## **Howlong Public School Newsletter** Wednesday 16 November 2022

## **Dates For Your Calendar**

Wed 16 & 23 Nov	2023 Kinder Seedlings visit					
Thurs 24 November	School leaders speeches Assembly 9.30am –Parents welcome					
Tues 29 November	AHS Orientation Day & HPS Bookfair					
Wed 30 November	Presentation Day					
Week 8	Dental Van visit					
Thurs 1 December	Swim School starts					
Wed 7-Fri 9 December	Stage 3 Canberra Excursion					

#### **HPS Student Leadership Shout Out**

A big shout out to all of our student leaders including our class SRC representatives on the fabulous job that they have been doing throughout the year so far. Our school staff are just so proud of the way they have conducted themselves. The initiative and proactive attitude that they have displayed has been outstanding.

The student leadership team did a great job in facilitating the Remembrance Day service to the whole school. Oliver and Mikaela represented our school with great pride at our local community service down at Lowe Square.

Last week's student assembly was conducted by our very capable and enthusiastic SRC and, what an impressive assembly it was! The audience was very entertained and blown away with the show case of student talent that was presented. This included the SRC presenting short role

plays on our weekly PBL focus. We all got to enjoyed seeing the following students present their items:

Annie McCormack playing the piano. Mia Howard playing a jazz piece music on the piano.

Beau Lavis strumming his electric guitar Tasman Matthews playing his mandolin

#### 2023 Planning of Staff and Classes

The school is currently finalising its enrolment

numbers and following department guidelines around staffing allocation for 2023. Communication to all school community members will be made once current processes are completed and finalised.

Once the classes have been formed, and the policy has been followed with respect to the identification of student's needs, it is not possible for a student to change classes at the request











#### 2023 Planning of Staff and Classes cont'd

If a parent is concerned about their child's wellbeing or learning in the class, parents can contact the Stage Assistant Principal about the concerns before contacting the Principal. The concern may be taken up by the Learning and Support Team so that support mechanisms are in place for the student if the team, in consultation with parents, feel that it is warranted.

It is important for students' social and emotional development that they make and participate in healthy friendships at school. Learning to make new friends and interact effectively with all types of people is an important part of children's development.

Parents are most interested in their child's happiness, and keen that he/she adjusts well to the new class each year. Teachers welcome any information which will assist your child in this process. Parents are asked to inform their child's class teacher or the Assistant Principal of any information that may support the school in forming classes. This information will be considered as a part of all available information in the process of forming classes. It is not possible to request a particular staff member as your child's teacher.

In 13 plus years of education, your child will eventually find themselves in a class without their close friends. It's normal for them to initially feel a little anxious about this, so how should you handle it?

Tempting as it may be to request a class swap (which can be a logistical nightmare for schools and not always possible), here are some important things to consider first.

Don't rob your child of this opportunity to develop social skills. School is a place where our children learn important social skills as well as academic ones. Finding their place and making friends in a new group is a vital skill to develop and one they'll rely on their entire lives. The classroom is one of the gentlest places to start learning this because:

Teachers turn a group of students into a team every year. They keep an eye out for students who aren't mixing in and create opportunities to pair them up with different children.

There's still lunch and recess to play with their mates. It's also a great opportunity for them to learn about separating social time and learning time.

Lots of their classmates are in the same boat. Everyone is starting a new year, with a new teacher and a new classroom and many will be looking for new friendships too. Some children choose a new "best friend" in every class they have, which builds a rich network of friendships over the years.

Children learn different skills from different classmates. These days there are lots of opportunities for group work in class, when students team up and work through tasks together. Unlikely pairings can produce excellent workmates, who share a common language of learning and help each other along.

Parents and carers can gently help them make new friends. If you can spend some time in your child's classroom, for example, by helping with reading or maths groups, you'll meet the other children and be able to suggest possible friends for your child. Children do like to see their parents in their classroom, and it also seems to fast track their sense of 'belonging'. Encourage play dates with classmates.

If, after a couple of weeks, your child doesn't seem to be settling in or is still anxious about their new class, by all means drop a note to the teacher or make an appointment to chat.

Veteran parents and teachers tell us that more likely than not, your child will be absolutely fine and will have developed a new level of resilience from spreading their wings a little.



#### Mosquitoes and Japanese encephalitis Information

To help you and your family in preventing mosquito bites, the NSW Department of Education is distributing free mosquito repellent, either as spray bottles or roll-ons, to our school students and staff over the coming days/weeks. We will be arranging to distribute mosquito repellent for each student in the coming weeks.

We will also be providing a brochure from NSW Health on keeping mozzies away to share further information with you on how to protect against mosquito bites and mosquito-borne diseases this summer.

Note that if repellent is used at school, school staff may assist in the application of repellent only where parent consent has been provided to the school. Schools have a duty of care to take reasonable steps to ensure the application of mosquito repellent is carried out safely during school hours.

