

Hunter School *of the Performing Arts*

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The Dress Circle

Term 1, Week 8, 2017
"Performing at Our Best"

The Junior and
Middle Years
Newsletter

Good Afternoon Parents and Caregivers,

I can't believe how quickly the term is passing. It seems like only yesterday when students were anxiously beginning their first day of school in 2017 and now we only have three weeks to go. Students are busy preparing for their upcoming camps, working hard in ensembles and learning more every day. The next two weeks will be focusing on in-class time with only a few additional activities happening around the school.

Parents of Year 5 and 6 students will be receiving notes regarding Star Struck very soon. Please be sure to read them carefully as they contain a lot of important information. Final camp information will also be coming home soon.

I want to say a huge thank you to the teachers and students for their hard work this term. It has certainly been a busy one, with so many more things to come throughout the year. I would also like to advise parents that I will be taking leave for the remainder of this term and Mrs Cassie O'Brien will be stepping up into the Relieving Deputy Principal role for the next three weeks. Mrs Rachel Wilson will be taking 6OW for the remainder of this term. I look forward to hearing all about student's fantastic experiences at camp when I return next term.

Parent on school grounds: We still have a number of parents entering the school grounds during the day and heading directly to the Primary Office. To ensure the safety of all students, we cannot allow this to occur. The school requires a detailed account of exactly who is onsite at all times. This is done through a process where all visitors (including parents) enter the school via the main administration building. If you are required to go to any other part of the school, including the Primary Office, you will be issued with a visitors pass and your name and the time of entry will be logged. This is to ensure that if there is any type of emergency we have an accurate account of who is on the premises. This process is also necessary for child protection regulations to ensure that all students are safe at all times.

I am aware that this may be new to parents and seems a different process to most Primary schools, however, with all Primary school, all visitors enter the main administration office before proceeding to any other part of the school. The difference at our school is that our main administration office is separate to that of the Primary Office.

Parents are most welcome to visit the Primary Office before school but **between the hours of 8.59am and 3.13pm all parents and visitors MUST enter via the main administration office.**

Please respect these rules to ensure both yourself and your children are safe at our school.

Term Assembly: I would like to invite parents to attend our end of term assembly on Wednesday 22nd March at 1.45pm in the Theatre. Parliamentarians, Sports Captains and Vice Captains will be receiving their badges, Term awards will be given out and weekly class awards will also be given.

Transport reminders: We have had a number of students forgetting their Opal cards in the afternoon or not using it as they enter or exit the bus. Busways would like to remind students to tap on and tap off with their School Opal cards when they travel to and from school.

Opal data gathered by tapping on and off is used to determine demand for bus services. If students don't tap on and tap off, services may be cancelled due the lack of recorded patronage.

One of the conditions of using a School Opal card is to tap on at the beginning of your trip and tap off at the end. Your assistance will help Busways ensure they are able to provide the appropriate level of service to your students.

Technology: As you are aware, HSPA is a BYOD school and I would like to thank those parents who have supplied their children with a device. Although devices are encouraged they are not compulsory, however many resources are now available via online systems to assist with students' learning. Please encourage your children to bring their devices every day and also encourage their appropriate use in class.

STARS OF THE WEEK

3/4H	Finlay Page
5H	Mia Goudie
5OJ	Ruben Junker
6K	Sienna O'Neill
6OW	Evelyn Parkes
6S	Sean Anderson



It has come to my attention that certain retail stores are recommending extremely high spec computers for HSPA. This is not necessarily the case. In most instances, students are only required to perform desktop publishing and web browsing. With this in mind, the key factors to consider are:

- 5GHz (dual band) Wifi compatibility
- Good battery life
- Minimum 2GB RAM (ideally 4GB)

Laptops with these specs can be purchased for between \$200 & \$300. If you are experiencing financial hardship and would like assistance to purchase a PC for your child, please direct enquiries regarding this option to Ms Janeanne Hardie, our HT Welfare.

Canvas is here: As one of the first public schools to embrace this amazing online Learning Management System (LMS), HSPA is now able to offer students and staff unparalleled access to the latest in eLearning technology. This will be a constantly evolving resource which allows students to access their learning anywhere, anytime. Some of the many benefits of a well-designed LMS include: provision of a one stop shop for educational resources, amazing collaboration and communication opportunities between students and their teachers. Once a course is setup in Canvas, students are given far more control over their learning and are afforded the opportunity to customise their classroom experience to suit their ability, interest, and pace. Teachers are free to work with students one-on-one, *when* they need it. Canvas courses are currently being set up by the Primary staff and will be introduced to students next term. Watch this space...

Printing upgrade: Printing at HSPA has had a facelift. Staff and students are now able to print to any printer in the school via the newly implemented Papercut system. They can also print via email, opening up BYOD printing options, with more to come. All students have been given \$5 printing credit. If top ups are required, students can purchase extra printing credit for \$20. This is available from the front office. With the implementation of Canvas, it is hoped that we can cut our current printing expenses and reduce our environmental impact by making digital versions of appropriate resources available online.

Student Tech Help: In recognition of the tech skills of many of our students, we are trialling a student directed tech support during Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes. Tech support staff and senior students will be able to assist Primary students during their lunchtimes with any tech issues they may be experiencing. We are hoping this will assist all students to be able to use their devices effectively.

Easter Eggstravaganza Day/Cross Country: On Monday 3rd April (Week 11), Primary will be having their *Easter Eggstravaganza Day* including Cross Country, Easter Activities, Easter Raffle, Hot Cross Bun and Drink, Pyjamas and Crazy Hair. We encourage parents to attend and join in with the events on this day. The timetable for the day will be as follows:

9:15am – 10:30am: Cross Country (back field at HSPA) - students to wear their school sports uniform and hats. We would love parents from each class to attend to support their child and to help out with some fun jobs during Cross Country.

