Principal’s Message
CONGRATULATIONS Liz Brilley.

Last Friday, our ‘resident volunteer’, Liz Brilley, was the recipient of a 2015 National Volunteer Award in Education for the Wannon electorate. The ceremony was hosted by Federal Member for Wannon, Dan Tehan. Held in Dunkeld, the event recognised and celebrated Australia’s volunteers who are committed and passionate in their care for others and make significant contributions to their communities.

Liz has been an active member of the Hamilton North School Community for the past 34 years, initially as a parent, then as a volunteer, and currently as a grandparent also. As a volunteer, Liz’s love of literature saw her initially helping out in the library before taking over the library management when the school lost the capacity to staff a library teacher. Liz spends approximately 10 hours a week maintaining the library, facilitating student borrowing and running Bookfair twice a year. Students, staff and parents commend Liz for her tireless commitment to our great school – a well-deserved award.

This week we welcomed three new students and their families, Cynthia in grade 1, Alexander in grade 3 and their parents Rebekah and Neil; and Leela in grade 1 and her dad Simon. We look forward to their involvement in our school community.

We commend the number of students who are continuing to actively commute to school – developing habits that can lead to good health for life. The bike sheds are housing more bikes than ever too!
Upcoming events in the last three weeks of term include:

- Our Gr 6 graduation ceremony on the evening of Monday, Dec 7th which will see the graduates enjoy a meal with staff at Alexandra House before being bussed to school to join with their family and friends in the official ceremony.
- Step-Up Day on Tuesday 8th December which will see students working in their 2016 classes, with their 2016 teachers for the day
- Semester 2 report distribution to parents on Wednesday, Dec 16th

**2015 FINAL ASSEMBLY**

**Thursday, December 10th**

**At 9.15am in the BER building**

We hope to see as many parents and friends as possible at our final assembly on Thursday, December 10th at 9.15am in the BER building. The assembly will include the announcement of 2016 School, House, Music and Art Captains, 2015 Award presentations and the drawing of the Christmas raffle.

This event is an opportunity for our school community to celebrate the 2015 year.

Pictured at left, with our Italian teachers Chiara Gallo and Marco Sartore, are the students who were acknowledged in the Dante Alighieri Society, Victorian Primary Schools poster competition. The students created a poster and wrote five interesting words in Italian about their favourite character from a fairy tale. **BRAVI!** to Adam Cameron - Merit, Sebastian Konrad-Chazique - High Distinction, Isabella Dahl - Merit, Hayley Jellie - Finalist, Landon Sternberg - Honourable Mention.

Today's feature page comes from Grade 3/4M - reflections of the buddies program, enjoy!

Regards Heather

**Grade 6 Graduation**

By now, all Grade 6 students will have received their Graduation notes, and we thank those Grade 6 families who have replied. This year we have made some changes to the way Graduation is being run. The Grade 6 students will be attending Alexandra House for their formal meal. Following this, they will be bussed back to school, where parents and friends are invited to join us for the formal proceedings which commence at 7.00pm sharp.

Please note with the new format that Grade 5 parent helpers are no longer required to prepare the meal. Year 5 students are welcome to attend the formal Graduation ceremony if they wish.

The Year 6 students are very excited and looking forward to an exciting evening. If you have any questions or concerns about the night, please feel free to contact any of the 5/6 teachers.

**Renee Riley, Greg Fisher & Ella Martin**
Parents’ Club News

The Parents’ Club will be selling the following treats after the second lunch bell on Fridays from the PE shed:

- Chocolate Frogs 50 cents
- Zooper Doopers 50 cents

Students are strictly limited to one item each

Christmas Raffle

The Parents’ Club are holding a Christmas Raffle. Halls Gap Tourist Park has donated vouchers for accommodation to be included in the raffle. Information regarding the tourist park is attached to this newsletter. Donations of non-perishable food items or Christmas goods are requested from each family for our Christmas raffle. Items are to be left at the office by Thursday, 3rd December. Raffle tickets have been sent home today. They consist of 10 raffle tickets at 50 cents each. Please write on both sides ($5 per book). All tickets and money are to be returned to the office by end of school on Wednesday 9th December. The raffle will be drawn at the final school assembly commencing at 9.15am on Thursday 10th December.

Uniform orders

Uniform orders placed this term are now ready for collection from the office. The final day for any payment to school will be Tuesday 15th December.

