Dear Parents and Carers,

**Celebrating Success**

**Happy Leap Day – Make Every Day Count!**

Today we get to ‘celebrate’ 29 February which makes 2016 a leap year. Some facts about Leap Day from the National Geographic: 'It's that time again: today Monday, February 29, is a leap day, the calendar oddity that occurs (almost) every four years. For centuries, trying to sync calendars with the length of the natural year caused confusion—until the concept of leap year provided a way to make up for lost time. “It all comes down to the fact that the number of Earth's revolutions about its own axis, or days, is not equal to or connected in any way to how long it takes for the Earth to get around the sun,” says John Lowe, leader of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)’s Time & Frequency Division. The solar, or tropical, year is approximately 365.2422 days long. No calendar comprised of whole days can match that number, and simply ignoring the seemingly small fraction creates a much bigger problem than one might suspect. The evidence lies in a long history of wildly shifting dates and accompanying civil, agricultural, and religious chaos. That's why most of the modern world has adopted the [Gregorian calendar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gregorian_calendar) and its leap year system to allow days and months to stay in step with the seasons'.

Have a great day!
Boys’ Cricket
Congratulations to our boys’ cricket team who were successful in their opening match for the season. The boys’ enthusiasm throughout the match was obvious and they are looking forward to playing their next game in the competition. Mr Smith is once again enjoying his role as coach and supporter.

PSSA Zone Swimming Carnival
Our swimmers had a successful day of competition at the PSSA Zone Swimming Carnival. Personal best times were achieved for many and for those students who reached the qualifying times for region will be moving on to the next level of competition. Congratulations to: Charlie W, Alex W, Charlie B, Claudia Y, Angelina F, Lauren B, Joel B, Brock M, Callum P, Archie G, Oscar C and William L. We wish you all the best at the regional carnival.

Mini Working Bee
A Mini Working Bee will be held this Friday 4 March from 9 -10.30. The purpose of the working bee is to clean up the boat mound and area in the K-2 playground. It’s a great opportunity to meet other K-2 parents. Friday 4 March is also Clean Up Australia Day which our school is participating in. More information about the working bee is in this newsletter.

Parent Teacher Interviews
By Sunday morning 182 parents had booked parent teacher interviews using the online booking system. This is a total of 270 interviews. The online bookings close this Friday, 4 March at 3.30pm. Parents who have had, or will be having, a learning support team meeting do not need to book a Term 1 parent-teacher meeting.

School Uniform Shop – Sale – New Uniforms – Sale – Great Bargains!!
We have a number of items of ‘new’ school uniforms available from the school uniform shop. The new items of uniform were part of our stock prior to Lowes taking over the sale of school uniform. Library bags are also sold at the uniform shop. They are $5 each. A full list is included in this newsletter. This is a great opportunity to replenish the uniform supplies. The school uniform shop is open each Tuesday from 8.30 – 9.15am. All transactions are cash/cheque only.

WE WOULD LIKE TO REDUCE THIS STOCK…… DON”T MISS OUT!!!

Sue Estens
Principal
TERM 1 PARENT –TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Parent teacher interviews will be held in Week 8. Interviews allow parents and teachers to discuss how students are settling into their new class and how they are mixing socially with others. This also provides parents an opportunity to share information about your child. All interviews will be held in classrooms and will be 15 minutes duration. Class teachers will provide a range of interview times/days.

The main Interview days will be:
- **Monday 14th March** Early Stage 1
- **Tuesday 15th March** Stage 1
- **Wednesday 16th March** Stage 2
- **Thursday 17th March** Stage 3

A number of parents will have had a Learning Support Team Meeting by then or had already organised a meeting with their child’s class teacher. If you have had a parent-teacher meeting already then it isn’t expected that you book another meeting this term.

Booking an Interview
Interview times will be made available for **booking online from 8am Saturday 20th February 2016 and will close on Friday 4th March 2016 at 3.30pm**. Parents will need to log on to the site below to book interview times with their class teacher.