NSW Health also announced that they will be providing free vaccinations against JE for eligible people in LGAs of high concern for the virus. I encourage you to refer to NSW Health's Japanese encephalitis vaccination link for further information and to see if you and your family are eligible for the vaccine.

https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/infectious/jev/pages/vaccination.aspx

For more information on JE and mosquitoes refer to NSW Health's mosquito-borne diseases link. https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/mosquitoes







#### ICAS

Congratulations to the following students who have participated in the ICAS program for English, Maths, Writing, Digital Technology, Science and Spelling.

Lacie and Kai Mount, Beau Lavis, Cooper Kirk, Campbell Steers, Layla Barnes, Heidi and Violet Reid, Blake and Austin Alchin, Muhammad Siddiqui and Toby Kirk.



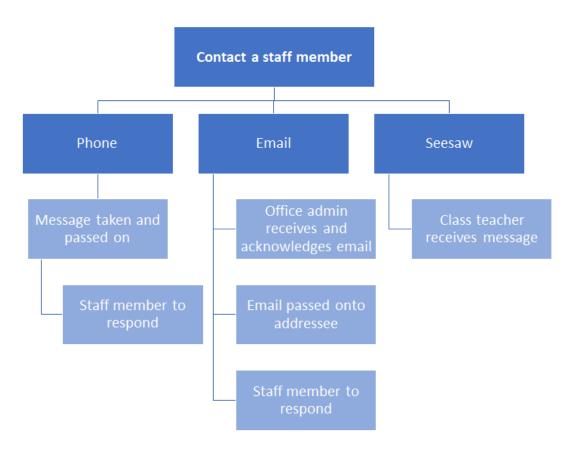
#### Updates From Our School Communication Parent Focus Group

#### **School Contact Procedures**

Our parent focus group has been working hard alongside the School Communication Team to develop a flowchart to provide clear processes for parent and carers.

The table below outlines the procedures when contacting the school. Please be aware it may take staff up to three business days to respond as some staff are not on site every day.

Please contact your child's class teacher first. If you have a concern that cannot be resolved by the class teacher, then contact an Assistant Principal either Kristy Freer (Years 3-6) or Pamela Svarc (Years K-2). If Assistant Principals are unavailable, you may request to speak to the Principal (Bouts Sayasenh).



#### **HPS Communication Procedures**

#### Parents and Carers Compliment/Suggestion Card

Students will be taking home some compliment/suggestion cards in the coming weeks for parents and carers to use if they wish to provide feedback on any school based events and/or activities. The cards can also be accessed from the office at any time. The cards can be returned to school and placed in a letterbox situated outside the school front office. The feedback and suggestion cards will provide the parent focus group to support the school in striving for



### Term 4 Week 4 Assembly Awards:

#### Congratulations to the following students who received a Class Merit Certificate:

Ruby Lord, Braxton Crowe, Ashton Bradley, Oscar Gardiner, Aaron Marshall, Brayden Gray, Grace Thomas, Noah van Zanten, Lexie Eyers, Demi Barnes, Stevie Barker, Amelia English, James Fyffe, Spencer Chant, Kobie Houley, Lincon Forrest, Heidi Reid, Braxton Jennings, Patrick Conroy, Bonnie Forrest, Kai Mount, Kylah Matthews, Logan Allport, Fynn Keeble, Jake Marshall, Ronan Simpson, Will Starr, Oliver Just, Mia Howard, Kaden Saunders, James Baker, Eliza McGregor, Liam Stacey, Charli McNamara.

#### IGA Community Benefits Program

Our school was very grateful to receive a cheque from the IGA Community Benefits Program the money will be used towards resources for our students.

## **KMH Chalk Drawing**

















Last week we had a visitor in the tech hub,

Mrs Freer was able to capture the blue tongued pupil and release it to a more appropriate environment.







## Congratulations to all students who received a PBL certificate.











1/2S





3/4FS







3/4M









P&C Meeting held Tuesday 22nd November at 6pm at The Howlong Golf Club as an end of year wind up, welcome to purchase your own tea if you like whilst we have our meeting.





# **Howlong Public School**

## Term 4 2022



Month	Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun		
October	1	10	11	12 Boys 2 the Bush Cultural day	13	14 Home Reading Session 9am			
October	2	17	18 Home Reading Session 5pm	19	20	21 2/3 PM Assembly			
October	3	24	25	26 2023 Kinder Interviews	27 2023 Kinder Interviews	28			
October/ November	4	31	1 Healthy Harold	2 Seedlings Healthy Harold	3	4 KMH Assembly			
November	5	7 Healthy Harold	8	9 Seedlings Visit	10	11			
November	6	14	15	16 Seedlings Visit	17 Stage 3 Fun Fair	18 5/6H Assembly			
November	7	21	22	23 Seedlings Visit	24 School Leader Speeches	25 House Captain Speeches			
November/ December	8	28 Dental Van Visit	29 Dental Van Visit Bookfair AHS transition	30 Dental Van Visit Presentation Day	1 Swim School Begins	2			
December	9	5	6	7 Stage 3 Canberra Excursion	<u>8 Stage</u> 3 Canberra Excursion	9 Stage 3 Canberra Excursion			
December	10	12 Yr6 Fun day & Farewell Dinner	13	14	15 Year 6	16 Xmas Scripture Service Meal deal			
December	11	19 SDD	20 SDD	21	22	23			
December									

