hours per day, on a rotating roster, school days only.

Positions available throughout the Edmonton area.

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