From the Principal

Dear members of our school community

What a fantastic place Hamilton State School is in which to work, learn, play and celebrate where all students are ‘switched on’ to learning, challenged and inspired.

Firstly I would like to make available to families our school’s mobile phone number. When needing to double check arrangements or times a text may provide the necessary return information. The first point of call is our landline – 3361 6444 which I ask that you use for phone calls whilst our mobile is 0475 978 265 and is available for texts. From time to time it is necessary to change the times of assembly for example and a text may be a way of confirming a time should you be planning to attend.

Donations for our Father’s Day Stall on Friday are urgently required. At present we do not have enough items to run the stall. Unwanted small suitable household items, confectionary and stationery are/is ideal. Please bring items to our office.

Tomorrow, along with many other schools in the Metropolitan Region all teachers are undertaking a Professional Development Day lead by Lyn Sharratt. Lyn is a professor at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto. Lyn has been working with schools this year around ways that we use diagnostic data to differentiate learning for all students. At Hamilton we refer to this as ‘Putting Faces On The Data’ which is also the title of one of Sharratt’s recent publications.

Mrs Bryant will be working in our Prep/One class, Mrs Bowden in our One/Two, Mrs McVey in our Three/Four and Mr Williamson in our Five/Six. Abi Hurdley a colleague from Stafford Heights State School will be Principal for the day.

Great news that in Term Four we are able to participate in a Swimming and Water Safety Program. The program will run on a Friday for five weeks beginning in week two. We will travel in two groups (Junior and Senior Classes) to Stafford Heights State School where the school’s experienced swim teacher will coordinate our program. Our program will culminate in a ‘Mini Swimming Carnival’ to be held in week five. More information regarding times, program details and requirements will be forwarded closer to the Program. Parents wishing to assist are most welcome. Please contact me for further information. The cost to the school is substantial for pool hire and employment of our swimming teacher and I am asking that families contribute with a $5 per week payment to help cover the cost of the bus.

It is hard to believe that there are only twelve weeks remaining in the school year. Planning around the school budget, programs and class groups is underway. In 2016 I am committed to permanent PE and Music teachers who would be at Hamilton for at least one day per week. This would not only be an increase to arrangements put in place for this year but would provide many opportunities for students to participate in an increased number of extracurricular activities in the music and sporting areas. I have also begun discussions with the coordinators of our Instrumental Music program also requesting an increase in our allocation. An additional teacher on staff whose role is to work alongside teachers in the area of Literacy is also a resource that I am committed to continue. School resourcing is based upon the number of students enrolled. It is
imperative that we know in plenty of time if you are not going to be attending Hamilton School in 2016 and similarly if you know of any families who may have Prep aged students for 2016 or who are already at another school and thinking of joining our uniquely fantastic Hamilton School Community.

Class groupings at this stage for 2016 look like Prep/One, Two/Three, Four/Five and a straight Year Six. These groupings of course will change as enrolments change.

Thank you all students and families who helped celebrate Book Week last week. To those students (and staff) who dressed up as a book character last Monday, well done!

Special Awards went to the following students:
Writing – Alisdair, Zane B
Drawing – Griffin and Ben D
Poster – Kaarthika and Jati
Thank you to all students who entered our competitions.

This week we began our Footsteps Dancing across the school. Congratulations to all students on their positive participation, efforts and energy. Our younger students are having an introduction to dance with fun energetic songs. Basic co-ordination skills are being developed as students explore rhythmic patterns, directions and moving different body parts to music.

Our older students are being introduced to progressive partner dances, more complex individual dances and a broader range of dance styles.

Excitingly our weekly sessions are culminating in a “school dance”, co-ordinated by FootSteps in the last week of term – Wednesday 16 October.

All students are participating as part of studies in the curriculum area The Arts. Students will be assessed as part of Semester Two reporting. Thank you to those families who have paid the $20 for the five week program.

More information regarding FootSteps can be obtained at www.footsteps.com.au

Thank You to the following partners for your ongoing support for Hamilton State School

Brisbane Airport Corporation
Kate Collingwood - Ray White Ascot
Caltex – 645 Kingsford Smith Drive
Congratulations to the following students who have recently received Student of The Week Awards – Juan, Emily, Arman, Flynn, Christine, Anastaciya, Abhi, Lilly and Elisha.

Congratulations to the following students who have recently received Class Awards – Isaac, Alexis, Hamish, Emily, Peter and Joshua.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY… Jati, Alanna, Sofia and Griffin

Please let us know should you wish your newsletter to be emailed. Paper copies will always be available at our office.

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Thanking you for your support
Scott Padgett

Other

C&K Ascot Kindergarten are thrilled to launch a NEW 2 LONG DAY PROGRAM for 2016. We are taking enrolments now! Please complete an online waiting list application at www.candk.asn.au/ascot or email us ascot@candk.asn.au for more information.

CHAPPY NEWS!

Active Travel

Well done to all the families who have continued in their active travel on Tuesdays. The competition is really on with all the classes increasing the number of active travellers. 😊 Remember we will be having a free pancake breakfast coming up in week 10 to congratulate all our active travellers! A flyer will be sent home soon with all the details. Any parents who are able to help me run this breakfast- I’d love to hear from you please!

Kids Holiday Program

In the next school holidays I will be leading on a Kids Holiday program at City North Baptist, Kedron. It runs from 29th September until 2nd October and is $5/ day. If you would like further information, please see me at school for a flyer.

Supporting chaplaincy at Hamilton SS

Early next term I will be holding a fundraiser with the chaplain at Northgate, for the combined work of chaplaincy in Hendra SS, Hamilton SS and Northgate SS. This fundraiser is really easy to be involved in, as I will simply be selling $10 tickets to the Estee Lauder corporate store. By purchasing a ticket you will be able to get 40% off retail prices on the Estee Lauder, Clinique, MAC brands and more on a selected day at the corporate store! Tickets will be on sale soon and the date in October will be confirmed by the end of term.

Lunchtime Clubs

On Tuesdays and Thursdays we’ve had a great turn out for the lunchtime clubs. Remember your child is welcome to join in with outdoor games on Tuesdays, and soccer on Thursdays.

Chappy Mailbox

The Chappy mailbox is available for students to be in contact with me at any time. Even if I am not at school, your child can see me letters or pictures and I will reply when I am next at school. 😊 My Chappy room is proudly filled with lots of Chappy mail I’ve received this year. Thank you!
Apologies too that I was away on Tuesday 1st, I had a professional development day but will be back at school on Thursday and Friday.

Have a great week!

Chappy Megan