



# HAZELWOOD NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

No. 2382

*Responsibility, Resilience, Collaboration, Curiosity, Challenge*



## Dates for the Diary 2020



### Term 3

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup>  
August**

School Council

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August**

Book Week

Activity Day



## **Term 3 – Newsletter 12 Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

### **Principal News – Gillian Connolly**

It is lovely to be back at school and seeing the kids again. Thank you for respecting our procedures around drop off, pick up and ringing the office to arrange early collection of your child or to bring items into school. We really appreciate the support and feel thankful at this stage we are still on site. While we are on site the school continues to follow the Department advice around hygiene, sanitising and we have an additional mid-day clean of all the high touch points throughout the school.

A few parents have made contact about returning to remote learning. At this stage it has not even been flagged for those schools outside Metropolitan Melbourne and the Mitchell Shire. Please be reassured that I keep you as informed as I can, when I receive information from the Department I pass it on immediately. Unfortunately, the media sometimes has information before we do which can cause some unrest. I will always wait for the Department information before letting our community know as at times the media has it wrong.

As part of being appointed as Principal, I would like to take the opportunity to share part of my answer to one of the interview questions. I want to do this so our community understands what my vision is and how this might direct the work that we do in and out of the classroom. I also want you to know that I didn't say these things just to get the job, I feel very strongly about making our school the best it can be. My response is included as a separate attachment. The question was:

***"Describe what Hazelwood North Primary School will look like in five years time under my leadership"***

### **Lunchtime Activities**

At the end of last term, a group of Grade 4 girls approached me to ask if they could start organising and running some games for the junior students at lunchtime (every Wednesday). They were given the go ahead and this week ran their first session which was a huge hit (I wish I had have taken a photo)! They were organised, kind and patient and the smiles on the kids' faces were wonderful to see. So thank you Indy, Brooke and Lucy for coming up with the idea. It shows fantastic leadership qualities. Thanks also to lylee, Millie, Elsa, Abbie and Ethan for helping run the games with the girls. I am really proud of you all!!



### **Welcomes and Farewells**

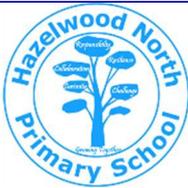
At the end of the term a few students transferred to other schools and we didn't get a chance to wish them well, so we hope Jasper, Mia and Amelia all settle into their new schools quickly. At the start of this term we welcomed two families. It is nice to see Ella and Willow back and to have Joseph and George join our wonderful school.

### **School Council President**

As most of you are aware, Amelia is the daughter of our School Council President Leigh. As Leigh has no other children at the school we have to make some changes to the structure of School Council. Leigh has kindly offered to fulfil his term on the council and support the school through the review in Term 4. I have contacted the Department and the other School Council Members to confirm that this is possible. All members support Leigh continuing as our President until the AGM in March 2021 and we will undertake the appropriate actions to ensure the correct processes are followed for this to occur.

### **Payments**

Thank you to those families who have paid your student fees. If you still have an amount outstanding, please contact Francesca to arrange payment or to pay them by instalment. All payments go toward purchasing work books and stationary for the students to use in class.



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## Student Behaviour

We have had some issues this week around unacceptable behaviour from students, particularly in the senior end of the school. On Wednesday the 4/5/6 teachers and I sat with the students and discussed our concerns around the way they are treating each other both in the class and out in the yard. We clearly outlined what behaviour we expected to see and discussed some strategies to avoid unwanted behaviour. We also talked about how we do not want students encouraging others to behaviour in a negative manner and also touched on being a bystander to bullying behaviours. We have made it clear to the students that there will be consequences for their behaviour and we will start making more calls home to parents and carers. It is so important for our students to feel safe emotionally, academically and socially. We thank you ahead of time for your support in helping us teach the kids how to behaviour in a respectful, caring and kind manner even if they are upset. I will be talking with the junior students about our expectations next week.