**http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au**  
**Event Code:** GP9VU

K-6 SCHOOL ASSEMBLY
On Tuesday 1st March, 4/5R students will be hosting our whole school assembly. We will also be performing a short item displaying our knowledge about space. Our assembly begins at 2:10pm in our school hall. Everyone is welcome!

4/5R and Mrs Robinson
**VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS AND SCHOOL LEVY**

Voluntary school contributions for 2016 are now due. These are set by the P&C and are $40 per student. An additional HSPS school stage levy is applied for each student. This is $60 per student across all Stages and Special Education. The levy covers the cost of new readers, specialised class resources and a number of online subscriptions.

Payment can be made by:-

- Cash or cheque (made out to Hamilton South Public School)
- Credit card (Visa or MasterCard)
- Online payment (The payment page is accessed from the front page of the school’s website by selecting $ Make a Payment)

Thank you for your support.

**HAMILTON SOUTH ZONE SWIMMING TEAM**

31 students competed in the Newcastle Zone Swimming Carnival on the 24th February at Lambton Pool. The team consisted of:


These swimmers are to be congratulated for representing their school in a highly commendable manner and for supporting each other throughout the day.

The following swimmers have qualified to compete in individual events at the Hunter Region Swimming Carnival to be held 3rd March, 2016 at Maitland Pool.

Charlie W – Individual Medley, Backstroke, Butterfly, Breaststroke, 100m and 50 m Freestyle

Alex W – Individual Medley, Backstroke, Butterfly, Breaststroke, Freestyle

Charlie B - Individual Medley, Backstroke, Butterfly, Breaststroke, Freestyle.

3 of our relay teams have also qualified to swim at the regional carnival. The teams are

Jnr Boy – Alex W, Joel B, Callum P and Brock M.

Jnr Girl: Charlie B, Angelina F, Lauren B, Claudia Y

Snr Boy – Charlie W, Oscar C, Archie G and William L.

We wish these 12 swimmers all the best as they race for a place in the Hunter team that will swim at the state carnival in April. Thank you the parents who offered to transport the swimmers and cheered for them all day. A special thank you to Miss Jodi for managing the team.
Our School is participating in Clean Up Schools Day on Friday 4th March. All students need to bring a plastic bag and optional gloves on the day. Students can learn more about the importance of keeping our community clean by playing Clean Up the River: An Interactive Recycling Game [http://cleanup.noco2.com.au/](http://cleanup.noco2.com.au/)

Mrs Robertson
Sophie B & Hannah R (Ministers for the Environment)

**ATTENTION ALL YEAR 1 MUMS**
To celebrate the return to the school year, we are having a ladies’ night out on Friday 4 March 2016 at the Mary Ellen. Dinner is booked for 7pm. Feel free to turn up earlier for a drink. If you will be joining us for dinner, please let Tina know on 0418 271 420 by Friday 26 February.

**P&C NEWS:**

**P&C UPDATE**

**February P & C Meeting**
There was a fantastic turnout for the first P & C meeting of the year. Amongst other business, the P & C agreed to fund the following:
- $3,000 to be spent on each of the 5 stages, for additional classroom resources;
- Approximately $5,000 to be spent on a new Smartboard; and
- Band needs including new keyboard stands, percussion tables and keyboards.

**Annual General Meeting**
We welcome everyone to the AGM, which will be held on Wednesday 16 March at 7pm in the Staffroom. Positions of President, 2 Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary and Sub Committee positions will be appointed at that meeting.

**EASTER RAFFLE:**
Once again Easter is fast approaching. Our Easter Raffle will be drawn on Thursday 24th March.
- Your children should have received a book of raffle tickets today to sell for $1.00 each
- Donations of baskets and eggs are needed and can be left at the office up until Wednesday 23rd March. Baskets will be wrapped in the staffroom from 12 noon.
- Prizes are awarded for child who sells the most tickets...so tickets need to be in by Wednesday so tickets may be counted. More books available at office if needed.
- Bring money and tickets stubs in an envelope with your child’s name and class clearly on the front to office anytime until Wednesday 23rd March.

This is one of our major fundraisers for the year, so please help to make it a success.

