Dear Parents and Carers,

**Celebrating Success**

**BANDFEST**

Our wonderful band students had the opportunity last week to perform, this time the occasion was Bandfest. Bandfest is a great performance opportunity and one that provides students to practise playing music in a formal setting. The students sounded confident and enthusiastic. Thank you to Ms Philippa for her hard work in training and supporting the band students. Congratulations to the The Junction Public School’s training band on their win and to the students of Wallsend South Public School on their win in the intermediate section.

**NATIONAL RED ROOM POETRY OBJECT COMPETITION**

We have had the exciting news that Darci B's poem "Newton's Cradle" has been shortlisted in the National Red Room Poetry Object competition!! With over 2500 entries, this is an awesome achievement. Here is Darci’s awesome poem which is now up on the Red Room website:

**Newton's Cradle** by Darci (Year 6, Unload Creative Writing, 2015)

Never-ending fun
Easy to start
Whoosh through the air
The outside go 'Weee!' The inside say "Ow!"
On my desk, tic, tic, tic
Newton's law of movement
Science-y

Cradling the laws of momentum
Round and smooth
All you can hear is click, click, click
Down and up, up and down
Language of science
Easy to STOP.
KEYS TO SUCCESS
Congratulations to the following students for receiving a Key to Success award:

CONFIDENCE
Alex K
Robert F-J
Neve D
Fianna N
Luca P
Luca J
Braith H
Alex R

PERSISTENCE
Luke S
Reuben L
Charlie J
Archie G
William W

GETTING ALONG
Griffin S

ORGANISATION
Sam S

RESILIENCE
Taya N

WHOOPING COUGH
We have had some confirmed cases of whooping cough at our school. If you have any concerns, please contact your family doctor. More information is available from

NSW Health whooping cough campaign

For further information please call your local Public Health Unit on 1300 066 055 or visit the New South Wales Health website www.health.nsw.gov.au

MAKE SOME NOISE – Newcastle High School
Hamilton South Public School will be participating in Make Some Noise which is being presented by Newcastle High School. The partner primary schools will be joining in the concert. The concert will be held at the Town Hall on November 17 at 6.30pm. Tickets are available from the NHS office.

COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
A flyer Compulsory School Attendance is included with this week’s noticeboard which outlines information on school attendance.

‘If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they’ll have missed over a year of school.

Sue Estens
Principal
SCHOOL NEWS:

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday, 21.10.15 ~Money collection - Yr 5 camp
~Canteen Meeting 6pm
~P&C Meeting 7pm

Thursday, 22.10.15 ~Last money collection - Yr 5 camp

Friday, 23.10.15 ~Student banking
~Yr 5 Sports Gala Day

Wednesday, 28.10.15 ~Interrelate Sessions

Friday, 30.10.15 ~Bookclub orders due

NOTES TO BE RETURNED

• Absence Note – if your child has been absent from school, please fill out a yellow note and send it in to the office. Departmental requirement states you have seven days to explain your child’s absence. School hours 8:55am-3:00pm

ABSENCE NOTES
A reminder to parents and carers that if your child has been absence from school you need to send a note to the office explaining why your child was away. A yellow leave booklet is available from the office.

BOOKCLUB ISSUE 7
Bookclub Issue 7 was handed out to students last week. This will be the final bookclub for 2015. If you would like to purchase from issue 7, you must have your order in by FRIDAY 30th October 2015. A reminder that you only have to send your order in to school, if you are paying by cash. Many thanks.

Mrs Edwards

APPLICATION FOR YEAR 7 SELECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT IN 2017
Parents must apply online at www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacemnt
Applications for entry in 2017 can be made online between 13 October and 16 November 2015. All applicants are required to sit the Selective High School Placement Test to be held on Thursday 10 March 2016. You can find a copy of the Information bulletin for primary schools on the intranet at:-

K-6 School Assembly
3/4E will be hosting the school assembly on Tuesday, 27 October, 2015. Assembly begins at 2.10pm in our school hall.
YEAR 5 SPORTS GALA DAY
Year 5 have been invited to attend a special Sports Gala Day organised by Newcastle High School on Friday 23rd October. The focus of the day will be Newcastle High School’s core values of Respect, Responsibility and Participation.

Children who attended last year enjoyed a wonderful experience. The day provides a fantastic opportunity for our students to become familiar with, and learn about our local high school facility.

