Dear Parents,

First of all, congratulations to all those students who have been elected as Junior School Council representatives. It is a real achievement to be selected by your peers and I am sure they will all do a great job representing the students and supporting the school through the year. They have already been busy helping with the Easter raffle and they will have their first meeting early next week. Their badges were presented to them at last week’s assembly by our School Council President, Stu Willder.

More congratulations to Shaya Walter who earlier in the term qualified for the division tennis tournament in Warrnambool. Shaya did really well winning plenty of games without quite managing to win a match against some very tough competition. Shaya can be very proud of her effort and achievement.

Still on the sport theme, next Thursday is the Hamilton and District Athletic Sports at Pedrina Park. Lots of trials and run offs have been completed to get our team together and we have about 60 students ready to go. Letters went home yesterday with events listed for each student. The bus will leave school at 9.00am and return at 2.30pm. A reminder that students will need to wear sports uniform including plain navy blue shorts. Students will need to be sun smart and wear a hat, sunscreen and take plenty of water to drink. There is no canteen on the day.

Nominations for School Council are now closed. We have a full complement of School Council members so we have no need for an election this year. The School Council membership will remain the same except for the addition of Renae Porter who will be replacing Kylie McIntyre. Thanks and congratulations to Renae. School Council will have their AGM on Tuesday 22nd March followed by the first meeting of the new council where positions/roles will be decided.

Renovations to the Prep/1 area and entrance area and corridor are going to start over the holidays. The work should make the P/1 area much brighter and more attractive and improve the entrance to the school. There will be some disruption as always with building work but it is hoped the work will be finished by the end of week 1 in term 2. We will be moving the three P/1 classes down to the library, music room and the spare classroom next to the music room. They will be there for the last day of this term and the first week of term 2. Students will use the entrances to those rooms to gain access. When we come back over the holidays the main entrance to the school will be closed. Entrance to the admin area will be through the yard entrance to the staff.
room and down the corridor. There will be some disruption but hopefully it will work out and all be worthwhile.

A note went out this week for parents of Prep students about free foot screening. Please return the permission forms if you wish your child to be looked at. The screening will take place on the morning of 15th April.

Swimming got underway for our Prep and grade one students this week. I went with them on Wednesday and was very impressed by their behaviour and how well organised everything was. Not even any jocks or socks left behind!! Swimming has got off to a great start!

A reminder that our raffle draw will take place at assembly next Friday. More donations would be very welcome and don’t forget to sell as many raffle tickets as possible. The raffle draw will be followed by the Parents’ Club AGM in the staff room. We are very keen to have as many parents as possible come along to that as well.

Enjoy the long weekend and we will see everybody back on Tuesday.

Regards,
Don Beaton

Reminder - Student Free Day
Tomorrow - Friday 11th March - will be a pupil free for teachers and staff to undertake professional development.

School Invoices 2016
Family invoices for essential education requirements were distributed earlier this term. Thank you to those families who have already made payments or returned their financial arrangement forms. Thanks also to those families who have made voluntary contributions to our ICT and Grounds programs. Outstanding invoices should be finalised by the last day of Term 1 (24th March) unless other payment arrangements have been made. As usual, please see Don, Lesley or Michelle if you have any concerns. We are pleased to advise that EFTPOS is now up and running and payment can now be made using this facility, cash, cheque or direct deposit (please include your surname and what the payment is for to enable accurate receipting).

Asthma Medication
The changeable autumn weather often triggers asthma symptoms and students diagnosed with asthma must have their ventolin and spacer in their school bag at all times. We are equipped to deal with an emergency situation requiring ventolin, however it is not our practice to administer ventolin on a regular basis.

School Community Noticeboard
Have you looked at our Community Noticeboard recently?
The noticeboard in the front entrance area is currently full of information about sports, activities and community events happening in the area. Parents and students are invited to visit the foyer regularly to keep up-to-date with these events. Flyers are currently available for AUSKICK.

Rugby Jumpers
Please check for the following missing named rugby tops – Nick Robertson-Townshend & Izack Mayfield
Please ensure that your child’s rugby jumper is named clearly and correctly. Too many jumpers are being found and lost property staff are pulling their hair out trying to match jumpers to children
On Track Market – Volunteers Needed
The Parents’ Club will be on gate duty at this market to be held on Sunday 13th March from 9.00am. We will also be selling our Easter Raffle tickets so if anyone is available to help out for an hour or so please telephone the school tomorrow (Friday).

Easter Raffle
The school will once again be holding its Easter raffle and are asking families to make a contribution to this. Donations of eggs or Easter novelties are to be delivered to the office by the end of school Wednesday 16th March.
Ten raffle tickets were sent home with last week’s newsletter for sale at 50c each (please include a phone number on each tickets and sell both sides of the tickets if you are able). Raffle books and money should be returned to the school by 9.00am Thursday 17th March. Extra tickets are available from the office.
The raffle will be drawn at assembly on Friday 18th March.
The Parents’ Club will be wrapping the Easter raffle prizes at 9.00am on Thursday 17th March and welcome anyone who is free to lend a hand with this.

Parents’ Club AGM
The Parents’ Club AGM will be held at 9.30am on Friday 18th March (immediately following assembly) in the staff room. At this meeting all positions will be declared vacant and will be open for reappointment. The Parents’ Club is a wonderful opportunity for new and old families to get involved in the school community and help raise funds to improve our school.
The commitment is not big, a couple of meetings per term as well as helping to organise 2-3 fundraisers per term, such as Mother’s and Father’s Day stalls, Easter and Christmas raffles and the odd sausage sizzle to name a few. We would love to have some new families on board. Everyone is welcome!!

HDSA Athletics Carnival
The HDSA Athletics carnival will be held next Thursday 17th March at Pedrina Park. The backup day is Wednesday 23rd March. Notices to students of their events and permission forms have been sent home. Students will travel by bus, leaving at 9am, returning at approximately 2.30pm. There will be no cost for the bus.
Participants are to wear school uniform of polo top and navy blue shorts. Black shorts or shorts with logos will result in the student not attending the sports. Please include a hat and bring plenty of drinks, lunch, snacks and sunscreen.

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

| 100 Laps | Archie P, Sebastian K-C |
We are very proud of our school grounds at Hamilton North. Each year we try to continue to expand and improve our grounds to make them a fun, safe and clean place for your children to play and learn in.

To help with the maintenance we have a weekly Grounds Roster. One or two families are rostered on each weekend. Jobs usually include sweeping around our bag areas, under the shade cloth, spreading mulch and small painting or repair jobs. It only takes an hour or so. All materials and garden equipment are supplied which are stored in our garden shed. Keys will be sent home with a school map/plan showing what needs to be done.

If all families help we can have 2 families rostered on each weekend which will make the jobs easier.

Remember, each family’s efforts help keep our grounds clean and safe for your children.

Please fill out the form below and return to the office.  

Thank-you, Greg Fisher

Grounds Duty Roster 2016

Name: ...........................................................................................................

Child’s Name & Class: .................................................................

Phone Number: ..............................................................................

Weekends suitable for our family to be rostered:
Term 2: ..............................................................................................
Term 3: ..............................................................................................
Term 4: ..............................................................................................

Weekends not suitable for our family to be rostered:
Term 2: ..............................................................................................
Term 3: ..............................................................................................
Term 4: ..............................................................................................

Signed: ..............................................................