Size 8 summer dresses are currently on backorder with our supplier – our apologies for the delay. Delivery is expected in mid-December.

2016 Grade 6 Polo Shirts

At this time every year the school organises for the current Grade 5 students to have polo shirts printed with a special design for their Grade 6 year.

- Parents will need to provide a clean, pre-washed polo shirt for printing.
- Printing will cost $10 per shirt.
- Shirts will need to be at school by Friday 4th December.
- A note was sent home yesterday with all Grade 5 students with further details.

School Community Noticeboard

The noticeboard in the front entrance area is currently full of information about activities, sports, and community events happening in the area. Parents are invited to visit the foyer regularly to keep up-to-date with these events.

Lost Property – Please check your child has the correct jumper or hat

Kade McCallum, Georgia de Man and Brock Sanders from Grade 5/6 are still looking for their named rugby jumpers. Please check that your child has the correct jumper.

Our lost property basket is overflowing, especially following house sports day. Please check to see if your child’s clothing is in there.
Garden Duty

This week: Hill Family
Thank you to the Emsley Family for their efforts last weekend.
If you have any queries regarding the Garden Roster please speak with Julie in the office.

Runners Club has been developed as a general fitness program to help keep our school community fit. It is held on **Monday and Wednesday mornings between 8.30am and 8.50am**. Children can join in at any time. Parents who would like to help mark the runners passports would be most welcome. Just turn up on the day. **Leanne Wilder**

| 250 Lappers  | Sylvester K-C, Hilary S |
| 300 Lappers  | Kade McC, Arthur M, Archie McK, Will W |
| 350 Lappers  | Jacob H, Archie P |
| 450 Lapper   | Rylan P |

Netball

North Firebirds 22 played Gray Street Tigers 9. Last Saturday we played Gray Street Tigers. The scores were 22 – 9 our way. It was a great game and we are now in the semi-finals. See everyone this weekend! **Laura T**

**Saturday 26th November the games are:**

**Please Note:** At the time of the newsletter going to print we have not received the finalised draw for this weekend.
Following on from the huge success of the Carols in the Grampians in 2014, the event will be back on **Saturday 12 December 2015**, bigger and better.

Over 2,000 people attended the event last year and we expect that this number will double this year!
The Carols are held on the lawn at the Grampians Views Restaurant only 1km from our park! The carols itself are FREE for kids and adults pay a $5 entry fee. There will be kids’ activities run over the whole weekend, these include a monster truck slide, dinosaur play and jump, clowns, show bags and a chair plane ride.
A Santa tent will be set up over the whole weekend as well, available for families to take photos with Santa!

As a Christmas present from us to you we have decided to offer families and couples that want to come camping an exclusive offer!

**Stay with us for 2 nights as a family or couple for only $50 - All kids stay free.**

*a family consists of 1 or 2 adults with kids
*valid for Fri/Sat or Sat/Sun stay!
**Buddies – 3/4M**

**Being a buddy...**

...has been good because we got to **meet new people** and help them learn. – Kane

...has been **GREAT** because we got to practise taking care of people. – Isabelle

...has been **fun** because it gave us a sense of responsibility – Bella

...has been **GREAT**, because I got to work with someone that I discovered had the same interest as me. – Sam

...has been **exciting** because we got to teach them new things – Stormy
...is a lot of fun because we got to create projects with them – Harley

...is amazing because we got to learn and teach them new things – Camren

...is the best thing ever because we taught them how to use the computers for our animal projects – Rylan

...has been fun and exciting – Akala

...has been amazing because we got to help the little kids. – Lily

...has been fun, working together and doing new activities. – Natalie
Absence Note
Name: __________________ Grade: ______
was absent on ____________________
(date/s)
Reason:  
Illness ☐  
Doctor appointment ☐  
Dentist appointment ☐  
Family Holiday ☐  
Other __________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature: ____________________________

Absence Note
Name: __________________ Grade: ______
was absent on ____________________
(date/s)
Reason:  
Illness ☐  
Doctor appointment ☐  
Dentist appointment ☐  
Family Holiday ☐  
Other __________________________

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Doctor appointment ☐  
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Family Holiday ☐  
Other __________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature: ____________________________

Absence Note
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was absent on ____________________
(date/s)
Reason:  
Illness ☐  
Doctor appointment ☐  
Dentist appointment ☐  
Family Holiday ☐  
Other __________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature: ____________________________