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.
I hope all the mums and grandmother’s enjoyed their Mother’s Day this year.

This term has picked up speed with students engaged in their new units of work. A major focus for Hamilton State School has been a consistent and whole school approach to the teaching of reading. It has been pleasing to see how many students are receiving certificates for aspects of attainment and improvement in applying reading strategies and their Magic Sight Words.

Did you know the first 100 Magic Words make up, on average, one half of all reading? The second hundred words, together with the first 100, total an estimated two-thirds of words in reading. The third hundred words, together with the first two hundred words, total an estimated 70% of words in reading and writing. Please continue to read with your child as well assist them with learning the Magic Sight Words. We will continue to teach every child to become strategic readers. Learning to read opens up many possibilities – it empowers individuals!

Tomorrow Hamilton State School is having a ‘chappy disco’ as part of Chappy Week Celebrations. All families and community members are invited. Times are from 5.30pm to 7.30pm and whilst the theme is ‘come along dressed as something starting with ‘C’, families may choose simply to ‘dress up’ in a favourite costume. Sausage sizzle, baked goods and drinks are available for purchase on the night.

Thank you to those families who have been able this week to pay for ‘Raw Art’. Raw Art consists of workshops for all students Prep to 6 promoting visual arts. Each class will be focussing on an area that compliments learning being undertaken this year.

From 2014 ($6.50) the charge for 2015 has increased to $8.10 per student. The school is subsidising this new charge making the total cost to families of $7 per child.

Hamilton State School will be holding Prep Open Days on Thursday 4th June and Wednesday 17th June from 9.15 – 10.30 (for 2016 prep students). If you have (or know of) a child born between 1/7/10 and 30/6/11 or (31/7/11*) *Principal’s discretion, and are interested in attending our school please join us (or pass on our invitation) to meet staff and find out about what we offer.

This year Under 8’s Day will be celebrated on Thursday 28th May. All Prep to Year 2 students will be participating and running a class activity. If you would like to help, please see your child’s class teacher. All Under 8’s in our community are invited to come along.
This week all Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students in Australia took part in NAPLAN (National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy). Tuesday 12 May – Language Conventions and Writing, Wednesday 13 May – Reading, Thursday 14 May – Numeracy. Congratulations to all our Year’s Three and Five students on their efforts.

A reminder that NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how students are progressing in literacy and numeracy skills against national standards for all Australian students. This data is used both to profile students, their class group, year level, school, state, nation, etc. The data may be used by schools to better target effort and support to assist all students improve and acquire the skills necessary for further achievement.

An individual student NAPLAN Report will be received by the school and issued later this year. For further information about NAPLAN, parents can go to: http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support/parent-carer-support.html

Congratulations to the following students who have recently received Student of The Week Awards – Nora, Caitlin, Stella, Peter, Joseph, Teaghan, Bitjal, Armaan, Lilly and Abhi.

Congratulations to the following students who have recently received Special Class Awards - Joshua, Jake, Shervin, Ben D, Manaia, Flynn and Alisdair.

A reminder that on both sides of the road in front of our school is signed ‘NO STANDING’ and that there is a ‘BUS STOP’ just in front of B Block. Children and families use this area to cross the road to our school and therefore I am asking that under no circumstances do you use this section for parking. Police are often positioned in such zones at all schools and it would be unpleasant to see school community member drivers fined.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY… Billy, Christine and Felipe.

From next week and for the following two Fridays all students from Year’s 4, 5 and 6 will be involved in a “Soccer Gala Day” at Brisbane Grammer playing fields. More information will be sent home this week.

FUN FOOD WILL BE ON THURSDAY

‘Grill’d Ascott’ is supporting Hamilton School this week by having a jar on its counter in which it is putting gold coins for all those customers who nominate our school after purchasing.

Lastly I have spoken to all students this week around what they can do if feeling ‘bossed’ or ‘teased’ at Hamilton State School. We called this the ‘Hamilton Five’. – 1. Ignore 2. Talk Friendly 3. Talk Firmly 4. Walk Away 5. Walk Toward Someone That Can Help

and we talked about times when you may go straight to number five. Please talk to you children about the ‘Hamilton Five’.

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

What a fantastic place Hamilton State School is which to work, learn, play and celebrate.

Thanking you for your support

Scott Padgett