Chalkboard - Term 1 Week 2 Wednesday, 3rd February 2015

What a fantastic start to the year it has been. All students have settled into their new classes beautifully. Mrs Bradley and Miss McDonnell are super impressed with each and every kindergarten student. They are amazing!

Welcome to our new families who are joining our Hamilton North community. We would particularly like to welcome some new students who have come to us from different schools: Liam, Damian, Charlotte and Brooke.

P & C Meetings
Our P & C meetings take place in Week 3 and Week 8 of each term. Our first P & C meeting this year is on Monday 9 February, 6pm at Hamilton North Bowling Club. This is our AGM where we elect officers for 2015. The time and venue for the meetings is always the same. All parents and carers are very welcome to attend and become part of our P & C.

Canteen
Canteen will commence on Wednesday next week (11 Feb). Canteen days are Wednesday and Friday.

If we are able to get more volunteers we will be able to open the canteen on more days.
If any mums, dads, grandparents etc are able to help, please complete the canteen volunteer slip further on in the Chalkboard and return to the office.
We greatly appreciate any time you can offer.

Class Information Night Timetable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KB</td>
<td>Thursday 5 February, 5:30pm</td>
<td>4B</td>
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<tr>
<td>1R</td>
<td>Tuesday 10 February, 5:15pm</td>
<td>4/5</td>
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<tr>
<td>2J</td>
<td>Tuesday, 10 February 5:45pm</td>
<td>5/6</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>Wednesday 11 February, 5:15</td>
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FRIDAY SPORT
Sport commences this Friday.
If your child has selected a paying sport, all money and permission notes must be in by this Thursday.
Arnolds $80, Ocean Baths $40 Surf School $120.

SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL
Our whole School Swimming Carnival will be held on Thursday, 19th February 2015 at Lambton Swimming Pool. Cost for pool entry and bus is $9.00.
Money and permission note must be paid to the school office by Monday, 16th February. No money or notes will be accepted after this date.

Class Information Nights
Over the next two weeks teachers will be presenting class information to parents in their classrooms. All information regarding class routines, teaching and learning programs, library and homework will be discussed at these sessions. Parents and carers are encouraged to attend.
Kindergarten Photos
Kindergarten photos please note that your child will have their photo taken this Thursday, 5 February at school. There is no cost associated with this.

Assembly
This week’s assembly will be at 2:20 pm in the hall. There will be no class item. CSOs and Chicken Keepers will be receiving their badges. All are welcome to attend.

Scripture Lessons
Our Non Denominational Scripture classes will commence next Friday. If you do not wish your child to attend Scripture lessons, please send in a written note to your child’s teacher.

School Bags
It appears that there will be some school bags available for students in Yrs 1 - 6. These can be purchased at the office from Monday 9 Feb. Please note that there is only a set amount as we don’t have enough storage space to keep a large amount. We plan to purchase some each year for our kinder students with any extras then being offered to students in Yrs 1-6. Cost: $40.00.

Guitar
Guitar lessons with Paul Nickerson will start next week. Lessons are $5 dollars each with the cost for the term amounting to $40. Paul delivers half hour lessons in our hall for small groups of students. He caters for all ability levels.

Please return the permission slip further on in the Chalkboard and return it to our office this week to ensure that your child can participate in guitar.

Music for guitar must be paid by Friday, Week 3 (13 Feb).

Head Lice
Please be advised that there has been one case of head lice reported last week. It would be a good idea to check your child’s hair for lice or eggs.

Book Packs / Voluntary School Fees
Most people have purchased book packs for their children. Please do this as soon as you can so that classes can begin to use their books for classwork.

We have also had some families pay their voluntary school fee which is $20 per student. This is very much appreciated as this money assists us with improving teaching and learning programs and also with upgrading our school facilities. This year we are totally refurbishing our boys and girls toilets during the Easter holidays. Your contribution will certainly be used to benefit your children at school. Thank you.

WORKING BEE
We are holding a working bee at school on Friday, 20th February. Please see the note at the end of the Chalkboard and consider coming along.

It is always a fun, productive day.

Library News
Welcome back—it is a delight to see everyone so refreshed.

We have many wonderful new books in the library, please encourage your children to borrow—the benefits of reading both with and to your children cannot be overstated, as well as the joy your children can find themselves in the pages of a book.
Donations of cloth bags to use for library bags, would be greatly appreciated.

Library classes for all students will be on Tuesday.
Returning of books will be different this year. ALL books to be returned are to be placed in the tubs provided on the library verandah in the morning.
Please encourage students to put books there before school on Tuesday morning as they will not be able to return books in class time.
They must have a library bag to borrow. They may use any bag which will protect the books.
The library will be open 2nd half of lunch again this year for children to read and play quiet games. We are looking forward to a great year.

K-6 Excursion
We have booked seats for every child (K-6) at the Civic Theatre for Monday, 27th July, for the showing of the “26 Story Tree House”. Further information will be provided closer to the time.

Learning Support Teacher
Welcome back to all of our wonderful parents and carers at Hamilton North.
For those of you who may or may not know me, my name is Karly Boyle and I am excited to say that I am back again this year continuing my role as the Learning and Support Teacher.
Last year you might have seen me around the school working with individuals and students in small groups providing support and extending others. I will be working within the classrooms as well as in my office which is now based in the library, and I am in constant communication with the classroom teachers regarding all progress of students I work with.

As well as working with students, I run a number of fantastic parent/volunteer programs throughout the year which focus on literacy and numeracy development and more information will be provided throughout the year for those volunteers that are interested in assisting.