10:30am – 11:30am: Recess – students can get dressed into their pyjamas during recess for our Easter celebrations. Students are able to pre-order a hot cross bun and drink to have as a treat on this day. Parents, caregivers and relatives can also pre-order a hot cross bun. Please fill out the form below with how many you and your family require.

11:30am – 12:30pm: Easter Activities – Special Events Ministers will run some fun Easter Eggstravaganza games for students. Parents are welcome to participate.

12:30pm – 1:00pm: Easter raffle will be drawn. Please bring Easter donations to the office before Friday 31st March (more information below).

2:00pm – 2:50pm : Class time for all students with Year 6 students having a final meeting prior to their trip to Canberra.

We hope you can come and celebrate this fun day with us!

Dance News: All our dancers worked really hard on Monday in the Theatre. At the end of the day we shared and filmed their dance works. These videos will become their audition entry for Hunter Dance Festival. We wish everyone good luck. Congratulations to Mick Aranmala and Ned Manning-Lourey who represented our school at the State Dance Boys Workshops in Sydney this week.

HSPA Primary Boys Dance Workshop: All Primary boys are welcome to join our Boys Dance Ensemble but will need to attend two Workshops held at school. One this Term and one in Term 2. They will also need to ensure they have returned an Ensemble Contract prior to attending. Our first full day workshop will be held on Wednesday 29th March in our School Theatre. On this day, all of the boys will need to come to school in uniform at the regular time. They can bring a black singlet top to change into if they wish. Boys can bring a packed lunch as normal or order from the canteen. The workshop will be finished in time for normal school pick up arrangements. It's not too late to join however, we will need to know by next Wednesday to start planning the day.

Star Struck Featured Dance Auditions: This year, Star Struck group dancers can audition for a featured role in Ballet, Contemporary or Tap on Sunday 26th March. Students have been given a copy of the Audition information however, all

the details can be found at: <http://www.starstruck.schools.nsw.edu.au/teachers2/dance-ensemble-auditions>. There are also spare information sheets in the Primary Office. Alternatively, go straight to the application using this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/fOnAlgqs0qjHYdsO2> by Wednesday, March 22, 5pm.

The application asks you to ensure you have the School Principal's permission. All of our existing Year 5 and 6 Star Struck group (Dance and Drama) students have permission from our Principal and do not need to individually ask. The \$20 audition fee is paid at school. Star Struck will then invoice the school. Good luck to all who audition.

Yours in education,

Mrs Karen O'Neill

Relieving Deputy Principal (Primary)



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'What's On'

Term 1, 2017

WK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
9	20 th	21 ST	22 nd PRIMARY TERM ASSEMBLY	23 rd	24 th	25 th /26 th
10	27 th FINAL PAYMENT DUE FOR Y6 CAMP HOT CROSS BUN PRE-ORDERS DUE	28 th	29 th BOYS DANCE CAMP (HSPA BOYS DANCE ENSEMBLE STUDENTS)	30 th	31 st EASTER EGG DONATIONS DUE	1 st /2 nd
11	3 rd EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA DAY (INCLUDING CROSS COUNTRY)	4 th YEAR 6 CANBERRA EXCURSION	5 th YEAR 6 CANBERRA EXCURSION YEAR 5 GREAT AUSSIE BUSH CAMP	6 th YEAR 6 CANBERRA EXCURSION YEAR 5 GREAT AUSSIE BUSH CAMP YEAR 3/4 ZOO SNOOZE	7 th YEAR 6 CANBERRA EXCURSION YEAR 5 GREAT AUSSIE BUSH CAMP YEAR 3/4 ZOO SNOOZE	8 th /9 th

NOTES IN CIRCULATION

- **BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE AGREEMENT**
- **ENSEMBLE AGREEMENT**
- **YEAR 5 CAMP**
- **YEAR 6 CAMP**
- **DANCE UNIFORM**

Extra copies of permission notes are available from the downloads section of the school website :

<http://www.hspa.nsw.edu.au/ourschool.php?id=79>

Primary P&C Sub Committee

Easter Raffle: Let's face itthere really is no such thing as TOO MUCH CHOCOLATE!!!



The Primary P&C Sub Committee are running an Easter raffle.

Year 5 will be coordinating the raffle and treat day and all help is appreciated.

The raffle will be conducted on Monday 3rd April – along with Hot Cross Bun Treat Day. There will be multiple prizes to be won!!

Raffle ticket sheets were sent home today and are also available in the downloads section of the school website if you would like to sell more.

We are also after donations of chocolate/lollies, soft toys or Easter baskets for the raffle. Please drop all donations to the Primary Office any time before Friday 31st March.

Thank you!!

Treat Day: Easter Treats!!!



Students will have the opportunity to pre - order a Hot Cross Bun and drink for Monday 3rd April for \$3. Please bring your money in an envelope with your name and class by Monday 27th March, 2017. 😊

Please return this slip to the Primary Office by MONDAY 27TH MARCH, 2017 if you would like to place a Hot Cross Bun order

Student Name: _____

Class: _____

Quantity of Hot Cross Buns: _____

Total Amount in envelope: _____

Easter Volunteers

We are looking for parents to volunteer on Monday 3rd April between 10am to 1pm. If you are able to assist, could you please return this slip to the Primary Office by Monday 27th March, 2017.

Parent Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

HSPA Primary Easter Raffle

2017

MULTIPLE PRIZES TO BE WON

NAME:

PHONE:



\$1.00 per Ticket

Drawn Monday 3rd April, 2017



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\$1.00 per Ticket

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