What’s On at Hastings ...

Monday, 2\textsuperscript{nd} • Uniform Shop open 8:30am to 9:30am
Wednesday, 4\textsuperscript{th} • Uniform Shop open 2:30pm to 3pm
Thursday, 5\textsuperscript{th} • Kindergarten 2015 commence
• Tea & Tissues for new parents - School Hall
• Student Banking
Friday, 6\textsuperscript{th} • School Band commences (please see Page 3 for details)
• Uniform Shop open 2:30pm to 3pm

and Dates to Keep in Mind ...

February: 
- Tuesday, 10\textsuperscript{th} • \textbf{CLOSING DATE} for Swimming Carnival entries and payments
- Friday, 13\textsuperscript{th} • 3-6 Swimming Carnival
- Monday, 16\textsuperscript{th} • Kindergarten, Year 6 Group and School Parliament photos
- Friday, 27\textsuperscript{th} • Hello Hastings Afternoon 3pm to 4:30pm

HASTINGS HAPPENINGS

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

WELCOME BACK!
We had a damp start to the year on Wednesday but that did not dampen the spirits of the staff and students who are looking forward to another productive year. As the school has grown to 660 students this means two new classes as well as two new teachers. Our two new members of staff are: Mr Ben Gornall who will be teaching 4G, and Mr Jason Kelly who will be teaching 1K. We wish both a long and happy stay at Hastings!

THANK YOU
A very big thank you to our P&C Association who arranged for an awning to be constructed outside Room 2 over the holidays. This long awaited addition to our school now gives our current Year 1 classes a shaded area to sit and eat their lunch. It is through everyone’s support of P&C’s fundraising activities that allows additions like the awning to be built, playground equipment installed, toilet blocks refurbished and student resources purchased.
The first P&C meeting for the year will be Wednesday 18\textsuperscript{th} February (7:30pm) and the first fundraiser will be our “Hastings Hello” afternoon on Friday, 27\textsuperscript{th} February.

UNIFORM SHOP
NEW OPENING HOURS

from Monday, 2\textsuperscript{nd} February
the Uniform Shop will open

\textbf{Monday} 
8.30-9.30am

\textbf{Wednesday} 
2.30-3.00pm

\textbf{Fridays} 
2.30-3.00pm
CLASSES
We are hoping the classes your children are in will be set for the year but there is the possibility of restructuring if we get unexpected enrolments, especially in Stage 3 where our Year 6 classes are on 31 and 32 students.

MOSQUITOES
We recommend all students apply insect repellent before leaving home each morning and packing a roll-on repellent to re-apply during the day. A rainforest environment along with the recent rain and sunny days means the mozzies are out in force!

PARENTAL ADVICE
1. Parents are always welcome but we ask if you’re waiting to collect your child near his or her classroom, not to wait near the doors and windows before three o’clock as our younger children get distracted if they see Mum or Dad outside while there’s work still to be done. Please make a meeting point with your child under the COLA or near one of the pedestrian gates.
2. Parents are welcome to attend assembly on Monday and Thursday mornings but we do ask for you to keep toddlers off the play equipment and private conversations stop for the duration of the assembly.

TRAFFIC MATTERS
1. Our 5 car drop-off zone in Braemar Drive in an excellent resource for busy parents dropping off or picking up children but parents are reminded there is a two-minute limit on your use of this area and you must remain within two metres of your vehicle. Police and Council Rangers do patrol the area.
2. With the exception of picking up a sick or injured child, parents are asked not to use the staff carparks to drop off or pick up their child/ren.
3. Some of our new families are unaware the staff car parks are not a thoroughfare for pedestrians. If parents and children need to enter or exit the school please use the pedestrian pathways and gates and don’t take a dangerous shortcut through carparks.

