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.

Welcome back, many students have communicated to me that they had an enjoyable and restful holiday. This term is also going to busy and productive. The major events for this term include:

- Friday Evening Disco
- Auskick
- Visit to Aviation High
- Foot Steps Dance
- Parent/Student/Teacher Meetings
- Science Week
- Book Week
- Footsteps Dance Celebration Evening

This Friday we are having our ‘start to Term celebration evening namely our disco coordinated by our Prep/One and One/Two classes and we hope to see as many families as possible join us for at least part of the evening. Dinner is available and I take this opportunity to thank those families for their donations and help leading up to and on the night. All monies raised will go toward an upgrade of Air Conditioning in our Year One/Two classroom.

School Opinion Survey

Parents/Caregivers, school staff and our Senior students are encouraged to have their say in this year’s School Opinion Survey by providing their opinions about what this school does well and how this school can improve. Each of the online survey is currently open and will remain so until 31 July 2015.

Access details for the Parent/Caregiver Survey have been sent home today with students and parents/caregivers are welcome to complete their survey online at the school. School computers will be available in the library if needed. If you haven’t received any survey access details please contact the office on telephone 3361 6444.

Great news that once again Hamilton School has the opportunity to participate in a weekly Auskick Program. Representatives from AFL Queensland are also currently involved in our weekly PE classes. Please see the attached flyer and contact me with any questions or concerns.

Great news that our Music Program has been extended for the remainder of the year. This will include Junior singing for our two junior classes, senior dance for our two senior classes and senior choir.
Our 2016 Prep enrolment is beginning to grow. We are taking enrolments now. If you know someone who may be interested in enrolling their child at our school in Prep for 2016 please let them know that I am happy to meet individually with prospective parents. In terms of planning for 2016 please ask interested parents to contact the school as soon as possible.

A reminder that I ask students to wear our checked uniform with white or navy socks and black shoes. On sports days including PE Day (Tuesday) students are able to wear the school polo shirt with navy blue shorts and sand shoes. Zip Up school jackets are available for purchase through our uniform shop for these colder days.

I’m extremely proud of our school aesthetics. Recent work has been done in the areas of tree trimming, shade sails, painting, seating, landscaping and signage. Future work includes: work on our tennis court and an upgrade to our wireless infrastructure to allow us to use many more portable devices flexibly within the learning environment.

Our school is once again participating in the Woolworths Earn and Learn program. When you shop at Woolworths and spend at least $10 you will receive stickers. We are hoping that families who shop at Woolworths will collect stickers and drop them off at the school office. At the completion of the program stickers can be exchanged by the school for educational resources for classrooms, libraries, music rooms and in the area of science.

The explicit teaching of Reading continues to be a major focus at Hamilton School and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate teachers, led by Miss McCauley for their Reading Programs. The explicit teaching of Reading at Hamilton has four main components within which students ‘move through’ daily - 1. Explicit Vocabulary Exploration, 2. Guided Reading where explicit Reading Behaviours are taught, 3. Readers Response where understandings can be demonstrated and 4. An independent Reading activity linked to the previous three where learning is put into practice. As I moved through classes this week I was extremely impressed at the teaching and learning taking place.

This week our Senior students visited Merriwee Court – Blue Care and will again be engaging with the residents for Seniors Week at the end of August.

Congratulations to the following students who have recently received Student of The Week Awards - Josh, Peter, Jake, Braedyn, Abhi, Bailee, Felipe.

Congratulations to the following students who have recently received class awards - Josh P, Aurelle, Brock and Connor.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY... Zain, Ryan, LovePreet, Lily, Destiny, Josh, Jordan.

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
Active Travel

This term we are continuing Active Travel Tuesdays. We have however changed the “competition” side of things, with a change from an Active Traveller of the Week to a Class competition. Each class is being encouraged to increase the number of students actively travelling to school. The class with “The Greatest Percentage” of active travellers each week will win the coveted trophy. This first week of school saw the 1/2 class take victory, but they’ve got some tough competition from other classes.

Attached with the newsletter is also an “Active Travel Map” created in conjunction with the Brisbane City Council. This Map provides suggested walking routes for families who wish to Park and Stride.

Cushion Project

On the last day of term I handed over the wonderful art work from our 3/4 and 5/6 students for the Hamilton Uniting Church cushion project. The church has been an incredible support to our school and they were so pleased at the work our students completed. There were so many FANTASTIC ideas and designs and here are some below. Each student should be very proud of their contribution to the project. When the cushions are sewn together, the church will organise a date for the students to see their artwork. Once again, thank you to all the students for their hard work!

Lunchtime Clubs

In Term 3 I will be running two different lunchtime activities to coincide with my increase of hours at school. On Tuesdays the winning vote by 2 was Outdoor games, and on Thursdays I will run a soccer game and teach soccer skills with some parents. All students are invited to join in, regardless of their skill level. I have asked students not to bring their soccer boots please so we can avoid injuring others. Please just ask your child to wear their normal school shoes.

Other Projects

The P&C and I have been working together to organise the vegie gardens ready for the 1-2 class and I to start planting. Look out for some budding plants hopefully being planted in the next 2 weeks!

See you around school and have a great week!

Chappy Megan