



Hornsby Heights Public School

NEWSLETTER

Aim High



8-20 Somerville Road Hornsby Heights NSW 2077 | PH: 02 9476 5133 | E: hornsbyhts-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au | W: www.hornsbyhts-p.schools.nsw.gov.au

TERM 1 WEEK 4

ISSUE 40

20 FEBRUARY 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS



SCHOOL

Monday FEB 26: Premier's Reading Challenge 2024 beings;
MEET THE TEACHER evening:
 Kindergarten 5:00pm - 5:45pm
Wednesday FEB 28: MEET THE TEACHER evening:
 Year 5: 5:00pm - 5:45pm;
 Year 6 and 4/5E: 5:45pm - 6:30pm
Thursday FEB 29: MEET THE TEACHER evening:
 Year 1: 5:00pm - 5:45pm;
 Year 2 and 1/2B: 5:45pm - 6:30pm



SPORT

Tuesday FEB 27: Swimming Carnival at Knox Grammar
Wednesday MAR 6: Zone Swimming Twilight Carnival



P&C

Friday FEB 23: Welcome BBQ 5-7pm
Wednesday MAR 6: AGM P&C meeting 7pm



EXCURSION

Monday MAR 4: National Young Leaders Day: captains and senior house captains

SCHOOL CALENDAR LINK:

<https://hornsbyhts-p.schools.nsw.gov.au/school-calendar.html>



ABOVE: Our two outdoor table tennis tables: always a popular choice at breaktime.

FROM THE
PRINCIPAL

KINDERGARTEN SETTLING IN

We are so impressed with the way our Kindergarten students have settled into school life. The weather in the mornings of late, has not been ideal, but our students still arrived with a smile on their faces, ready to learn and make new friends. Well done Kindy!

School Paid Parent Session - Don't miss out

URSTRONG's whole-school friendship strategy has improved the social climate in schools around the world, connecting over a million kids, parents, and teachers with a common language of friendship. We are proud to use some of the resources and language, empowering your children with friendship skills through their award-winning Friendology curriculum.

Continued on Page 2.

"Every successful individual knows that his or her achievement depends on a community of people working together".

PRINCIPAL'S QUOTE OF THE DAY
Anon.

Continued From Page 1

You are invited to attend an ONLINE Language of Friendship parent-child workshop on Tuesday 19 March at 6:30pm AEDT. Tyson Greenwood (Director of URSTRONG) will teach you and your child/ren skills + language to foster healthy, feel-good friendships.

Click Here to Register

You will receive an email immediately after registering with the zoom details. If an email doesn't land in your inbox, be sure to check your junk folder. We believe that empowering our students with these skills will create a culture of kindness at our school and we hope you can attend. The school is paying for parents and students to attend. Please come along online!

[LINK](#)

Zone Tennis Trials

Zone Tennis trials took place last week at Mills Park tennis courts. Although it was a bit damp and soggy, students still managed to complete all rounds of the boys and girls trials. Congratulations to all our students who tried out for this event and well done to Aaradhya S. who will be progressing through to the Sydney North trials on Friday 8 March at Gosford Tennis Club.

'Short Stay' /Kiss and Collect Pick Up Zone

The school has a 'Short Stay'/Kiss and Collect zone that has been set up outside the school on Somerville Road. This is an area where you can collect your child from in the afternoon without getting out of your car. Students line up with the Principal or an Assistant Principal at the front gate. Cars are to line up in the "Short Stay" zone and display a large neatly written and clear name shield of your child in the passage side window. Your child/ren's names will be called out on a microphone and they will then get themselves into the car. Please do not get out of the car and make sure you move up the line as each car moves on. If there is no space in the "Short Stay" zone, you will need to either move up to the 15 minute parking section or go around the block and then return to the line. If your child is unable to get themselves into the car, without you getting out, then you will have to park your car elsewhere and pick up your child by foot. If you are in the line and you do not have a name shield, you will be asked to park and collect your child. This system was set up to be smooth and quick and we require your assistance to ensure it stays that way so that we do not block other drivers or create dangerous situations for others.