PEDESTRIAN MATTERS
Next week we will have over 650 students leaving the school at 3pm. To make departures safe and unencumbered for everyone we ask all parents and students to use the following exit area ...
1. Only students catching buses are to use the netball court path and gate
2. Students and parents arriving / leaving Braemar Drive are to use the Braemar Drive gate or rainforest gate
3. Students and parents arriving / leaving Waniora Parkway and Yarranabbee Road are to use the two pedestrian gates leading onto Waniora/Yarranabbee – one near the log and the other towards the disabled carpark.
4. Please use the Braemar Drive and Yarranabbee pedestrian crossings when crossing the road and NEVER call your child across the road!

BUILDING WORKS
Our integration works are almost complete, with the finishing touches being applied over the next few days. These works will improve access around the school for any disabled student or visitor. Two lifts and a ramp have been installed along with a variety of smaller details. The artificial turf in Area 2 near the external toilets has given this area a boost in appearance and safety.

FOOD ADDITIVES
Parents may be interested to read an account of the effect additives had on a young girl, completely altering her personality. The link for this interesting story is http://www.sistermixin.com/additive-free-family-story/
**MATHLETICS**
For our new parents, each class from Year 2 to 6 will participate in the Mathletics program. This is a computer program used in classes to supplement all work in mathematics. The program can also be accessed by students at home, enabling them to practice and also compete against students worldwide. If your child is new to our school this year and has a Mathletics sign-on password, could you send that information to school to enable us to include your child on our class lists thus enabling him or her access. All new students will be included in the free program.

**FACEBOOK**
The school’s Facebook page was created to get reminders and messages out to families quickly and to post photos of students that parents would not normally have access to. We like to keep the page positive and informative for all. Unfortunately, from time to time, a little negativity creeps in. Please contact us directly (phone or email) if you have a problem or you think the school can do something better. Negative postings will be deleted.

**CHANGES TO SPORTS DAYS**
- Kindergarten to Year 4 students will continue having sports on Wednesday. Students should wear their sports uniform and joggers on this day only. The sports uniform is optional for younger grades.
- Year 5 and Year 6 (or Stage 3) will now hold their sports day on Friday afternoons. Friday is the only day Year 5 and Year 6 students should wear their sports uniform and joggers.

**SCHOOL BAND UPDATE**
School Band is open to all students in Years 3 to 6 who are interested in learning to play a musical instrument and who would like to participate in our wind and strings school band program. Mrs Hamilton has advised next Friday will see the resumption of activities. She will start with senior band at 8.00am and then would like to meet all the music students in the hall at 8:30am to organise their timetables.

Mrs Hamilton was thrilled with the standard of the band last year and said they were a fabulous group of students to work with! Parents are asked to contact Mrs Ann Hamilton on 0416 269 296 for further information.

**LIBRARY**
With a cloth library bag, students can borrow any day as the library will open

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BORROWING TIMES</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Time</td>
<td>1H, 2M, 6W, 6B</td>
<td>3B, 2C, KM, KF</td>
<td>3J, 3D, 5P, 5H, 5/6M, 2S, 4G</td>
<td>1F, 2D, KJ, KA, KD</td>
<td>1K, 1/2S, 4P, 4S, 3/4B, 1B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before School</td>
<td>8:40 – 8:55am</td>
<td>8:40 – 8:55am</td>
<td>8:40 – 8:55am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunchtime</td>
<td>1:05 – 1:30pm</td>
<td>1:05 – 1:30pm</td>
<td>1:05 – 1:30pm</td>
<td>1:05 – 1:30pm</td>
<td>1:05 – 1:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chess Club &amp; Quiet Reading</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1:05 – 1:30pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students with outstanding books from 2014 will not be allowed to borrow until the books have been returned or paid for.