This year I have a strong focus on the working memory and language development of students and you may notice information about this focus, my role, and the importance of the Learning and Support Team included in our weekly chalkboard over the year.

I look forward to seeing you all around the school over the year and you are very welcome to visit any time Monday to Thursday.

Karly Boyle

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Gardening kicked off with a bang this week, with many keen green thumbs out in the gardens at lunch time. We have been busy pulling weeds and prepping garden beds for future plantings. A big thank you to all students who got involved! Gardening is on during 2nd half lunch every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Everyone welcome!

This week students from each class will be designated for the roles of Worm Herders, Recycling Monitors and Power Rangers. Thank you to all students who have shown their interest by nominating themselves for these roles. Students who are selected will be expected to hold the position for 2015, lead school environment projects and attend Environment Club meetings. Students will find out who their class environment team members are this week.

The first Environment Club meeting for 2015 will be on Wednesday 11th February for all 2015 Worm Herders, Recycling Monitors and Power Rangers. Please meet in Mrs. Novak’s room with your lunch.

Pencil cases: The pencil case really should contain just the basics... Lead pencils, rubber, glue, sharpener, a small amount of coloured pencils (what is in the book pack). There have been some gigantic sized pencil cases bursting at the seams which although are lots of fun, are very impractical. Special large packs of textas and gel pens are best left at home or in their bag for special occasions. We really need a small, fuss free case for easy and efficient working.

We are really looking forward to meeting you, it’s going to be a fantastic year of learning together.

Mrs Bell and Mrs Evans

CLASSROOM REMINDERS

Class KB

A great start to school everyone!

Class 2/3

I will be holding an information afternoon for all 2/3 parents on Wednesday, 11th February at 5.15 in the classroom. I hope to see you there.

Mrs Novak

Class 4BE

Welcome back to what will be a fantastic Year 4 school year. The children have settled into 4BE brilliantly! They are all happy and excited and working hard. We have been busy doing some assessment tasks as well as having fun getting to know one another. Spelling and spelling homework has begun this week.

Thanks to everyone who has promptly purchased and covered book packs. If you haven’t done so, we are aiming to start working in our books next week.

We are holding a parent information night next week on Thursday night the 12th of Feb at 5:30-6pm where we will discuss everything you need to know for the year. Please come along to this night if you can, we are looking forward to meeting you all and begin the year with good communication.

Library and sport begin this week (Tuesday is Library day) and Guitar group and Scripture will begin next week.

Class 5/6

Welcome back and thank you for so quickly purchasing, covering and sending in the book packs. The children have settled in beautifully and we are straight into learning. Our parent/ teacher information session will be next Thursday at 6pm in the 5/6 room.
**GUITAR LESSONS**

I would like my child ____________________________ of class ___________________ to participate in guitar lessons with Mr Paul Nickerson. Lessons are on Mondays and Fridays for half an hour.

Cost is $5 per lesson and runs from week 3 until week 10 (8 lessons at a total cost of $40).

I enclose $40 to cover this cost.

Signed ____________________________ Dated _________________________

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**SCHOOL BANKING**

Welcome back to a new year of banking. If you would like to start banking all you need to do is get your parents to take your birth certificate to any Commonwealth Bank to set up your account. There are lots of new awards for you to earn this year. As you know the school receives a percentage of all bank deposits as well as $5 for all new accounts.

Hope to see you on the library verandah on Friday mornings from 8.30am till 9.00am. If you are running late, just drop off your book, I’ll give it back in the afternoon.  Terrie Newell.

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>5th February</td>
<td>Kindergarten 1st day photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>9th February</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting, 6pm, Hamilton North Bowling Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>19th February</td>
<td>Whole School Swimming Carnival — Lambton Pool</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>16th March</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting, 6pm, Hamilton North Bowling Club</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>26th March</td>
<td>Whole School Photos</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>25th April</td>
<td>Anzac Day Dawn Service — Gregson Park —</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>27th July</td>
<td>K-6 Excursion to Civic Theatre</td>
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**CANTEEN HELPERS**

I am able to help work in the canteen on the following days:

- **Monday**
- **Tuesday**
- **Wednesday**
- **Thursday**
- **Friday**

(please circle)

Childs Name _________________________  Class __________________

Signed ____________________________    Phone No. _______________

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Signed ____________________________ Dated _________________________
A shout out to all families! The date for our annual Working Bee has been set for Friday 20th February. This school community event is a great afternoon where we can all get together for a bit of hard work to maintain and improve our school grounds, spruce up the gardens and get some projects underway that the kids will be involved in throughout the year.

This year’s main areas of need are:

- Pathways dug around garden beds, prepped & laying gravel
- Cement slab laid (needed prior to Working Bee)
- New shed assembly & fit-out + old shed cleared
- Front gardens weeded & cleared
- Garden maintenance & cleanup
- Compost system assembled and started
- Irrigation system set up
- Garden beds – new topsoil, mulching, new plantings

For planning, I would love if anyone with particular skills, materials, resources and/or equipment to please contact me ASAP to discuss the afternoon’s project needs. I can be emailed on Emma.Novak1@det.nsw.edu.au

There will be more information coming over the next week, but for now, SAVE THE DATE FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 3pm-5:30pm. A Thank You BBQ will be provided afterwards.

Return the slip at the bottom please.

I am happy to help with the Working Bee on Friday 20th February from 3pm — 5.30pm.

☐ I am happy to help in any area  or

☐ I would prefer to help out in particular with ________________________________

There will be ________ number of persons attending.

Name ________________________________  Phone No. __________________________