Principal's Message

As the academic year comes to an end, it is timely to reflect on what has been . . .

Our 296 students have achieved success not only academically, but also through their involvement in many activities beyond the classroom and school. Staff have once again worked hard to provide quality teaching and learning opportunities to cater for individual differences. Underpinning all their work is the goal of improving student outcomes. Administration and Education Support Staff have also worked tirelessly to support teaching staff and students to provide an organised environment that promotes health and wellbeing.

Under the leadership of Stu Willder, School Council has continued to provide support and direction to ensure programs and facilities are adequate for quality education.

School Captains, Lexie Northcott and Max Kermeen, along with fellow student leaders have provided support for other students - organising activities and encouraging positive interaction both within the school and wider community.

Parental participation in school life is vital - both for program and extra curricula delivery as well as improving student outcomes. Thank you to those who have assisted and participated in many ways, including sporting events, on excursions, on special days, fundraising events and within classrooms.

Not only are staff appreciative, but so are the students - studies show that students whose parents are actively involved in their child’s education achieve higher educational outcomes.

Our Parents Club under the leadership of Cassie Donoghue, although small in number, has been prominent in providing support through fundraising efforts and encouraging the participation of parents in the life of the school and the education of their children.

As our grade 6 students and their families leave us to embark on the next phase of their education journey - all the best and thank you for your contributions to our school community - we look forward to hearing of your future successes.
The end of 2015 also sees the school farewell staff members Lauren Delaney and Donna Moyle. Lauren's commitment and contribution to education at Hamilton North over the past six years has been outstanding – we wish her well at her new school in Melbourne. Thanks also to Donna who has been a valuable team member this semester.

2016 will see the beginning of an exciting new phase for Hamilton North under the leadership of Don Beaton and the school will also ‘welcome back’, Jessica McMahon to the teaching team.

On a personal note, I would like to sincerely thank all school community members for their support and friendship throughout the year. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Hamilton North – a school you should be justly proud to be a part of.

Regards,
Heather

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**2016 PARENT PAYMENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

Due to new directives from the Department of Education and Training, there have been changes to the Parent Payment Policy which determines the amount parents are required to pay for essential student supplies. As a result, the cost per student for these essential items has been reduced in 2016. The school purchases and pays for these items at the beginning of the year on each parent’s behalf - in expectation of parent payment. An invoice will be sent home at the beginning of term one for payment by the end of term one, unless a payment plan is negotiated. Attached to this newsletter is an outline of expected parent costs for 2016.

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**Staffing for 2016**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Year</th>
<th>Principal</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 5/6</td>
<td>Mr Don Beaton</td>
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<tr>
<td>56F</td>
<td>Mr Greg Fisher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56M</td>
<td>Miss Ella Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade 4/5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45A</td>
<td>Mrs Fay Alexander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45R</td>
<td>Mrs Renee Riley</td>
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<tr>
<td>45S</td>
<td>Mrs Kate Steele</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 2/3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23M</td>
<td>Mrs Janette McCallum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23J</td>
<td>Miss Jessica McMahon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23A</td>
<td>Miss Alyce Millard</td>
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<tr>
<td>23P</td>
<td>Miss Laura Pyke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade Prep/1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01F</td>
<td>Mrs Lee Fisher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01K</td>
<td>Mrs Karen Kent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01S</td>
<td>Miss Kylie Anne Shanahan &amp; Mrs Jane Langley</td>
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</tbody>
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**Art**
- Mrs Alison Behrendt

**Music**
- Mrs Kim Pitman

**Physical Education**
- Mrs Leanne Willder
- Ms Chiara Gallo & Mr Marco Sartore

**LOTE (Italian)**
- Mrs Lesley McDermaid
- Miss Michelle Thompson
- Mrs Julie Pickering

**Education Support Staff - Administration**
- Mrs Janet Crawford-Fry
- Mrs Glenda Burns
- Mrs Jenni Neaves
- Mrs Leeanne Scott

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School Leaders 2016

At 2015’s final assembly, held today, the Grade 6 School Leaders for 2016 were announced. Congratulations to the following students who have been appointed as our leaders for 2016.

School Captains: Portia Northcott & Lucas Kyle
Payne House Captains: Paige Kissel & Clancy Willder
Scott House Captains: Will Hallam & Jade Millard
Arts Captain: Jessica McLaren
Music Captain: Allie Burns

The school also takes this opportunity to thank our leaders from this year for the extra duties and responsibilities they have undertaken throughout the year.

Award Winners
Congratulations to the following students who were presented with awards today:
Loats Family Art Award: Portia Northcott
Coon Family Award: Hilary Slocombe
Grade 6 Excellence Awards: Jade Billett-Styles, Georgia de Man, Bronson Hill, Ella Myers, Lexie Northcott, Jacob Hill

ResourceSmart Schools
Hamilton North Primary School has completed the Core Module in the ResourceSmart Schools Program. We have been awarded our First Star – AWAKENING. Next year we will be undertaking the Energy and Waste Modules. Thank you to the 2015 Green Team and welcome to our new Green Team – Karatau Keightley, Holly Millard, Austin Mayfield, Evie Atchison, Jim Kyle, Riley Elliott, Ella Sevior, Harrison Killen and Charlotte McAdam.

