PRINCIPAL COMMENTS – Paul Jorgensen

We have reported several times in our newsletter over the past few years about some of the areas we are focusing on at school; however I haven’t been effective as I would have liked doing that this year. Therefore new families to the school who haven’t been able to attend information days or received previous newsletters may not know of our journey with James Nottingham and about other key learnings and concepts like our school values, writing checklists, Inquiry learning and learning conferences to name a few. I will endeavour to outline some of this in the next few newsletters.

Each week classes give a preview in the newsletter of what each grade will be learning about in the next week. This gives families an opportunity to discuss and collaborate (One of our School Values) with their children about what will be their next focus of learning in the classroom. This prepares students for their learning so it is not completely foreign to them when introduced. This approach was taken from the work we have done with James Nottingham. It is an important part of having children ready to learn and basically is a form of homework.

As a staff we use the James Nottingham book ‘Challenging Learning’ to support what we do as teachers but more importantly what we encourage the students to do. The main concept behind much of this learning is around developing positive skills and attitudes towards learning. The aim of a classroom lesson is to take children from their practice zone to their learning zone (Wobble Zone) and thus challenge students to work towards new learning. Students then consolidate this new learning by working in their practice zone again. Accepting challenge (Another of our School Values) and being enthusiastic towards learning new things is an important disposition to have. Having a Growth Mindset, an ability to look at a
challenge, enjoy a challenge and seek to learn from the challenge is vital for students to develop persistence with their learning. The work of Carol Dweck shows us that students with a Growth Mindset are more readily excited when met with a challenge, are more resilient (Another School Value) when they meet a challenge and are able to be in a position to learn more without setback.

This is just a brief outline of some of the work we aim at doing at HNPS. For some insight into the educators I have mentioned (Underlined above) please ‘Google’ them and research some of what they do, or use the links below to watch YouTube videos.

Students succeed better when they are able to focus on their own learning and take responsibility (School Value) for their learning. That is they accept challenge, enjoy challenge, are curious (School Value) and want to learn. When students are able to focus on their own progress rather than how they compare to other children the more they are able to succeed as they become better learners. It is important for parents to encourage children to be this way and to model this attitude and behaviour.

We will be holding a ‘Learning Expo’ later this term which will showcase some of the children’s work so far this year. It will also give parents a chance to discover more about how Challenging Learning, the School Values and individual goal-setting links to learning and teaching at Hazelwood Primary School. Please keep an eye out as further information comes out.

Carol Dweck  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QGvR_0mNpWM
              https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_X0mgOOSpLU

James Nottingham  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=viHaslVc9cc
                           https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AzDrYNBF-ho


Learning Expo!

Save the date!

Wednesday June 22nd – 2:15 – 4:15

On Wednesday June 22nd we will be holding a Learning Expo at the school between 2:15pm and 4:15pm. Parents, guardians and grandparents are invited to call in at any time during this period and visit their children’s classrooms.

This will be an opportunity for students to showcase their learning from the first semester of 2016. The main purpose will be for the children to share samples of work they are proud of, and to highlight how they have progressed so far this year.
There will also be opportunities for adults to participate in learning activities with the students.

The Learning Expo will give parents and members of the wider school community a chance to discover more about how Challenging Learning, the School Values and individual goal setting link to learning and teaching at Hazelwood Primary School.

We look forward to seeing as many parents as possible at the event.

*Please note, school finishing time will still be 3:15pm, but the classrooms will be open and teachers available until 4:15pm to allow more parents the opportunity to drop in after school.

**HEADLICE:** We are very grateful to the parent who alerted us to a case of head lice, an unfortunate but common aspect of school life. Please check and treat hair if required. A reminder that longer hair should be tied up. If we all work together we achieve good lice management.

We have had a parent kindly let us know of a case of the measles this week. Please be aware if your child is feeling ill.

**F/1A and F/1W Preview**

The students had a fantastic time at our Hippo Hippo excursion. We also had a visit from Peter who talked about dog safety. He bought his border collie Mason.

In spelling the foundation students will be looking at the letters Bb and Oo. No spelling words will be sent home for the foundation students to learn. However, the foundation students may wish to practise reading and writing some of the words they have been learning at home. This is not compulsory. It is great to see students showing enthusiasm for learning how to spell and read words.

The grade 1 students will be continuing to work on their take home spelling words. This week we learned to drop the silent final e before adding the ending ‘ing’ to words. In maths we will be looking at money (identifying coins and ordering based on value and identifying situations where we use money), place value (representing numbers in different ways) and counting.
In writing students will working towards their writing goals. The foundation students are focussing on getting their letters to sit on a baseline and form the letters they know correctly, especially in their names.

In reading we will be looking at developing our vocabulary of interesting words and using beginning and ending sounds.

Beginning and ending sounds is an accuracy strategy which involves using the sounds at the beginning of the word as well as at the end of the word when reading. Often children will look at the beginning letter or letters and guess a word that may fit in the sentence without looking at the rest of the word. They may not even know there is an end to a word.

Tips for using this strategy:

- Children must slow down enough to look at and pay attention to the end of the word. For beginning readers, they must know there is an end of the word.
- Cross checking the word they just read.
- Students must know letter sounds as well as the concept of beginning and end. It is helpful if they are also exposed to the Cross Checking strategy so they will be certain the word they are reading matches the letters.

Next week, the spelling focus for the Grade 1’s will be the three sounds of letter ‘y’.

1/2S Preview

Wow! It is the ninth week of term already! This week, students of 1/2 S travelled by bus with F/1A and F/1W to Traralgon to see Hippo! Hippo! the Musical. This was a very enjoyable experience for us, and provided us all with lots of laughs.

