Dear Parents,

Welcome back for our 2017 school year. Currently we have 242 students enrolled at the school. We hope you have had a great holiday break and we are looking forward to the year ahead.

You will have noticed yesterday (or maybe during the holidays) the arrival of the two new portable buildings along Gungurru Road side of the school. Staff and students in Grades 1/2 and Art have settled in well making these rooms their own.

We would like to welcome the 2017 Preps, new students and their families to the school. Also our new staff members being Miss Morgan Bamford (in Grade 1/2) and Miss Rebecca Magee (in Grade 3/4), who you may recognise from their CRT work last year. Returning to the school is long time staff member Mrs Michelle Bryant (in Grade Prep/1) who has been on leave for the past few years. It is great to have Mrs Marijke Harrison (in Grade Prep/1) and Mrs Linda McCarten (in Grade 5/6) returning to us again this year for the 12 month period.

**PAYMENT ENVELOPES**
This year we have printed our own Payment Envelopes. Please use these envelopes when sending cash payments to school. These must be filled out with the correct money enclosed and returned to the school office when required. We have attached a number of envelopes to today’s newsletter for your convenience. Additional envelopes are available from the school office.

**SUPERVISION IN THE YARD**
A reminder to parents and guardians that supervision of students in the yard does not commence until 8.45am. Classroom doors are also opened at this time. Supervision after school is between 3.30pm to 3.45pm. The Department and Schools Student Supervision Policy states that supervision outside of these times is the responsibility of parents/guardians.

**NUT ALLERGY**
We have a number of students attending the school with nut allergies. We ask that all parents and students please try and eliminate nut products from lunch boxes and take this into consideration when providing food for the classroom. This includes peanut butter and nutella, please keep these as a treat for after school at home. Thank you for your support and understanding.

**CODE RED DAYS**
Parents are reminded that our school has been listed on the Bushfire At-Risk Register. Schools, kindergartens and licensed child care centres that have been identified as being high fire risk on the Department’s Bushfire At-Risk Register will close on days determined Code Red by the Emergency Management Commissioner. The final decision to close will be confirmed no later than 1.00pm the day before the planned closure. As soon as the school has this information it will be forwarded to parents by letter, tiqbiz and phone call. Please note it is DET Policy that no staff are allowed remain on site on a Code Red Day.

Craig Burnett, PRINCIPAL

2ND FEBRUARY, 2017.
DIARY DATES

Tuesday 7th February School Banking begins again. (see newsletter article)
Wednesday 8th February Prep & New Junior Students Information Night 5.30pm (see newsletter article)
Thursday 9th February Huntly PS Community Group Meeting 2.30 pm (see newsletter article)
Friday 10th February Grade 6 Polo Shirts Order due back (see newsletter article)
Wednesday 15th February Junior School Partners in Print 5.30pm to 6.30pm (see newsletter article)
Thursday 16th February Parents’ Group Meeting 9.15am in OSHC room.
Thursday 16th February Senior School Information Night 6.00pm (see newsletter article)
Monday 20th February Gymnastics Program begins for Senior School $32 (more information next week)
Friday 24th February Conveyancing Allowance applications close (see newsletter article)
Friday 24th February Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund Application Forms due back (see article)

HUNTLY PRIMARY SCHOOL
2017 Grades and Staffing

We currently have 242 students enrolled at the school for 2017.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEARNING CENTRE</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>STAFF MEMBER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LC1</td>
<td>Prep/1</td>
<td>Alicia McGrath &amp; Michelle Bryant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LC2</td>
<td>Prep/1</td>
<td>Laura Murdoch &amp; Lisa Clohesy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LC3</td>
<td>Prep/1</td>
<td>Marijke Harrison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LC10</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Shelley May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LC11</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Morgan Bamford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LC4</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Rebecca Magee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LC5</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>Matthew Lehane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LC6</td>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Lynda McCarten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LC7</td>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Skye Bennett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LC9</td>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Adrian McErvale</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SCIENCE NEWS

The Science room is in need of a few donated items for their Term 1 projects and to add to their resources……
- Shoe boxes
- Ice cream containers
- Unwanted things that can be utilised in the science room e.g. posters, models of animals/bugs/human body/earth, fish tanks, microscopes, etc.