COVID-19

Unfortunately COVID-19 is still circulating in the community. We can all minimise the spread of COVID-19 and other respiratory diseases by maintaining good hygiene practices at home and work. Our COVID-19 baseline measures will continue in 2024 to help reduce the risk of transmission among students and staff. Please remind your colleagues and school community to:

- Stay home if unwell, and do not return until symptom-free
- Make sure vaccinations are up to date
- Practice good hygiene by washing hands often

2024 Year 3 and 5 NAPLAN

Each year the National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is undertaken by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. Students will participate in tests for writing, reading, conventions of language (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. NAPLAN 2024 will take place from Wednesday 13 March to Monday 25 March. NAPLAN is just one part of our school learning assessment program. The tests assess literacy and numeracy skills your child is already learning at school. In preparation for NAPLAN, our school will undertake activities to help students become familiar with the format and functionality of the online tests. These activities are not an assessment of student ability and will not be marked. Excessive preparation for NAPLAN is not required nor recommended. The public demonstration site (<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>) is available to see the types of questions, tools and functions used in the NAPLAN tests.

Further information about NAPLAN is available on the NESA website (c).

[LINK](#)

If you have any questions about NAPLAN, please contact your child's teacher.

Social Light Positions

Thank you to the wonderful people that have signed up as being class Social Lights. Many classes are still looking for their Social Light! Social Lights lead the way with planning and arranging class/year/stage get-togethers for our students and families to stay connected and supported socially! If you would like to be a class Social Light please read the expression of interest form seen later in the Newsletter. We currently have a Social Light for classes 1RT, 1S, 3C, 3/4P, 4G,6R and 6W.

Assemblies

K-2 and 3-6 will have short assemblies to acknowledge their achievements in front of their peers and teachers and to receive important messages. Assemblies are very short and run on an alternate week each Thursday at 2:30-3:00pm. K-2 meet every odd week and 3-6 every even week. Assemblies will start in Week 8 of this term (we are currently sitting in Week 4 of the term).

Cryptosporidiosis and Swimming Carnival Information

NSW Health has advised of very high rates of cryptosporidiosis, a diarrhoeal disease, in the community. The main symptom of cryptosporidiosis is watery diarrhoea and stomach cramps. Fever, vomiting and loss of appetite occur less commonly. Most healthy people will recover within 3-7 days, although symptoms can persist for up to 30 days. Pools are of significant concern because they are a potential source of outbreaks affecting many people. Cryptosporidium is not easily destroyed by chlorine at the normal operating concentrations found in pools. To mitigate transmission risk at our upcoming school swimming carnivals, students experiencing gastrointestinal symptoms such as diarrhea within

2 weeks prior to the event will not be allowed in the water.

Parents/carers are to **inform the school** if your child is experiencing, or has experienced in 2 weeks prior to the carnival, gastrointestinal symptoms such as diarrhoea.

Students are reminded to wash hands regularly with soap and water and avoid swallowing pool water to further reduce transmission risk. More information on cryptosporidiosis can be found here:

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Pages/cryptosporidiosis.aspx>

[LINK](#)



By **KATRIN CORNELL**
Hornsby Heights Public School
PRINCIPAL



INITIALIT

We are into our third week of InitialLit instruction in K-2 classrooms. InitialLit is a research-based program developed by an organisation called MultiLit.

InitialLit addresses reading, spelling and writing by:

- Actively teaching the relationships between sounds and letters
- Building vocabulary and comprehension skills through quality children's books
- Giving children lots of practice in reading, handwriting, spelling and writing activities

There are two skills involved in reading:

- The ability to "lift the words off the page" (decode)
- The ability to understand (comprehension)

Being able to "lift the words off the page" requires children to understand the relationships between sounds and letters (the alphabetic code).

Being able to comprehend requires children to

understand the meanings of words and how words work together.

We have spent the first few weeks completing 'screeners' on every child in K-2 so we can clearly see where each student currently is on their journey to master the alphabetic code and in fluent reading where they can attend to meaning effortlessly. This has been so valuable in ensuring we are adapting lessons to cater for the varied needs within our classrooms.

Our 'on the mat' component is approximately 20 minutes of explicit instruction in the alphabetic code.

In Kindergarten, we firstly focus on words within a sentence, moving to syllables in a word and rhyming activities. Next week we begin learning letters and sounds with characters and actions.

In Year 1, we explore more advanced letter-sound relationships eg. 'o' and 'a' together say /oa/, reading longer words, grammar concepts, spelling, writing and handwriting.

