



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 4 WEEK 10

ISSUE 57

17 DECEMBER 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS



SCHOOL

Wednesday DEC 18: Last day of term for students

Friday JAN 31: Staff Development Day

Monday FEB 3: Staff Development Day

Tuesday FEB 4: Staff Development Day

Wednesday FEB 5: Staff Development Day

Thursday FEB 6: All K-6 students start school



ABOVE: Our wonderful ushers on a very special day: Presentation Day Tuesday 11 Dec.

FROM THE
PRINCIPAL

THANK YOU FOR A GREAT YEAR

As we approach the end of an incredibly productive school year, I want to take a moment to reflect on all that we have achieved together. From our engaging classroom activities to the wonderful events that brought our community closer, it has been a year filled with growth, learning, and memorable experiences. I am so proud of our students for their hard work and dedication, and grateful to our staff for their unwavering commitment to providing a nurturing and inspiring environment for our children. Thank you to our families for your support and involvement, which plays a vital role in our school community.

As we head into the holiday break, I encourage everyone to take this time to relax, recharge, and enjoy precious moments with

Continued on Page 2.

SCHOOL CALENDAR LINK:

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

“Education is the foundation upon which we build our future.”

Christine Gregoire

Continued From Page 1

family and friends. It's important to embrace this opportunity for some well-deserved rest!

School will commence for all K-6 students on Thursday, 6 February 2025. We look forward to welcoming everyone back, refreshed and ready for another exciting year of learning and growth. Wishing you all a wonderful holiday season!

Presentation Day

We celebrated our 2024 learning at Presentation Day last week. We praised the accomplishments of all students with teachers giving a speech to each class and presented class awards to recognise academic excellence, citizenship, commitment to improvement and talents in various Key Learning Areas. Special Awards were presented for achievement in Sport, Creative Arts and Leadership. We hope you enjoy looking at the photos later in the Newsletter.

Classes, Types of Classes in 2025 and Numbers for 2025

Next year we are aiming to make 17 classes. These classes will include composite classes, job share classes and single grade classes. Class structure is determined by the staffing formula provided by the Department of Education. In 2025 we anticipate to have a 1/2 composite class and a 3/4 composite class. All teachers differentiate lessons so student needs are met in any one class. At HHPS we have some classrooms that open up to one another. This allows for team and/or co-teaching to occur. Your child may be lucky enough to be in one of these classes. Letters from teachers after being put into classes will explain which class your child is in.

The placing of children into new classes is a complex and time-consuming process as each year we strive to ensure that we have well-balanced classes. This process has now taken place and has been finalised. When forming balanced classes, many factors are taken into consideration: gender, academic ability, special needs such as learning support, English as an additional language or dialect, behavioural and social needs, medical needs and learning behaviours. Teachers also request students to identify friendships in an attempt to try to place each child with a nominated friend in their class. As this is a very complex task, we do not take parent requests for teachers or for students to be placed together. Teachers use their professionalism as they place students in a class that will best meet student educational needs. Thank you for your support with this process.

Beginning of the Year Procedures for 2025

When students return next year, they will remain in their 2024 class group with either their 2024 teacher or another teacher. These classes are their 'temporary holding classes' until we can ascertain our final numbers as numbers change over the holiday break. Once this is done, we can finalise the class structures and move into permanent classes. We expect this may take up to about 2 days as we need to ensure our numbers are secure as we are on the edge of forming an 18th class. During this time, all children will be actively involved in lessons around Positive Behaviour for Engaging Learning and wellbeing strategies as well as returning to the study of all the Learning Areas. Sport trials will also take place during this time for 3-6 students.

When 2025 Year 1-6 students arrive back at school for their first day, they will line up when the bell goes in their usual cohort lining up areas from 2024.

Reports

Student reports were emailed out yesterday via School bytes. We know you will all enjoy taking the time going through the reports with your child/ren and congratulating them on their successes and discussing individual goals to work on as outlined in the reports.

Thank You P&C

Thank you to the P&C who arranged a surprise Morning Tea for teachers. We were spoilt with yummy treats, coffee packs and fresh fruit! The school has recently purchased ipads thanks to the P&C donating funds from their trivia night.

Leave Requests

As a reminder, family holidays and travel are no longer considered under the Exemption from School Procedures. Travel outside of vacation period is now counted as an absence for statistical purposes. Please be aware that any absences not approved by the Principal will be marked as A - Absent (unexplained/unjustified) on the school's attendance register. I ask that families organise holidays during the school break.

Returning late in 2025?

If you are returning late to school in 2025 we need to know this information for class planning so that we can go into our 2025 classes with the correct student numbers as quickly as possible next year. For this, we need you to let us know if you are intending on returning late to school in 2025.