Students will be provided with a BBQ lunch (sausage sandwich, popper and a piece of fruit). Anyone with special dietary needs will be catered for specifically. Please see Miss Wakeman or Mrs Foot ASAP if you have any special dietary requirements and we will pass the information along.

Full school sports uniform, hats and water bottles are all essential for the day.

A big thank you to Newcastle High for providing the opportunity.

Holly Foot

YEAR 5 GREAT AUSSIE BUSH CAMP
Permission notes and information packs were sent home last term for Great Aussie Bush Camp. These permission notes are due back and money is now due. Please ensure all notes are returned to Mrs Foot ASAP and all outstanding balances are paid to the office. Last week children were shown how to access the online medical information forms via their school email address. Parents will need to fill in the information and email these forms back to Mrs Foot ASAP as these are now overdue. Please ensure the information is as current and detailed as possible.

If your child takes regular medication or may need non-prescription medication such as Panadol, Travelcalm or Clarantyne, you will also need to fill out and return the yellow medical form sent home last week.

Additional copies of all notes and information regarding camp can be downloaded from our school web page.

Holly Foot
HELP YEAR 6 RAISE FUNDS FOR NEPAL – THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER 2015
Each year our Year 6 students run an annual fundraiser for NEPAL. The money raised goes
towards supporting an orphanage and a hospital fund for the poor in the township of Nepalgunj.
On Thursday 29 October students are asked to wear the colours red, blue and white and bring in a
gold coin donation which will be collected in the morning. Students will also participate in an
activity where they will create a Nepalese Flag using string art.
We look forward to your support

Year 6 2015

RECOVERY POSITION

All our Kinder classes have been learning to place a patient into the recovery position and have
been told as homework that they are to practice this on an adult at home. So when your little
darling asks you to lie on the floor and be unconscious go along with it so they can feel very clever
and can show off their new training.

Mrs Wilson

LEADERS REPORT
This past week has been busy, with the concert and coming back from the holidays. I hope
everyone is focused and ready to learn! The concert turned out to be a great success! I hope you
enjoyed it and tried your best! Good job to the training band and the concert band. Great Aussie
Bush Camp is coming up in week 5 so remember to bring in your notes!!
In the leaders meetings we have been discussing a policy for the leaders who do not fulfil their
roles as a leader and what consequences should there be. Remember your leader jobs year 5 and
not long now until the new leaders are elected and enjoy your week!

Sophia B

YEAR 6 PARENTS’ NIGHT OUT
A casual dinner and drinks are planned for Friday 13 November, 2015 at 7pm at the Cricketers
Arms, 61 Bruce Street, Cooks Hill. Any parent of a year 6 student is welcome to come along and
celebrate the approach of high school for our precious ones (for some of us, our first born).
Please contact Linda New on 0414 341 964 by Friday, 6 November to confirm your attendance.
NEWCASTLE CITY COUNCIL’S PARK SAFE STAY SAFE PROGRAM

Excerpt from letter from Newcastle City council:

“Thank you for your support and involvement in Council’s Park Safe Stay Safe school safety program at Hamilton South Primary School. The officers that attended the school during the program found it very rewarding and were grateful for the positive response they received from parents, teachers and students.

To assist us in determining the success and to gauge the impact this program has had on parking habits, Council has produced an on-line survey to collect the views of the school community. Council will value any input or feedback that you, parents/carers or teachers, might wish to provide.”


INTERRELATE SESSIONS
Interrelate will be holding sessions at Hamilton South Public School on Wednesday, 28 October, 2015.

When kids ask “the” questions...
Interrelate has the answers!

Interrelate is a specialist organisation with over 85 years’ experience teaching sexuality and relationship education in NSW schools. Interrelate educators are highly trained and skillful presenters.

The topic of sexuality is handled with sensitivity, openness and humour. The program offers an interactive approach to learning, with a variety of audio-visual materials, discussions and games.

**Session 1: Where did I come from?**
1-hour session: years 3-6

**Session 2: Preparing for puberty**
1-hour session: years 5-6
Years 3-4 can attend at parents discretion

**Date:** Wednesday, 28th October 2015

Speciality books are available for purchase on the night.
Keep a lookout for flyers (coming home with your child before the program) outlining session content.
HSPS BAND - DATES TO REMEMBER FOR TERM 4 2015

These dates are for both current and prospective band members for 2016

Please remember that next week both bands will merge into the one Band. So from Week 3 until the end of Term 4 all band students will have morning rehearsals on a Wednesday and Thursday morning each week at 7:50am in the hall.