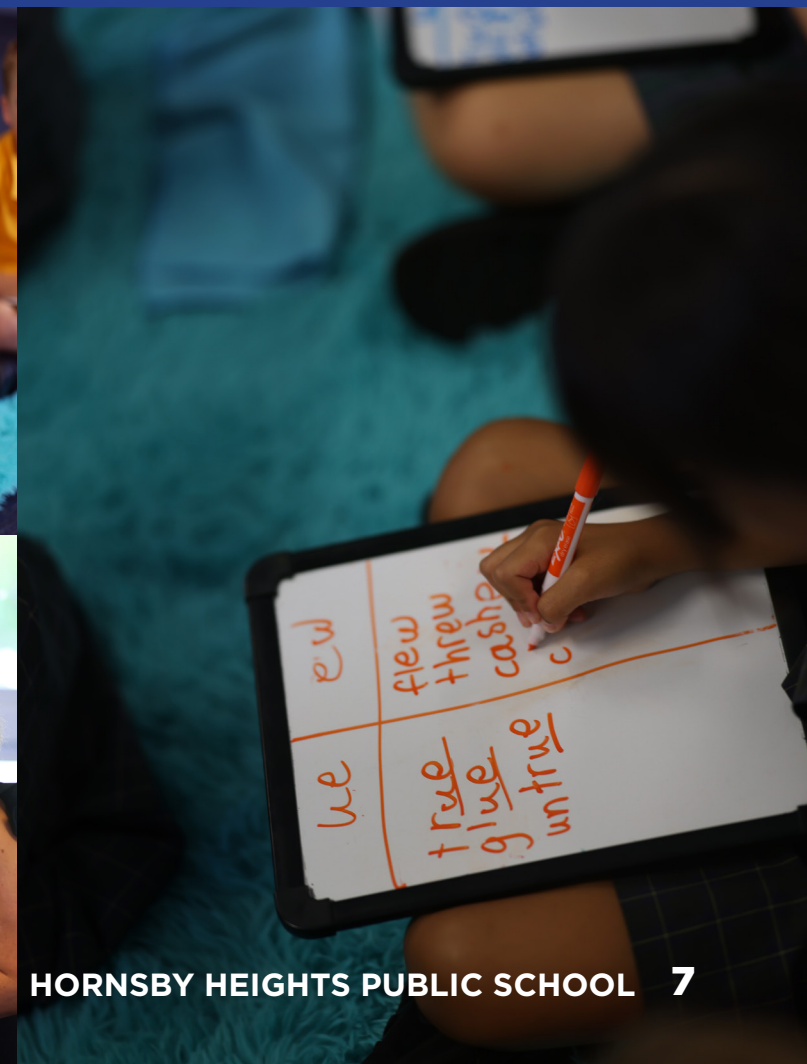
By Year 2, most children will be well on their way to reading independence, so the focus shifts to reading comprehension, fluency, spelling, grammar and vocabulary.



ew
 dew
 blew
 new
 knew



InitialLit: Mrs Nicole Tudor and her class





InitialLit: Miss Chatburn (KC), Mrs Giaquinto (2G) and Mrs Baker (1/2B) putting the program into action.





LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN YEAR 4

This year, Year 4 students have an opportunity to take on a leadership role. Each week, a group of students volunteer to take responsibility for cleaning up the COLA areas after eating times. They are doing a wonderful job and take pride in what they do so we can all enjoy our school environment and help protect the birds from eating potentially dangerous items.

Well done Year 4 leaders!

By **SOPHIE CROAN**
Hornsby Heights Public School
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



Hornsby Heights Public School Interested in being a Class Social Light for 2024?

This year we are continuing with our parent social network system in the school in order to help 'shine a light' on the social side of being part of a school community. We have deliberately made the name "Social Light" a fun one as it is a very enjoyable and lively role!

Role of the Class Social Light

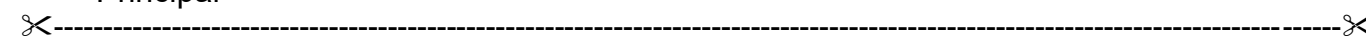
Each class will have one or two parents who take on the role of Class Social Light for the year. This is a voluntary position, the focus of which is to build community spirit through organising small social events for each class or you can even get together and arrange something within the grade or stage. It can be an event as simple as a play in the park!

We ask that all parent communication regarding social events is arranged through email (this will be discussed at our first introductory meeting). The role is purely a social role as the school will be responsible for engaging parent help or support for stage and school based events. You may be asked to assist with rallying up support or sending out information for some whole school events such as Open Day or World Teacher's Day and collecting a class list of contact numbers for the class.

All communication that goes out via the classes needs to be communicated first to the class teacher/s.