Uniforms

Just a reminder that with our school uniform, the expectations for all students is to wear black leather school shoes or black sneakers that look like black leather school shoes. These can be lace up, buckle or velcro. Sport shoes are only to be worn with sports uniform. I know many of you will be going shopping in the holidays to purchase shoes that students have grown out of! It is ok to have any colour sneakers, but school shoes need to be black. I thank you for your support.



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

Coming to HHPS in 2025...

We are excited to announce that we have partnered with the Dogs Connect Program and will be introducing a wellbeing dog to our school.

In this unique approach the focus is on broad scale connectedness and wellbeing across the entire school community. **This is something that will be very carefully introduced and our dog will not be onsite at school for quite some time yet (Term 2 2025).** Throughout Term 1 2025, we will be preparing the whole community for this introduction.

This is an evidence-based program that is underpinned by best practice, and we welcome you to look over the website to gain more of an idea of what the program is about: [Dogs Connect](#)

We would also like to assure the community that this program will not involve anyone who does not wish to be involved. We know that this work will have a really positive impact on many people in our community, and we acknowledge and respect that connection with our wellbeing dog will be offered on a great variety of levels.

We have a core team of staff who will lead this program: Miss Ridley, Mrs Croan, Mrs Cornell, Mr Claydon, Miss Wright, Miss Giaquinto and Mrs Tudor.

You can watch the [Community Introduction Video](#) to find out more about Dogs Connect.

Stay tuned as there will be lots of information being shared with you in the coming weeks!

Holiday Elves



*Dear Students,
 At HHPS we would like to encourage everyone to get writing and experience how wonderful it is to spread kindness and joy around the school.
 If you would like to write a letter or card to a teacher or your friend you can send it in the Holiday Elf Post Box located in the office area. You must label your letter or card with the person's full name and class so that it gets to them!
 As you can imagine, this is going to be lots of fun. So please get writing! Remember that all letters need to be kind and sensible so we can spread some joy!
 Love your Holiday Elves (otherwise known as your school captains)!*

In our school, a magic's near,
 Captains and vice captains, spreading cheer.
 They've donned their hats, they're ready to play,
 Transforming into elves this holiday!

Write your letters, big or small,
 To friends and classmates, we invite them all.
 Drop them in the post box, neat and bright,
 Label your name, let your messages take flight.

With twinkling eyes and hearts so warm,
 Our elves will deliver, bringing joy to swarm.
 They'll spread some cheer, a delightful surprise,
 With laughter and smiles, joy fills the skies.

So gather 'round, let's celebrate the season,
 With creativity and kindness, that's the reason!
 Join in the fun, let your spirit soar,
 For the holidays are here, let's spread love galore!



HORNSBY HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL

PRESENTATION DAY

TUESDAY DECEMBER 10 2024

K-6

[K-2 GALLERY LINK](#)

[3-6 GALLERY LINK](#)

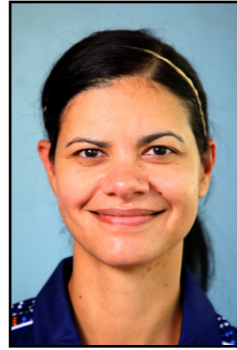








SPORTS YEARLY WRAP UP



By **VANESSA SAKAJANI**
Hornsby Heights Public School
SCHOOL SPORTS COORDINATOR

HZSS SUMMER FINALS

Congratulations to both our Senior League Tag teams for winning their Grand Finals. A huge congratulations to our Junior TBall team and junior Cricket teams who placed second. What a huge effort this season. Thank you to all students, parents and coaches who dedicate their time to keep our HZSS competition running and a success every year.

LEAGUE TAG GRAND FINAL

What scorcher last Friday was for us to hold our Summer HZSS Finals. HHPS had a team in the finals of all 3 Summer sports. Congratulations to our students who continue to give it their personal best.

League Tag: Both our Senior teams secured the gold and won their grand final. We faced our toughest opponent and top of the table - Berowra - in both games. It was difficult to follow both matches played at the same time. However, it was very clear that defending was going to win the game. Both our A and B teams were focused and played their hearts out, and both games were nail biters: at one stage both teams at the same time were at the same score of 3-2. I was very proud of the spirit they showed on a very hot day, their determination shone through, and they played their best and were rewarded with the win.

SEAN YOUNG AND VANESSA SAKAJANI



TBALL GRAND FINAL

After finishing the season undefeated, the t-ball team played an incredible grand final. The scores were completely tied up for the first few innings. Going into the final innings, the score was 15-15. Unfortunately the final innings saw Turramurra score 5 runs whilst we went down with 0 runs scored making the final score 15-20 to Turramurra. It was a nail biter and the girls fought hard until the very end!

Thank you to all the TBALL and softball players for a wonderful season of fun and fantastic sportsmanship.

And thank you to Jason Smith for helping coach the softball team.