**STUDENT BANKING**
Student Banking operates every Thursday thanks to volunteer parent, Steve Long. All students are encouraged to open a Commonwealth Bank Dollarmite account and bank their pocket/birthday money on a regular basis. Deposits from 50c are accepted and each deposit made earns commission for the school. Application packs are available from the office.
Our School Canteen is a member of the Healthy Kids School Canteen Association (HKSCA). As part of HKSCA guidelines our canteen offers food following a “traffic light“ system:
- Green  A healthy choice
- Amber An OK choice most of the time
- Red   Red Light foods are only sold on “Treat Day” the last day of every term.

The canteen opens daily and relies on the voluntary help of parents under the direction of our Canteen Manager, Mrs Lesley Boswell. Parents who notified Lesley they are able to assist on the canteen roster this year are asked to contact the canteen to confirm the day they are available. New parents are also very welcome.

Lesley hopes to offer home-cooked snack and lunch items if more parents volunteer their time to assist in the canteen and which will allow her to cook on the premises. Canteen hours are 10:30am to 2pm and lunch is provided.

**KINDERGARTEN 2015**

Next Thursday, 5th February we will welcome our Kindergarten 2015 students. Parents are asked to please note the following start and finish times  ...
SWIMMING CARNIVAL
Notes for our swimming carnival were sent home yesterday (and emailed today). Parents are asked **NOT** to combine sibling payments when returning permission slips and money. Each child is asked to bring in their own permission note and payment. Payments are collected in class each morning and the class envelopes are sent to the office for receipting.

HOLIDAY READING SUCCESS
Congratulations to our students who participated in the Port Macquarie Town Library Summer Reading Club. The following is a message from the Librarian, Virginia Cox:

*We have had a truly wonderful response to the Summer Reading Club. Participating students were: Max Brockhouse, Audrey Brooker, Lilly Carson, Lorelai Champion, Isabelle Champion, Mackenzie Dawson, Bryce de Silva, Drew de Silva, Ashton Fraser, Toby Fraser, Audrey Greenhorn, Amelia Groth Caitlin Hicks, Oskar Morris, Frederick Morris, Hannah Stewart, Matilda Stewart, Amber Turner, Kate Turner, Lily Turner, Tayah Zapata, Ebony Zapata, Cameron Carson, William Suosaari and Taya Spells. There was a total of 107 participants so you can see that your school makes up the biggest proportion with 25 joining in. This is all due to your enthusiasm and encouragement. Thank you very much. There was a total of 725 books read by your students.*

All participants were included in a draw to award 10 lucky draw prizes and from these - Audrey Brooker was 9th (Audrey read 100 books!!!) and William Suosaari was 5th (having read 48 books). We awarded Bryce and Drew de Silva both a ‘Great Effort’ bag of goodies as they read a total of 190 books between them. Every student received a certificate and a library surprise.

*It is really great that so many of your students came to the library over the holidays and read. We are always impressed with the high flyers who read so many books but are just as happy to see all the others who share their reading journey with us.*

*Thank you very much for encouraging your students to be part of the action. All the very best for the start of the school year.*

HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE
Initial reports from the Hastings Secondary College indicate the first week has been successful, especially the coordination of buses and the impressive time it took for all students to be collected by their buses. It is hoped the early departure will give students the opportunity to engage in constructive pursuits be they sporting, educational, cultural or local employment.

COMMUNITY NOTICES and SPORTS REGISTRATIONS

**Port Combined Netball**   ...   Registration days will be held on:
• Saturday, 31st January – 9am to 2pm at Settlement City
• Thursday, 5th February – 4pm to 6pm at Sportspower
• Saturday, 7th February – 10am to 1pm at Sportspower

Uniforms will be available to order. Registration 7/8 Years is $100; 10 to 17 years $135.00. All new players will require their birth certificate.