Reading & Writing

In reading, we have continued to add to our CAFÉ reading strategy menu. Over the past week, we have learnt about making a mental image or picture. Students have listened to descriptive passages from texts, such as Dr Seuss’s ‘The Lorax’. During
reading, students discussed the mental images (movies) they created in their mind, and drew pictures to illustrate these.

In writing, students thoroughly enjoyed writing a recount about our Hippo! Hippo! excursion. Students worked hard to ensure they included who, what, when, where, why and how they felt. It was fantastic to see some students putting in their best efforts and challenging themselves to add adjectives to their writing. These adjectives helped to add suspense and excitement to our writing pieces.

**Numeracy**

In numeracy, we have been learning to tell the time to the half and quarter hour. All students have shown a great deal of curiosity and enthusiasm throughout our numeracy lessons. Many of us stretched ourselves and embraced some fantastic challenges with positivity, and learned some new things as a result. Students have also begun learning about Australian money. Next week, we will continue to learn about money. It would be beneficial for you to take any opportunity to discuss with your child various Australian coins and notes. We will also engage in some hands-on weather and graphing activities.

**Inquiry**

Students have displayed a superb amount of enthusiasm during our investigations lessons. We have been focusing on the attitude of curiosity and skill of responsibility. Students have devised their own questions in which they have sought to find answers. Our questions have related to topics including the human body, Earth and space, magnetism, dinosaurs, and weather. Students have engaged in research using non-fiction books and the Internet, to assist them in their quest for answers.

*Our Show and Share topic for this week is: Winter.*

Miss Stockdale ☺
3/4A Preview

**Language:** In writing we are focusing on the use of paragraphs in our writing to make it more organised. We will begin looking at poetry next week including writing poetic texts and reading poems from a range of authors. Reading poetry will require us to use our skills of inferring meaning because poems always have a hidden meaning. Writing poetry will give us the opportunity to practice our skills of showing, not telling the reader what the true meaning of our writing pieces is. It will require a great deal of persistence, openness to feedback and resilience in our approach to exploring this writing genre. Encouraging your child to bring in examples of poetry will support their learning next week.

**Mathematics:** In Mathematics we will be making new connections between our growing knowledge of fractions and new learning about recording and graphing data. Students can be encouraged to think about what graphs tell us and how they can link to other concepts within mathematics. What fraction of the goals were kicked by your favourite AFL player? How many people in your family like chocolate or ice-cream? How many of them like chocolate? Ice-cream? These are some simple questions that you can use to support your child in making connections between the real world and their growing knowledge in this topic area.

**Inquiry:** This week we will be finalising our introduction to our Science Inquiry. Next week students will be planning and beginning their own Scientific Inquiry into an area of their own choice. In 3/4A students have been developing their research skills as part of their scientific writing about on topic of their own interest. Students will be able to transfer this experience in the planning and researching in their Science Inquiry work for the remainder of this term.

Could you please ensure your child’s reading diary is completed **five times per week** after reading. The expectation is that students read for at least 20 minutes per day with a minimum of 5 minutes being aloud. The students need to write a response about their reading- there is a section on the reading diary for this. Reading diaries will be collated generally on Fridays and returned to the students ready for the weekend and following week.

Have a great weekend!

**Mr Atherton.**
Next week we continue our focus science focus. The students are learning how to write a scientific report and think scientifically. The scientific process will be a key area of learning. Our students will be guided to question (What happens if), identify a hypothesis (I think/predict), make observations (I see), and draw conclusions (I learnt that). This is the process a scientist follows. Through conversation ask your child to question, predict, observe and draw conclusions. Use conversation stems such as “What do you think would happen if……..” We will also writing some poetry. Take some time to read some poetry.

In the area of Maths we will continue our learning on graphs. One key focus is to learn that we use different graphs for different purposes. Observe and discuss graphs that you see, there are often graphs in newspapers.

Our word of the week is “probability”. Students will be collecting words that they are unfamiliar with and storing them in a word container at school. Please feel free to send any words to school to add to their collection.

**Our Pit topic** is sure to get the children fired up, **“Sport is a waste of time.”** Have a conversation about this and discuss the positives and negatives of sport.

Maths Mates have been sent home to those children and families who want them. Please ensure your child reads at least four times this week.

*Thank you*

*Mrs Duncan & Mr Simmons*
FUNDRAISING for 2016

**FEDERAL ELECTION Saturday 2nd July**

Can you help? Baking, setup, pot plants, turn sausages, got old books hanging around.

There is a sheet up in office foyer please write your name on or contact me on below contacts.

**When buying your goodies at Bakers Delight Morwell** and **Traralgon** please don’t forget to mention Hazelwood North Primary. A percentage of all sales come back to our school.

**Ritchies** IGA, Churchill – don’t forget your community benefits card.

These are easy fundraisers if you already buy from these local businesses.

**STUDENT BANKING** - CBA give us a percentage of amount deposited, not from your deposit’s but from their money back to the school.

**Cadbury Chocolates:** Thank you to all those that sent back chocolate forms. Chocolates will be ready to pick up hopefully next Friday after school, will let you know.

**Wednesday mornings**

Please remind your children to put their LUNCH ORDERS AND SCHOOL BANKING in the appropriate tubs or bags first thing Wednesday as Volunteers start to come in to process these at 9.30am.

Thank you in advance.

**2nd Hand Uniform**

Keep those preloved school uniforms coming in we are in need of bigger sizes at the moment.

Don’t forget to check out Schools website: [www.haznthps.vic.edu.au](http://www.haznthps.vic.edu.au)

General information, generic permission slips and draft school policies for you to have feedback on.

If you cannot make meetings but would like to be involved or have any ideas for fundraising please let me know on either: **bronwyn@wideband.net.au** or 0412855933.