If you are interested in being a Social Light, please complete the tear off slip below and return to your child's teacher/s. Note: If we are inundated with volunteers then we will pick names out of a hat.

Katrin Cornell
Principal



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST Interested in being a Class Social Light for 2024?

Please return to your child's classroom teacher/s by Wednesday 14 February, 2024

Yes, I would like to volunteer to be Social Light for Class _____
(Child's Class)

Your Name: _____

Child's Name: _____

Contact No: _____

Email: _____

THE LANGUAGE OF

FRIENDSHIP!



YOU ARE INVITED!

TUESDAY 19 MARCH

in the

URSTRONG CLASSROOM ONLINE

START TIMES BY

TIMEZONE:

6:30pm AEDT

6:00pm ACDT

5:30pm AEST

This 75-minute workshop gives kids, parents, and teachers a common “language” for talking about friendships. Through interactive parent-child activities, parents at URSTRONG SCHOOLS will learn strategies to support their child in fostering healthy, feel-good friendships.



Tickets are generously paid for by your school.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!

urstrong.com/events



SCHOOL GROUNDS WHAT'S NEW

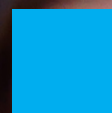
Thank you to the ECO garden team members and especially Simon and Neil for the new flooring in the Eco Garden BBQ area installed over the Christmas break.

We also had two new toilets installed in the administration area.



Galston House Captains:

Thomas H. (Senior)
Taj R.
Oliver K. (Junior)
Poppy G.



Crosslands House Captains:

Lachlan H. (Senior)
Violetta K.
Jacob O. (Junior)
Sophie F.



Somerville House Captains:

Samuel T. (Senior)
Lucas B.
Joshua C. (Junior)
Eloise B.



Wiseman House Captains:

Aaradhya S. (Senior)
Jasmine P.
Xavier C. (Junior)
Max F.

HORNSBY HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL

SPORTS

CAPTAINS

2024 SPORTING HOUSES





LIBRARY LESSON

Everyone deserves to feel safe at school



Please treat our staff and students with **kindness and respect**



Aggressive behaviour will **not be tolerated**



Together, we can create a **safe and harmonious environment** for our students and staff



The HHPS P&C wish to invite you to the

2024 WELCOME BBQ

When Friday 23rd February
Time 5pm - 7pm
Where HHPS School oval

FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE + HOT DOGS
FREE POPCORN* & SNOWCONES*
FREE TREATS FROM THE CANTEEN



• Vegetarian and Gluten Free options available.



- *POPCORN & SNOWCONES Limit 1 per person
- This is a child-friendly P&C run event on school grounds with the permission of the Principal.
- Children must be accompanied by an adult

THIS IS A FREE EVENT FOR THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

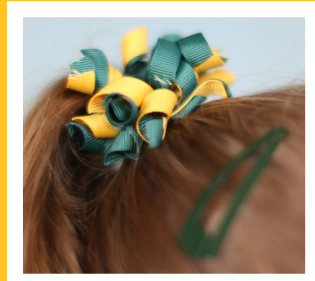
RSVP ON QKR FOR CATERING PURPOSES BY FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY



We look forward to seeing you there.

Summer Uniform

HORNSBY HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL



Girls

- Bottle green/navy/yellow plaid check dress
- Bottle green culottes and gold polo shirt
- Bottle green jacket, sloppy joe or jumper
- White short socks (socks must be visible)
- Black school shoes

Boys

- Gold short sleeve polo shirt
- Grey shorts
- Grey short socks with green/gold band
- Bottle green jacket, sloppy joe or jumper
- Black school shoes

Sports Uniform

HORNSBY HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL



Girls

- Bottle green shorts
- Polo shirt in house colour
- Sports shoes and white socks
- Green track pants (in winter)

Boys

- Bottle green shorts
- Polo shirt in house colour
- Sports shoes and white socks
- Green track pants (in winter)

HHPS TRIAL EATING TIME CHANGES

TERM 1 2024

Lunch Play 11:10am - 11:40am

Lunch Eating Time 11:40am - 11:55am

Term 1 - Canteen lunch orders only (no counter sales)

Recess Play 1:40pm - 2:00pm

Recess Eating Time 2:00pm - 2:10pm

Term 1 - Canteen over counter sales at Recess



HHPS Trial Lunch Time Changes

WHY?