**Port Macquarie Junior AFL**   ...   Boys and girls most welcome to join Auskick for 5-9 year olds on Friday’s 5pm to 6pm. Under 11, 13 and 15 play Sunday mornings. Come & Try registration days will be held at Wayne Richards Park on 12th February, 18th February and 1st March. For further information please email pmjafl@hotmail.com or phone 0403 495 903

**FREE Tennis Lesson**   ...   Westport Tennis Club is offering a free tennis lesson. Hot Shot classes are held after school or Saturday morning for all students Kinder to Year 3 students. Years 4 to 6 in group classes. Qualified coaches. For further information phone Mark on 6583 3053 or 0412 834 336.
Port United Football Club  ...  Port United will be holding club registration days on Saturday, 14th and 21st February between 1-4pm at the club’s Dixie Park clubhouse on Hastings River Drive. United will field junior teams in all U6-U18 competitions. Registrations start at $110 for U6s and all entry level players (U6/U7) will receive a free soccer ball and pair of shin pads. Players are also able to register online. Contact the club by email at portunitedfc@yahoo.com.au or via inbox on facebook to PortUnited FC for more information or to receive the clubs registration package.

Port Macquarie FC  ...  PMFC has provided families the opportunity to play football (soccer) in their local community since 1974. The club provides teams in Juniors (5-18yrs), Ladies, Mens and Premier League competitions. New players and volunteers are always welcome. Sign-up online via www.myfootballclub.com.au or visit us at our registration/information days on:
•  Sunday, 8th February at McDonalds, Settlement City from 10am to 1pm
•  Saturday, 14th February at Port Central (near Prouds) - 10am to 2pm
•  Saturday, 21st February at Port Panthers, Renaissance Room (upstairs) 10am to 2pm
For more information on Port Macquarie FC visit our website at www.portmacquariefc.com or contact Craig Johnson 0417 336 785 or Cath Cornish 0419 478 308.

Soul Surfing  ...  Term 1’s Before and After School Surfing with Soul Surfing is back! Enrolments are now being taken for Week 1 commencing February 2nd. The most fun and healthy After School Care program in town! $180 for a 10 week term (1 x per week) and includes school collection (or drop off), healthy refreshments, surf lessons with extremely mature, experienced and capable coaches. Call 6582 0114 or email corey@soulsurfing.com.au to register or ask questions.

Port City Hockey  ...  2015 Registration Day will be held at Port Macquarie Hockey Field, Ocean Drive, on Sunday, 8th February. Juniors 3 to 4pm; Seniors 4 to 6pm with a trial game. Fees are $145 to $165 and includes playing socks. Fees to be paid on the day via credit card of visa debit card – NO cash. BBQ and light refreshments provided. Bring your stick! All new players will receive a Sportspower voucher to purchase a hockey stick, shin pads, mouth guard and ball. Contact info@portcityhockey.com or phone 0427 934 746 or facebook PortHockey.

Hub Drama  ...  Port Macquarie Youth Centre’s free Hub Drama program starts Wednesday, 18th February, 5pm to 6.30pm at the Hub in Horton Street (near KFC). Phone Jai Corr on 0415779240 to reserve a position. Suitable for boys and girls aged 7 years and older.

All Together Therapy  ...  A Mobile Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Pathology service will hold its Grand Opening of the Port Macquarie Clinic, 35 Hollingsworth Street on Saturday, 31st January, 10am to 1pm. Meet the team and explore what their clinic has to offer. A family friendly event with special guests, free jumping castle, activities for the kids and a sausage sizzle.

Acoustic Guitar & Keyboard Beginner Groups at Hastings Public School  ...  Port Macquarie Academy of Music will once again offer affordable beginner tuition groups for keyboard and acoustic guitar before school at Hastings. Students are required to bring their instrument to school on lesson day. If numbers are sufficient, we hope to start a guitar and a keyboard group in week 2 of Term 1. For students who would like to further their knowledge, tuition in piano, keyboard, drums, guitar and/or singing lessons are available after school at the Academy of Music studios, for leisure or examination purposes. Please contact Anne Russell at Port Macquarie Academy of Music on 0412 071 162 or email music_academy@bigpond.com