Friends of Hamilton South
The school uniform shop is open Tuesdays 8:30am-9:15am.
Any concerns about uniforms please contact Rebecca Roberts 0431 747 008.
Below is a list of new school items for sale at the uniform shop

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Number in Stock</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Girls’ Summer Dresses</td>
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<td>Girls’ Winter Dresses</td>
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<td>Boys’ Shorts</td>
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<td>Boys’ Winter Pants</td>
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<td>Girls’ Winter Bootleg Pants</td>
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<td>Sport Polo Shirts</td>
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**HSPS School Uniform Shop – Stock Items (New) for Sale**

<table>
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<th>Item</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HSPS School Bags</td>
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<tr>
<td>HSPS Library Bags</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>HSPS Hats small</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>HSPS Hats large</td>
<td>53</td>
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**Hamilton South PS P&C**

**Mini “Clean Up Australia” Working Bee.**

**Friday Morning: 4th March 9am-10:30am**

**WHO:** Everyone welcome! Come along and get to know other HSPS parents. Pre-schoolers welcome to “help” too!

**WHEN:** 9am – 10:30am Friday the 4th March 2016.

**WHAT:** Help clean up and weed the boat mound and sandpit area.

**BRING:** Weeding tools and gloves (if you have some handy), hat and water.

Let’s get this area spick and span to make it more inviting for the kids to play in!

For more details or further enquires please phone or email Kristen on 0409 609 360 or kristen@jksj.org.
Remember that next Thursday (10/3/16) is going to be our "Welcome to the Band" Pizza Day. Pizzas will be delivered to school at lunchtime for all students in the Training and Concert Bands. We will all meet in the hall during first half lunch to enjoy our yummy pizza. Thank you to Donna B. for organising Pizza Day!

Order forms for the Training Band Polo Shirts will be sent home this week. Payment options are listed on the note and order form. If there are any Concert Band students who need a new shirt please let me know via email or collect a new order form from me on Wednesday from 7:50am during training band rehearsals or Thursday morning during Concert Band rehearsals.

Please remember to tell your in school tutor if you are going to be absent from school on the day of your lesson. Tutors are very understanding of family commitments and school representative activities. Just remember to give them a call, send them a text or email them to let them know so they can make the necessary adjustments to their teaching timetables and (if possible) organize alternative lessons times for you.

A BIG thank-you to Fianna from 1DW and her mum Kylie for their generous donation of a keyboard to our School Band program. With so many new band members this year donations like these are helping us provide much needed instruments to our students. If anyone in our wonderful school community has an unused instrument lying around the house that they would like to donate to our band program your donation would be much appreciated by our students as our storeroom cupboards are quite bare at the moment.

Just a reminder that our major fundraiser for the year - The School Disco, will be held this Term on Thursday the 7/4/16 (Week 11). If there are any parents who like to assist Mrs Quinn and myself in organising this fundraiser please let me know so we can arrange a date and a time to get together and start organising.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or queries at:

Nadine Bell
nadine.bell6@det.nsw.edu.au
CANCEEN NEWS:

Canteen Roster: 07.03.16 – 11.03.16

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>W. Tse</td>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td>M. Corling</td>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td>K. Goodwin</td>
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<td>H. Grace</td>
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<td>J. Schmidt</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>E. Howlett</td>
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<td>G. Burkey</td>
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<td>D. Gibson</td>
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<td>P. Cottle</td>
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<td>M. Edwards (9-11)</td>
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</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

- Thank you to the parents who have changed their child’s class, teacher and room online. To those who have not your child’s lunch is going to their last year’s classroom and children have had to track them down.
- Our frozen fruit varieties are going really well.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Newcastle Suzuki Violin Studio

website: www.newcastlesuzukiviolin.com
Follow us on Facebook.
Supporters of Kaleidoscope JHCH Hospital

Private tuition
Kendells Parade Kambalda Studio
St Columbas Adamstown - Wednesday
St Plus X Adamstown - Friday
Hamilton South - Thursday

Friday weekly group lessons
St Plus Adamstown

Director: Nicole Cox
Ph: 0425 235 436
email: newcastlesuzukiviolin@gmail.com

ATTENTION
Hamilton South Primary School
Applications for Strings 2016 are now open offering lessons Thursdays
Private lessons for K-3
String Ensemble for string players K-6
Contact Nicole Cox for enrolments
Anyone can be a superhero… this is your opportunity!