I have also outlined the event dates for Band for Term 4 below for your convenience. It a busy term !!

- **Week 3:** Bands Merge: Extra morning rehearsals - Wednesday and Thursday 7:50am for both bands.
- **Week 5:** Band Committee Meeting Thursday 5th November in Staffroom 6:30pm
- **Week 6:** Thursday 12th November - Both bands perform for Frogstomp and Year 2 in the school hall.
- **Week 7:** Thursday 19th November - Information night for prospective new band parents for 2016 at 6:30pm in the library.
- **Week 8:** Wednesday 25th November - Band Screening day for prospective band members from Year 2-6.
  
  Thursday 26th November - Band Presentation Night 6:00pm in the school hall.
- **Week 9:** Friday 4th December - Both band have been invited to perform at the Christmas Winds Concert at the Newcastle Conservatorium. This is an evening performance and the time will be confirmed closer to the date.
- **Week 10:** Thursday 10th December - Our last performance for the year at the School presentation day.

Kate Quinn
P&C UPDATE
Term 4 is a busy term for the P&C. As well as running the canteen and the 2nd hand uniform shop, the P&C will be holding the Black & White Ball, assisting with kindergarten orientation, running a Band parent information night and a Tamburlaine fundraiser.

The next P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday 21 October at 7pm in the staff room. At this meeting voluntary contributions will be discussed and the amount will be set for 2016. HSPS P&C Bylaws will also be discussed. These Bylaws are the set of rules that governs how the P&C operates.

If you have any items you would like discussed, please come along, contact a member of the P&C or send an email to hsps.pandc@gmail.com.

HAMilton SOUTH BALL
It’s finally ball week! We trust you have outfits picked and babysitters booked. Don’t forget your ticket as it is also your lucky door prize entry. Arrive at 6:30pm for drinks and canapés on the lawn followed by a two-course meal upstairs from 7:30pm. Drinks are included in your ticket price until 8:30pm and from there on it’s a cash bar. Don’t forget the dress code is formal black & white. Finally if you have any requests for our DJ, get in early and email him at djjonathan@bigpond.com

LAST MAN STANDING
Purchase a playing card for $50 for the opportunity to win a fully catered dinner for 10 guests served in your home by the Ball Committee. The prize includes a four-course meal and a case of wine. Relax and let us do all the preparation and cleaning up. There are also a number of minor prizes to win in the draw. If you are unable to attend the Ball but wish to purchase a card please leave $50 in an envelope marked Ball – Last Man Standing with your name and contact details at the front office by this Wednesday. Cheers Kylie Ky_owen@tpg.com.au
UNIFORM SHOP
The Uniform Shop opening hours are Tuesday from 8.30am-9.15am.
DONATIONS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

CANTEEN NEWS:

Canteen Roster: 26.10.15 – 30.10.15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E. Walker</td>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td>K. White</td>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td>C. Downs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Shultz</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>T. Lewis</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>J. Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Shipley</td>
<td></td>
<td>C. Sherriff</td>
<td></td>
<td>Help needed</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

If you are unable to work, please arrange a swap. In an emergency, phone Mary on 0412 451 226 or email m.alford@idl.com.au

CANTEEN NEWS
• Sushi – to ensure you do not miss out, make sure you order online.

• The canteen urgently needs help on the following days:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 21.10.15</td>
<td>9-11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 30.10.15</td>
<td>2 volunteers needed all day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 11.11.15</td>
<td>9-11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 23.11.15</td>
<td>1 volunteer needed all day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 9.12.15</td>
<td>9-11am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Compulsory School Attendance
Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child’s school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principal may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child’s absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child’s school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child’s total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child’s school principal.
My child won’t go to school. What should I do?
You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school’s learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?
It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:
- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child’s attendance at school.

- Application to the Children’s Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child’s attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children’s Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children’s Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court
School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child’s full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?
All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership
The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.
COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The appearance of advertising in our Noticeboard does not indicate Hamilton South Public School’s support or endorsement.