**HASTINGS HAPPENINGS**

Respect - Responsibility - Initiative - Resilience
Commitment - Courage - Achievement

**TERM 4**
Welcome back to our traditionally busy term full of things such as Scary Discos, Year 6 Fun Day, presentations, reports, Rainforest Carols, Aquathon and parliament elections to cover just a few of the many events.

**TREE WORKS**
Following an inspection of all trees on our grounds last term by a qualified arborist, a number of trees, deemed possibly dangerous, were removed during the holiday with others having dead boughs lopped.

**MATHLETICS PARENT SESSIONS**
Parents who may be wishing to learn more about the Mathletics program operating in many rooms and homes are advised three sessions will be held at the Westport Club next Tuesday (October 14) at the following times: 9:30 to 10:15am, 1:00 to 1:45pm & 6:30 to 7:15pm. The first two sessions will be for parents of primary aged students while the last session will focus on parents of primary and high school aged students. There is no need to book – just turn up!

**ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM**
WOW what a response! 103 students applied for gymnastics and 57 for martial arts and unfortunately only 25 students can be selected for each session. Registration forms for Term 4’s Active After School program were sent home yesterday with successful students and must be returned to the office on Monday.

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**What’s On at Hastings ... Term 4 - Week 2**

**Sunday, 12th**
- Year 2 & Year 4 Dancers performing at Port Macquarie Base Hospital’s Fete

**Monday, 13th**
- Uniform Shop open 2:30pm to 3pm

**Wednesday, 15th**
- School Council Meeting - Port TAFE 6:30pm
- P&C Meeting - Staffroom 7:30pm

**Thursday, 16th**
- **CLOSING DATE** for 3-6 Sports Choices
- Student Banking
- Infants Assembly - School Hall 1:40pm
- Uniform Shop open 2:30pm to 3pm

**Friday, 17th**
- **CLOSING DATE** for Pete the Sheep Concert (K-3)
- Uniform Shop open 8:30am to 9:30am

**Saturday, 18th**
- Boys Night (Locked) In!

**Sunday, 19th**
- Boys Night Breakfast
CONSTRUCTION WORKS
During this term a number of large-scale alterations and additions to the school will take place to improve access for all students and parents. These changes will give disabled access to a large number of areas around the school. The works include:

- Removal of the garden box near the canteen to be replaced with a ramp to enable wheelchair access to the assembly hall
- Removal of the three ‘bean’ trees in courtyard 1 and the installation of a lift from this level to the main corridor in Block 1
- Installation of a wheelchair lift into the library
- Installation of a disabled toilet near the library
- Re-grading and resurfacing of a number of concrete areas around school including the sloping concrete path adjacent to the flagpole

The construction company doing the work, Warebuilding, has agreed to stage some work during the Christmas holidays but some projects will have to be completed during the term causing some disruption to certain areas because of the erection of safety fences. Fences will be erected in Courtyard 1, near the canteen and around the adventure playground and across the concrete near the flagpole at certain times this term. There will also be the worksite accommodation shed that will be placed behind the Sherwood Block. We know everyone will display patience when confronted with limited access and each week we will place in the newsletter the areas that will be fenced in the following week.

ETHICS TEACHERS
Volunteer parents/grandparents are needed to teach Ethics at Hastings in 2015. Primary Ethics provides the opportunity for NSW public primary school students who don't attend scripture classes (SRE) to participate in philosophical ethics classes. We need a new volunteer to teach these classes next year. The classes teach children how to approach issues in an ethical manner and develop their capacity for considered moral judgment, which will enable them to respond more thoughtfully to many of the problems and issues they will face in their lives. Volunteer Ethics Teachers are trained to deliver an age-appropriate curriculum every week and to use the accompanying learning and teaching materials. For more information about the role and the time commitment involved as well as to apply please go to www.primaryethics.com.au or contact Ute Morris (Ethics Coordinator) at hastingsethics@gmail.com

WHAT MAKES A FAMILY?
Strong, stable, cohesive families are at the core of our society but we are hearing from an increasing number of our students who claim they have a private entertainment system in their bedrooms consisting of TV, computer and DVD player. Such exclusion from the family makes us wonder how effectively these families bond as a unit. Parents, not schools, exert the most influence on children so don’t miss those vital years by allowing your child to become a social recluse. Engaging and negotiating with family members is the first step in learning to mix with society in general.

HELP WANTED
We have a single-parent school family seeking the help of a young (very responsible) adult who would like to assist caring for two children (aged 9 and 12) when mum is required to work nights (to 10pm) and the odd weekend shifts at the Base Hospital. If you would like to help, or know someone who may be interested, please email oonaoshea@bigpond.com

GETTING READY for BIG SCHOOL - KINDERGARTEN 2015
A free parent course will be held at Bethel Foursquare Gospel Church, 230A High Street, Wauchope on Wednesday, 22nd October – 10am to 12 noon. The course will be run by Libby Coote, an Early Childhood Facilitator with Hastings Family Support Service at Uniting Care Burnside. Among the topics being discussed is the social and emotional pre-schooler; school readiness; and preparing for Kindergarten. For further information or registration please phone Libby on 6581 6613 or 0467 731 578.
CANTEEN ROSTER ... Thanks for Helping

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BOYS NIGHT (LOCKED) IN - SATURDAY, 18<sup>th</sup> and SUNDAY, 19<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER
Hopefully 3<sup>rd</sup> time lucky and fingers crossed for fine weather. A reminder for the boys re next weekend’s Boys Night In ...

- Due to safety it is **TENTS ONLY** for those sleeping over - NO cars, camper trailers, caravans etc
- Braemar Drive gates will open from 1:30pm and it’s pedestrian access only with all parking on the street
- Leave your mobile at home – you won’t need it!
- BYO tent, sleeping bag, pillow, chairs, warm clothes, beanie, wind/rain jacket, non-alcoholic drinks, snacks and nibbles (to sustain you throughout the night); and a plastic garbage bag to take rubbish home
- Don’t forget your $1 and $2 coins for the “little extras” that will be on sale
- Enjoy yourself!
- Mums and sisters are reminded to join the boys for breakfast at 8am Sunday
- Egg & Bacon rolls on sale Sunday morning for $2.00 each

*If the Weather Gods are against us this time the afternoon and night time activities and dinner will still go ahead but camping and breakfast will be cancelled.*

PORT MACQUARIE BASE HOSPITAL FETE
Our Year 2 and Year 4 dancers will be performing at Port Macquarie Base Hospital’s Fete on Sunday. Students are asked to meet Mrs Johnson at the doors of the Breast Screen Clinic before 12:30pm and you are to be dressed in your Glasshouse Concert costumes with hair and light make-up done ready to perform. If you plan on attending the fete, the groups will be on stage between 12:30pm and 1pm. Break a leg, boys and girls!

**A Royal Trivia Night**

Our Trivia Nights are the best fun and this year’s should be no exception with “royalty” taking over the hall and fantastic prizes to be won. Bookings (tables of 8 - $10 per person) are now being taken at the office for our Royal Trivia Night to be held on Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> November - 6:30pm for a 7pm start! The night is strictly adults only, decorate your table, BYO drinks, nibbles and a candle (lights will be turned off during the evening) and dress “royal”!

The evening is run similar to “Who Wants to be a Millionaire” with the questions and multiple choice answers up on the big screen. We have heard on the grapevine a request for questions to be “dumbed down” a little bit has been made! **Tables must be booked and paid for (cash only) at the office before Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> November.** If you can’t fill a table we will try and put you with someone else.

*Thank you to the Paul Jordan (Sonya & Alex’s dad) from Waniora 5Star for their prize donation.*