Don a cape and mask and join us for the inaugural Superhero Stride along the Newcastle Foreshore on Sunday 22 May.

The Stride is an easy 3km fundraising walk for the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service.

The event is open to people of all ages and fitness levels, with participants encouraged to dress up as their favourite Superhero!

There are great prizes on offer for the best dressed Superheroes and heroic fundraisers.

Visit www.superherostride.com for more information
Or contact Kylie Farrugia on 02 4952 0000 or kylie.farrugia@rescuehelicopter.com.au
Say NO MORE to Bullying.

Tae Kwon Do will teach you how to deal with Bully’s. You will develop confidence, self control and respect.

Challenge yourself this year. Come along and join one of our friendly classes with

SOUTHERN CROSS TAE KWON DO ACADEMY
For Men Women & Children
(From 5 yrs +)

Classes at...

CARDIFF
John Young Community Hall
Thomas Street
Mon: 5.30 – 6.30pm

THE JUNCTION
St Josephs School Hall
182 Union & Kenrick St
Tue: 5.45 – 6.45pm

WALLSEND
Callaghan College
Cnr Minmi & Macquarie St
Wed: 5.30 – 6.30pm

DUDLEY
Dudley Vintage Hall
96 Ocean Street
Tues: 5.30 – 6.30pm

HAMILTON
Hamilton South Public School
Jenner Pde
Thurs: 5.45 – 6.45pm

Scan the QR code and check out our website or Facebook us

4934 2806 or 0403 799 981
www.southerncrosstkdo.com.au

Drum Teacher
All Ages

Beginner to intermediate
Afterschool Lessons
Can teach a wide variety of genres and styles
$18 for Half Hour $30 for Full Hour

Call Healey Olsen 0437 031 154 for all enquiries
healsdrumming@gmail.com

Play Rugby in 2016!

HAWKINS OVAL, ALBERT STREET WICKHAM
HAWKS JUNIORS STILL TAKING PLAYERS IN
U7’s, U9’s, U10’s, U12s & U14’s

Enquiries ring Lesa (on 0400 488976) or Gerry (on 0419 488917) or email blueandgold@koee.com.au
Facebook: hawks juniors rugby

Rego cost $150 (only $100 for Under 7’s) & siblings are discounted! - includes club t-shirt, playing shorts, socks and all insurances/affiliation fees.

Season kicks off 2nd April 2016
SONG CREW is
CALLING CREATIVE KIDS WHO
LOVE TO SING!
Year 3-6
COME ALONG FOR a FREE TRIAL
Thursdays 5.00-6.15 pm Hamilton PS (Old Hall)
If your child wants to learn to sing come and check us out!
Song Crew Singers love creating harmony and making like-minded new friends.
It's not 'just singing' - your child will feel proud of their growing ability to sight read music and understand how to create harmony, skills they'll enjoy for life.
And you'll be amazed at how your young singer's voice develops alongside growing confidence as they get to share their talents performing at:
• Newcastle Show (free entry for performers)
• Conservatorium of Music
• Lake Macquarie Performing Arts Centre
• Civic Park with Newcastle Youth Orchestra
All combined with a lot of laughs, in our supportive music community.
Young voices are safe under the expert guidance of Kay Lane (previously Newcastle Conservatorium & Newcastle Grammar) and Benjamin Lambert (Co-Conductor of University of Newcastle Echology Choir & many School ensembles).

BRING THIS LETTER TO SAVE $20 ON ENROLMENT
(offer available for limited time only)

Details online or email julie@julieloganmusic.com.au
P: 4963 2026
0414 848 741 (please text so I can get back to you when I finish teaching!)

LOST RABBIT
Asha is a black rabbit lost from National Park Street, Merewether. Please phone 0427 490 562.