Donations would be gratefully accepted. Please leave at school office.

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Because it is the start of the school year, a hard copy of the newsletter has been sent home with students today. In the future the newsletter will be published each Wednesday on the school website www.huntly-ps.vic.edu.au

Please make sure you read this important newsletter as it is our main communication channel with parents.

An email is sent home to families each week reminding them that the newsletter has been uploaded to our school website. Only families who have registered their email address for our distribution list will receive this reminder. If you would like to be added to this distribution list to receive the newsletter link, please complete the form available at the school office or contact Deb if you are unable to come in.

If you do not have access to the web a hard copy of the newsletter is available at the school office.

PARENTS’ GROUP NEWS

NEXT MEETING:
Will be held on Thursday 16th February at 9.15am in the OSHC room. Everyone (including pre school children) are welcome to come along for a cuppa and a chat.

SECOND HAND UNIFORMS:
Good condition, second hand uniforms are being sought for a stall. Donations can be left at school office. More information to come.

SCHOOL TERM DATE 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM 1</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>1st February</th>
<th>School Starts 9:00am (Prep students do not attend this day)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TERM 2</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>18th April</td>
<td>to Friday 30th June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TERM 3</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>17th July</td>
<td>to Friday 22nd September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TERM 4</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>9th October</td>
<td>to Friday 22nd December</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE

PLEASE NOTE: PERMANENT BOOKINGS FROM 2016 DO NOT CARRY OVER TO THIS YEAR - Please contact school office to make new bookings.

This program is operating again this year. Outside School Hours Care can provide for your family with child care assistance either because of work commitment or for convenience when needed.

Just briefly, the program is run by our School Council as a service to the families of the school. Outside School Hours Care operates everyday of the school term from 3.30pm to 6.00pm. Cost is $13 per child per night and bookings must be made through the school office.

Staff member, Daniel Harper will not be joining us this year as he has been appointed to a teaching position in Ballarat. We thank Daniel for the time he has spent at OSHC and wish him all the best for the future. His replacement will be announced shortly.

Further information and our program details will be included in our first newsletter for the year. This will be attached to next week’s newsletter.

SPORTS NEWS

We hope all students are looking forward to the year of sporting activities. These include:

- School Athletics (22nd March)
- Gymnastics Program (end of February for Senior School and April for Junior School - costs $32 per child)
- School Cross Country (Term 2)
- Swimming Program (Term 4 - costs to be confirmed)
- Various Sporting Tournaments (all year)

Sporting Tournaments - Sporting tournaments including Soccer, Football, Basketball, Cricket, Netball etc. will coming up on the calendar for Huntly Primary School. When taking students away to participate it isn’t always possible to allow all students to participate in the event. When choosing representative teams, the students are always aware of the criteria that they need to adhere to be successful.

Which are:

- Attendance is required to all training session unless they have notified the teacher of the reason why.
- Their behaviour in the yard and inside the classroom is exemplary.
- Classroom work and Reading Diaries must be completed to the class teachers requirements.
- Show a great enthusiasm and enjoyment for the sport and are willing to improve as a player and as a valued team member.

Matthew Lehane, Sports Co-ordinator.

FROM THE LIBRARY

Welcome to all of the new students and welcome back to our existing students for 2017. Grades will be borrowing each week, when these days are confirmed class teacher will notify their students.

What Can I Borrow:
Grades Prep, 1 & 2 - 2 books
Grades 3 & 4 - 4 books + 1 Literature Circle Book
Grades 5 & 6 - 4 books + 1 Literature Circle Book

BUT… If you have one overdue book - borrow one. If you have more overdue books, please return them before you can borrow again.

Need a new Library Bag?? A great selection of fabric bags are on display in our Library window. Cost is $4.00 each, please see Mrs Strauch on Wednesdays before 9am for purchases. All money goes towards buying books for the Library from the students wish list.

Book Club – The first issue of Book Club will be sent home today with a letter of explanation. What a great way to start the year, purchasing books to begin your reading journey in 2017!