## Social Media

To continue the theme around student safety, there are issues popping up about the use of social media chat forums (for example Snapchat, Instagram and gaming sites) that are spilling over into the school environment. The teachers will be taking the opportunity to have a talk with your child(ren) about acceptable use of social media and the impact it can have if things go wrong. Some of the issues we have include students posting rude, offensive or mean comments, making prank calls, continuously contacting other students despite being asked to stop. One suggestion I have made to students and some parents is to block any students that are displaying negative behaviour. If your child is struggling to use their social media appropriately, I have attached a page from the website below for some tips. You can access the site to find out more information. <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/skills-advice/good-habits-start-young>

## Assembly

We will be continuing our assemblies via Webex until we can have them on site again. We are making the time for the virtual assembly at 2.20pm as this gives parents time to join in and if coming to school to collect students. Assemblies are every fortnight on even school term weeks, so our next one is Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> July. The grade that is presenting the "Show us your learning" segment will be 4/5/6S. On the 7<sup>th</sup> August 456A will present, followed by 456B on the 21<sup>st</sup> August. We look forward to seeing as many of you on line as possible as the kids love to share what they are doing in class and also to see our value award winners.

## School Review Survey

As you are aware we have our school review in Term 4. Part of the process is to get some parent feedback around our School Strategic Plan goals. Unfortunately, we can't have a lovely morning or afternoon tea to invite you in for a chat. I will be putting together a survey to ask some questions about how we have gone with our goal. I would really appreciate it if as many of you can complete it as possible as survey responses haven't been a strong point at the school in the past. I will send out a link via Skoolbag App in the next few days and put up some posters with a QR code to scan near the pickup points.

## West End Gate

To ensure the safety of our students at drop off and pick up times, could you please use only the east and south gates at the school.

The east gates are located on the main car park and the South gate is near the Hall. The gate at the West end of the school near the Art Room is designated for staff use only. No students are to use this gate for any purpose. Thank you for your cooperation.

I had to include this photo – the view when I arrived to work on Tuesday! What a place to work!!

Keep smiling and take care,

Gillian Connolly ☺

*I Acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land in where I work and live, and pay my respects to elders past and present and extend that Acknowledgement to all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia.*





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## **SPORTS REMINDER**

**Weather permitting, we will be holding our House Cross-Country at school next Thursday afternoon. Students, please remember to dress in House colours, wear suitable shoes, and bring your drink bottle. Unfortunately, spectators are unable to be present at this time.**

## **PARENTS AND FRIENDS CLUB NEWS**

Looking for members. We need more people to join. The more help the more we can do to raise some much needed funds to help our kids. Haven't got much time but can help out every now and then please let us know. If you have any questions or would like to get involved. Please contact the school or Nicole on 0408354094

## **SCHOOL BANKING**

Commbank school banking is still on pause and will advise when the program recommences.

## **SUBWAY**

Term 3. Dates coming soon.

## **2<sup>ND</sup> HAND UNIFORM**

We have had more uniform come into stock so if you need anything for winter please give Francesca a call. Just a reminder we do have Beleza new uniform here at school that we can sell to our families.

## **SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS**

Our June School Council Meeting was held on Monday 22nd June via Webex.

During the meeting we completed a School Council Self-Assessment to identify our current strengths and areas for improvement.

Quotes for the cladding of the administration building are being sought. The cladding and painting of the classroom block last year has made a huge difference to the look of our school, so it will be wonderful if we are able to get works underway to complete the administration block in the not-too-distant future. A playground audit has recently been completed, and the school is now working to make the necessary safety improvements to our playground based on the report we have received.

Our Policy Committee has been hard at work completing a range of policies, which will be ready for approval at our next meeting.

We also discussed our School Review, which will take place in Term 4 and inform the school's new Strategic Plan. As part of the process, the school will be gathering information from our students, staff and families to ensure that everyone in our community has the opportunity to provide input into the future priorities of the school.