- improves concentration and behaviour
- allows children to settle before returning to class
- reduces litter and food wastage
- no running on full stomachs
- Term 1 trial

**PLAY FIRST
THEN EAT**



HHPS Band Committee

HOT CROSS BUNS FUNDRAISER!

Enjoy delicious Bite Me Bakehouse hot cross buns!

\$9.50 / 6 pack
(choose from traditional, choc chip, apple & blueberry or cinnamon)

Orders via QKR only by Friday 15th March (midnight) for delivery to your child's class on Thursday 28th March.

The Canteen is glad to be back in full swing for 2024. Bear with us while we work out how the new lunch and recess times work best. Due to the changes, **frozen items will only be available at recess** via QKR! pre-order or over the counter cash sales

COMING SOON

Term 1 SPECIAL FOOD DAY
Week 7, Tuesday 12th March
Stay tuned for more information

Celebrate birthdays at school with our **BIRTHDAY BUCKETS** one iceblock for each child in the class

The Canteen will be CLOSED on Friday 23rd February



WEEK	9am - 11am	11am - 1pm	1:30pm - 2:30pm
WEEK 4 Mon 19th Feb Wed 21st Feb Fri 23rd Feb	Julie L/ Christine Amanda K / HELP CLOSED	Julie / HELP Amanda K / Anne L CLOSED	Julie Amanda K CLOSED
Week 5 Mon 26th Feb Tues 28th Feb Fri 1st Mar	Christine / Melanie B HELP / HELP Emily H / Esha/ HELP	HELP / HELP HELP / HELP Emily H / Ash H / HELP	Help Help Emily H / Leanne
Week 6 Mon 4th Mar Tues 6th Mar Fri 8th Mar	Julie L/ Christine HELP / HELP Michelle M / HELP / HELP	Julie / HELP Louise M / Monique W Michelle M / HELP / HELP	Julie HELP Michelle M / Naomi

<https://signup.zone/hhps-canteen>

SIGN UP!

Dates for 2024

TERM 1

Tuesday 30 January 2024	Staff Development Day
Wednesday 31 January 2024	Staff Development Day
Thursday 1 February 2024	Students Years 1 - 6 return to school
Tuesday 6 February 2024	Kindy starts
Friday 12 April 2024	Last Day of Term 1

TERM 2

Monday 29 April 2024	Staff Development Day
Tuesday 30 April 2024	Students return
Friday 5 July 2024	Last Day of Term 2

TERM 3

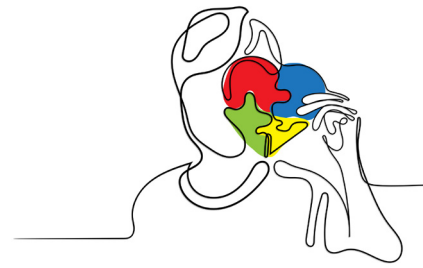
Monday 22 July 2024	Staff Development Day
Tuesday 23 July 2024	Students return
Friday 27 September 2024	Last Day of Term 3

TERM 4

Monday 14 October 2024	Students return
Wednesday 18 December 2024	Last day of Term 4 for students

Webinar: Navigating Autism at home and at school

There are growing numbers of children and young people receiving a diagnosis of autism or other forms of neurodivergence. Early identification provides the key to greater outcomes in school, home and life.



Professor Tony Attwood will help provide an understanding and strategies to help you guide your child or young person so that they can navigate their environment and increase their potential. With a career spanning five decades, Professor Tony Attwood is considered to be one of the world's foremost experts on autism.

Topics covered in this webinar include:

- **What is Autism/The Spectrum/Asperger's. Are there differences? What do these terms mean?**
- **Where does mental health sit with autism?**
- **Strategies to help in your home and everyday life**
- **How parents/carers and schools can work together for positive outcomes**
- **Strategies for approaching behaviours at school**
- **Kids working alongside neurotypicals at school. What does and should this look like in the classroom**

To register: <https://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/whats-on/navigating-autism-home-and-school>

This event is an initiative of Northern Region Network of Councils, organised by Northern Beaches Council and supported by Lane Cove Council, Mosman Council, North Sydney Council, City of Ryde Council, Willoughby Council, Hornsby Council and Ku-ring- gai Council.



Safe Haven

A calm, culturally-sensitive and non-clinical setting staffed by trained peer workers and mental health professionals to support young people experiencing suicidal distress.

Feeling overwhelmed?

If you are a young person (12-17 years) who is experiencing suicidal distress, come to the Safe Haven and have a chat with people who understand.