Thank-you, Laura Murdoch and Leonie Strauch

FRESH FRUIT FRIDAY - HELPERS

The McKern Foundation, in partnership with other local entities developed the Fresh Fruit Friday initiative last year. Through this program the school receives fresh fruit each Friday to be distributed amongst the children. The program will run again this year but we need parent helpers to prepare the fruit for the students each week from 10.30am to 11.00am. If you are interested in helping, please contact the school office. A big thank you to the McKern Foundation for supplying our school with fresh fruit each Friday.

Matthew Lehane, Sports Co-ordinator.

HELPERS NEEDED

The McKern Foundation, in partnership with other local entities developed the Fresh Fruit Friday initiative last year. Through this program the school receives fresh fruit each Friday to be distributed amongst the children. The program will run again this year but we need parent helpers to prepare the fruit for the students each week from 10.30am to 11.00am. If you are interested in helping, please contact the school office. A big thank you to the McKern Foundation for supplying our school with fresh fruit each Friday.
JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

PREP & NEW JUNIOR STUDENTS INFORMATION EVENING
For Grades Prep to 2
Wednesday 8th February 5.30pm to 6.00pm
In Learning Centre 2 (P/1L)

Classroom teachers will share specific information on their Reading and Mathematics programs as well as general information about their classrooms. We look forward to seeing you there.

THE STEP INTO PREP
For many parents, a child starting school can be an apprehensive time. I have listed some ideas for preparing your child for Prep.

Avoiding the last-minute rush
- Leave home on time.
- Arrive at school well before the first class to allow time to say goodbye and for your child to join others at play.

Food for energy
- Be sure your child has a balanced breakfast.
- Pack a healthy lunch and snacks and explain when they should be eaten.
- Pack a water bottle.

Home Reading Program
- Early in the year your child’s teacher will tell you about the Home Reading Program.
- Establish a quiet time for reading together—maybe as part of the bedtime routine.
- Let reading together be a pleasurable activity.

Just a reminder for parents that throughout the month of February the Prep students are not required to attend school on Wednesdays. This is their rest day and I am sure that they will need it as they adjust to being at school.

IS YOUR ENROLMENT COMPLETE???
Please make sure that you have bought in a copy of your child’s Birth Certificate and Immunisation Certificate to the school office. It is a Department of Education and Training requirement that all students enrolled at school must present a copy of these documents. We can photocopy these for you at the office.

Many thanks
- Alicia, Michelle, Laura, Lisa, Marijke, Shelley and Morgan

PARTNERS IN PRINT EVENING
For Grades Prep to 2
Wednesday 15th February 5.30pm to 6.30pm
In your child’s classroom.

Please come along with your child to an evening where teachers will share skills and strategies to help you assist your student in Literacy at home. Partners in Print is an evening designed to assist parents to support their child’s literacy success. Please note the strategies we share with you on the second night will be different from the first evening. We look forward to seeing you there.

COMMUNITY GROUP GATHERING
Thursday 9th February 2.30pm to 3.30pm

The next meeting of Huntly P.S. Community Group will be held on Thursday 9th February. This is an opportunity for new parents (and not so new parents) to get to know each other in an information setting. All Junior School parents are welcome to attend, toddlers welcome.

Please come along to our first community group gathering for 2017.

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

SENIOR SCHOOL INFORMATION EVENING
For Grades 3 to 6
Thursday 16th February at 6.00pm

Classroom teachers will share specific information on their Reading and Mathematics programs as well as general information about their classrooms. We look forward to seeing you there.

GRADE 6 POLO SHIRTS
Order forms for Grade 6 school polo shirts will be sent home this week. Please return this form by Friday 10th February with full payment in a named envelope to the school office. Please note this is a one off opportunity to purchase these polo shirts, it will not to available again.

Late orders will not be accepted.
GUITAR LESSONS

We are able to offer guitar lessons again this year. This will be group lessons at a cost of $12.50 per student per week to be paid monthly. Lesson duration is half an hour and will be held on a Wednesday afternoon. If you are interested in your child or children having guitar lessons, please contact Brad Kemp on 0434 812 252 or email brkemp99@gmail.com.

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE

Applications for Conveyance Allowance should be lodged at the school no later than the 24th February, 2017. To be eligible for this allowance, a student must live more than 4.8 km, by the shortest practicable route, from Huntly Primary School (being the closest government school) or their nearest bus stop be more than 4.8 km from their home. Parents who applied last year will not need to apply again.