Parents’ Club News
The Parents’ Club will be selling the following treats after the second lunch bell on Friday for the final time this year.
Cookies & Ice Blocks 50 cents
Students are strictly limited to one item each

Christmas Raffle Results:
1st – Joey Lehmann
2nd – Porter Family
3rd – Turnbull Family
Book Club & Book Fair – Thank-you

Total Book Club and Book Fair sales for 2015 enabled the school to receive **129 free books** for the school library – a fantastic result! Special thanks to Karen McAdam and her team for their time and effort organising Book Club this year. The school holds 2 Scholastic Book Fairs annually. **Thank-you to all the families who supported the Book Club and Book Fairs throughout 2015.**

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**Grade 6 Graduation**

Congratulations Grade 6 on a fantastic Graduation Ceremony. What a wonderful night we had. You all looked fabulous and were perfect dinner guests. You conducted yourselves extremely well, and we are sure that your parents, family and friends were very proud of you, just as we were. We wish to thank many of our school community who helped prepare for the night. The staff who helped out decorating and organising the BER, the parents who collected and delivered chairs - Heath Riley, Marty McCallum, Jason Shepherd and helpers, Baimbridge College for the use of their chairs, Karla Northcott and Judy DeMan for volunteering their professional photography skills and time and Glenda Burns, who has spent all year preparing and collating the DVD which will go home with the children. The amount of time and effort put into the DVD - in her own time- is enormous.

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**Off Site Evacuation**

On Wednesday morning our school enacted an off-site evacuation. All students, staff and visitors were required to assemble at their assembly points and then proceed to one of our off-site evacuation locations. The school is required to undertake an emergency practice every term. We thank Trotters Coaches for their assistance.
Christmas Star Competition
The Hamilton Christmas Star Competition has been created as part of the Ignite the Spirit of Christmas campaign in Hamilton. Our school has been given 3 christmas trees, which were decorated and placed in local shop windows. Each week the Christmas Star will be randomly placed on a tree in a local shop. To enter the competition, children need to spot the star, and fill out an entry form available in the Hamilton Spectator or in the school front entrance. Entries should then be taken to Toyworld.

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.

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.

Lost Property – Please check your child has the correct jumper or hat
Our lost property basket is overflowing, especially following house sports day. Please check to see if your child’ clothing is in there.
Any items left in Lost Property at the end of the year will be donated to charity.

A chicken crossing the road is like poultry in motion.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lapper</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 Lapper</td>
<td>Mackaylah H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150 Lappers</td>
<td>Jett G, Isla L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200 Lappers</td>
<td>Jesse B, Peyton N, Ryan H, Zak V, Jack K, Curtis G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300 Lappers</td>
<td>Bella C, Ethan K, Kareem M, Ontaj G, Connor K</td>
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<tr>
<td>350 Lappers</td>
<td>Sebastian K-C</td>
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<tr>
<td>450 Lappers</td>
<td>Diesel S, Saskia G, Karatau K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500 Lappers</td>
<td>Rylan P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600 Lapper</td>
<td>Levi T</td>
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<tr>
<td>1050 Lapper</td>
<td>Todd D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1150 Lapper</td>
<td>Clancy W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Netball
Thank you to all the coaches, team managers and umpires who have given their time to help us out during the 2015 season. Janette McCallum & Netball players
All bibs and netballs are to be returned to Janette McCallum before the end of the school year.
A quality learning environment requires continual investment, only part of which is funded by the government. You can help by partnering with us to ensure the best possible educational outcomes for your children.

**Essential Student Supplies, Grades Prep - 6**

Hamilton North Primary School has spent considerable time selecting the most appropriate supplies to meet the needs of our children. The supplies used in classrooms consist of high quality materials at a competitive price due to our ability to bulk order.

In 2016 invoices for student supplies will be distributed to all families at the beginning of the school year. These accounts should be paid by the end of Term 1 unless other arrangements are made. Payment plans can be arranged and can include Centrepay for those families receiving Centrelink payments. Please enquire at the office for more information.

The cost of student supplies will be reviewed each year. Unpaid student supplies invoices from this year will be carried forward to next year.

**Student supplies include:**
Life Ed, required stationery (pens, pencils, markers, scissors), pencil cases, scrapbooks, exercise books, text books, diary, spelling book, software licences and shared classroom supplies as determined by classroom teachers.

**COST PER STUDENT: GRADES P – 6 $130**

**Voluntary Contributions**

Parents and guardians are invited to make a voluntary donation to upgrading our ICT resources and the continued beautification of our grounds. The suggested amounts per child are $35 and $15 respectively.

**Camps/Excursions/Incursions/Performances (optional), Grades Prep – 6**

It is recommended that all students participate in camps/sleepovers (relevant to each grade) and the swimming programs each year, as these are key experiences in your child’s education. Parents/guardians will be advised of costs as they become known.

Each grade will be able to participate in one or more excursions/incursions throughout the year. The estimated cost of these excursions will be $40 per student.

Students will be able to participate in a minimum of two Performances per year. These may be held at school or at another local venue, e.g. the Performing Arts Centre. Parents/guardians will be advised of costs as they become known (estimated total expected cost $15).

**Extra-Curricular and Additional Programs**

Some children will participate in various extra-curricular events throughout the year (e.g. special sporting events). These events are considered optional education items, and are provided on a user-pays basis. Information (including costs) will be sent home prior to the activity and payment must be made before attending.

Families who do not have an immediate capacity to pay are able to enter into alternative and confidential payment arrangements with the school. Should you require information about financial assistance please contact the school’s principal, Mrs Heather Atchison, on 5571 2433.