Safe Haven is a friendly, non-clinical place where everyone is welcome and you won't be judged.

Have a chat, have a tea or coffee, join in an activity or just relax in a welcoming environment.

Find out about support services that are available to meet your needs.

You can choose what's right for you. It's about choice and control.

No referral or medicare required. No costs involved.

OPEN Mon-Sun 4.00pm to 8.00pm
LOCATION 59 Wicks Road, North Ryde NSW 2113 (Macquarie Hospital, Building 72, near Gate 1)

CONTACT 02 8877 4537

If you have immediate concerns for the safety of yourself or someone you know, please call 000 for immediate support.



LOCATION QR CODE

Exceptional Learning Opportunities for Boys



OPEN NIGHT

Monday 11 March 2024
4-6pm

- Ask questions of our Principal, School Executive, Staff and Student Leaders.
- Experience a taste of all that Asquith Boys High School has to offer.
- Learn about the wide range of extra-curricular and additional programs available to our students.

REGISTER
TO
ATTEND

To attend this event please register by emailing asquithboy-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au your name, contact details & number attending.

ENRICHMENT CLASS

Year 7 2025

APPLY
NOW

Asquith Boys High School is offering places in their 2025 Year 7 Enrichment Class.

The Enrichment Class caters for students who are talented in literacy and numeracy, providing challenging extension opportunities that include creative and critical thinking.

Applications are now open. For an application package please go to the school website www.asquithboy_h.schools.nsw.gov.au



Peats Ferry Rd, Asquith Phone: 9477 3508 www.asquithboy-h.schools.nsw.gov.au

Leadership, Citizenship, Science, Technology, Creative Arts and Sporting Excellence



TUESDAY
27 FEBRUARY 2024

OPEN NIGHT

5.30PM TO 8.30PM



OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET WITH OUR
TEACHERS, SEE EXCITING FACULTY DISPLAYS,
JOIN GUIDED TOURS AND ATTEND A
Q & A SESSION



2024 COMMUNITY GRADING DAY

MINIROOS (U6 - U11 Mixed & Girls)
25TH FEBRUARY 2024

Mixed U6 - 10am to 11am
Mixed U7 - 11am to 12pm
Mixed U8 - 12pm to 1pm
Mixed U9 - 1pm to 2pm
Mixed U10/U11 - 2pm to 3pm

Girls G08/G09 - 11am to 12pm
Girls G10/G11 - 12pm to 1pm

All grading sessions will take place at Mills Park Chemsford Road, Asquith
Please arrive 15 mins before your allocated time to check in.
Don't forget your football boots, shin pads, water and sunscreen.

PLAY MINI RUGBY

GIRLS AND BOYS AGE 5-9



Under 6 & Under 7

Play TriTag - a non contact version of rugby with 5(U6) or 6(U7) players per team for maximum involvement. Bring your mates and form your own team!



SCAN ME

Under 8 & Under 9

Play tackle rugby with hybrid laws to encourage equal participation by all players. Teams of 7 (U8) and 10 (U9) players.

Free Gifts

Register now to receive a free personalised Minis Rego Pack* and a Waratahs Membership. All players also receive Hornsby Lions Shorts, Socks and Training Tee with rego.
*T&Cs apply

Training

Training is on Friday nights at Mark Taylor Oval, Waitara

Girls and Boys

Rugby is an inclusive sport. We encourage both girls and boys to play

FOR EVERY U6 PLAYER REGISTERED IN 2024

TO INSPIRE OUR NEXT GENERATION OF SOCCEROOS & MATILDAS

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY OUR
2024 CLUB PARTNER
VETO SPORTS

SPECIAL OFFER

\$100 REGISTRATION CREDIT



REGISTER AT
HHFC.MAJESTRI.COM.AU/WINTER-SEASON-2024



ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS ALSO ACCEPTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THIS OFFER



» Sign up today

www.hjruc.com.au/registration



NSW PRIMARY SCHOOL 7'S SYDNEY NORTH



Wednesday 15 May
8:30 am - 3:30 pm
Venue: Pittwater Rugby Park

The event will run over 2 Year groups:

- Year 3 & 4 students
- Year 5 & 6 students
- Separate boys' and girls' competitions planned by NSW Rugby, contingent on registrations.
- Winners move on to NSW State Championship finals held before a Waratahs game

All registrations & enquiries email: Luke.Hurditch@nsw.rugby

REGISTER HERE