Application forms are available from the school office.

BENDIGO BANK - SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking will commence next Tuesday 7th February. Students need to bring their passbook, deposit slip and money to school and leave in the school office each day by Tuesday 9.00am.

Bank account application forms are available from the bank or school office.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE - INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

CSEF is again this year provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. Please note the CSEF payments cannot be used towards voluntary school charges, nor towards books, stationery, school uniforms, before/after school care, music lessons, etc.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be:
- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

How to Apply

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef. Applications must be returned to school by Friday 24th February.

TIQBIZ APP

We have a school communication app, Tiqbiz. The school will be using the app to send out general updates, classroom updates, reminders, events and much, much more!

The app is called Tiqbiz and is available on iPhone, iPad, iPod, Android Phone, Android Tablet and any other type of device or computer via the website.

We kindly ask that you download Tiqbiz to one of these devices, register a free account then find our school and tick on the groups that apply to you.

You’ll receive all the information with a push notification – much like a text message directly to your device. Any last minute changes or reminders, we’ll be able to reach you to keep you completely informed and up-to-date.

Please see flyer attached to today’s newsletter for details of how to download the app.

SUN SMART HATS MUST BE WORN WHEN OUTSIDE. PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD HAS THEIR SUN SMART HAT AT SCHOOL.

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Please see flyer attached to today’s newsletter for details of how to download the app.

KEYBOARD LESSONS

Private Piano lessons will be available at Huntly P.S. again this year. These lessons take place during or after school at reasonable rates.

For more information, please contact Tricia McNaulty on 0418 595 990 or 5496 2225.

BENDIGO HEALTH COMMUNITY DENTAL SERVICES

Community Dental Services at Bendigo Health are pleased to offer free dental screens and oral health education for 2017. This program provides valuable information to children about caring for their teeth, and helps to identify children who have dental issues in need of treatment. The dental screens are performed by a trained, skilled and appropriately credentialed Bendigo Health’s Community Dental Services staff member. The Community Dental team will be at Huntly Primary School from 14th to 17th March, 2017.

Individual consent is required to conduct dental screens and all information remains confidential in accordance with Bendigo Health policies.

Oral Health Screening Consent Forms have been attached to today’s newsletter and must be returned as soon as possible. Please note this free service is not compulsory.

IF YOU HAVE A HEALTH CARE CARD YOU CAN APPLY.... DON’T MISS OUT

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. The allowance will be paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions, or sporting activities for the benefit of your child. Please note the CSEF payments cannot be used towards voluntary school charges, nor towards books, stationery, school uniforms, before/after school care, music lessons, etc.

The annual CSEF amount per student will be:
- $125 for primary school students
- $225 for secondary school students.

How to Apply

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef. Applications must be returned to school by Friday 24th February.
NOTES SENT HOME

When notes are sent home from school we have a coloured paper system to help parents to work out what is important, of course everything we send home is important but some require immediate attention.

Notes that need to be read, filled in and returned to school are printed on PINK paper.

Notes that have important information or an urgent message for families are printed on YELLOW paper.

We hope this helps make your busy lives a little easier.
We're using an app to communicate with you.

You'll be notified of our news, messages, events and other communications.
Simply use the tiqbiz app on your phone, tablet or computer.
Follow the instructions on this leaflet.

deliver your message

Here's how to set up tiqbiz

Phone and tablet.
Search tiqbiz in your app store.
For Apple: Select 'allow' notifications.

Computer Access the web version of tiqbiz.
Go to web.tiqbiz.com then register/log-in

Add us
Log-in
Open tiqbiz and register/log-in.

Search
Select the 'Search' icon and type in our name.
Select us from the results.

Add
Click the 'Add' icon beside the boxes that apply to you.

Return to search
Click the back arrow to return to search.

Home
Click the 'Home' icon to view.

Please email for technical support: support@tiqbiz.com
Huntly P.S. Community Group

Please come along to our first community group gathering for 2017.

This is an opportunity for new parents (and not so new parents!) to get to know each other in an informal setting. Toddlers welcome.

Where: Multipurpose Room, Huntly Primary School
When: Thursday 9th February
Time: 2.30-3.30 p.m.