CASSIE PETHYBRIDGE



JNR CRICKET GRAND FINAL

After finishing the season undefeated, the t-ball team played an incredible grand final. The scores were completely tied up for the first few innings. Going into the final innings, the score was 15-15. Unfortunately the final innings saw Turramurra score 5 runs whilst we went down with 0 runs scored making the final score 15-20 to Turramurra. It was a nail biter and the girls fought hard until the very end!

Thank you to all the TBALL and softball players for a wonderful season of fun and fantastic sportsmanship.

And thank you to Jason Smith for helping coach the softball team.

CASSIE PETHYBRIDGE



AND ONE FINAL WORD....

Sport plays a vital role in the lives of children, it helps build confidence, provides opportunities for social connection, fosters friendships and a sense of belonging while teaching students how to overcome challenges and how to celebrate their own and other's achievements. Thank you to our volunteers who dedicated their time to us this year.

Thank you to all our HZSS families for your ongoing support of our HZSS competition, allowing us to continue to provide life-long memories and experiences in sport for our students.

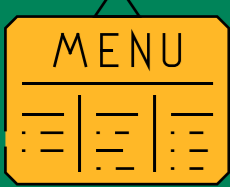
VANESSA SAKAJANI



THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT







HHPS CANTEEN NEWS



THE CANTEEN NEEDS YOU!



The canteen is run by a volunteer P&C sub-committee and employs a Manager and Assistant. To keep prices down we also rely on volunteers for shifts in the canteen. The committee is losing some Yr6 volunteers at the end of the year along with our Secretary and need your support.

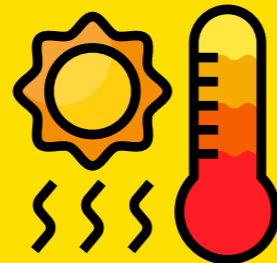
We'd love for you to join us in 2025 and there are 3 ways you can help

THANK YOU

The Canteen Committee would like to thank you for your support this year, and extend a special thanks to all our volunteers who have helped provide hundreds of lunches and recesses and given out thousands of ice blocks. We can't do it without you,

Extra thank you to all those volunteers in Yr6 who are leaving us this year.

Big shout out to Di, Angela and those volunteers who have diligently continued to provide lunches over the last few weeks with the broken air-con - we love your dedication!



LAST DAY

The last day for canteen orders will be Sushi Tuesday, 17th December

The canteen will re-open for 2025 on Sushi Tuesday, 11th February

2025 OPEN

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

*Wishing you wonderful break,
The Canteen Committee*



1. Volunteer for a shift in the canteen



- Morning, midday and afternoon shifts of 2h
- Prepare fresh fruit salads, veg hogs, & muesli cups
- Make sandwiches & assemble burgers
- Pack orders into lunch bags
- Serve kids over the counter at recess



2. Join the committee as a General Member



- Attend the zoom monthly meetings
- Discuss ideas for the running of the canteen

3. Volunteer as Secretary of the Committee



- Prepare the meeting agendas & take minutes
- Prepare communications for the fortnightly school newsletter

Committee Meetings

Last Tuesday of the month @ 7:30pm via zoom

Email the canteen committee if you can help

hpspandccanteen@gmail.com

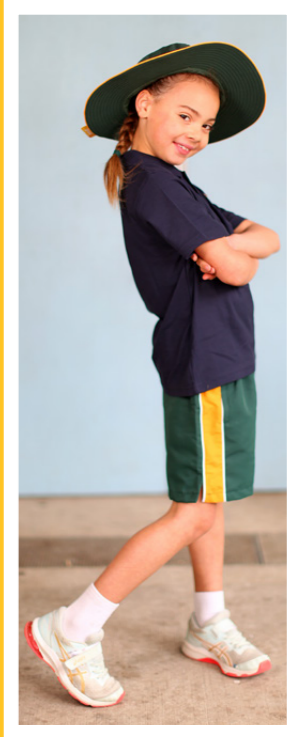
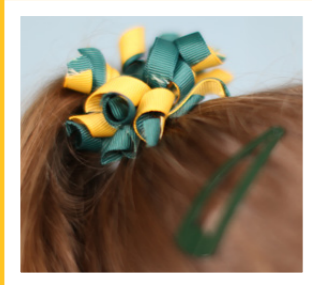


Summer Uniform

HORNSBY HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL

Sports 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

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 Uniform Shop News

Qkr will remain active during the school holidays for uniform orders. Any orders made can be collected from the uniform shop on Wednesday 5th February or will be delivered to your child's holding class on Friday 7th February.

The uniform shop will be open from 10-11:30am on Wednesday 5th February for last minute face-to-face new and used sales via Qkr or cash before term 1 commences.

The HHPS Uniform shop is managed and run by volunteers. We need new members to join our group in 2025. You would need to commit to attending the uniform shop on Friday morning, preferably on a weekly basis but fortnightly is an option too from 8:30-9:30am.

We have a great group of volunteers and have a good chat while packing orders and serving school families. Children are welcome to come with you, school aged or younger. Its a really easy way to give back to the school community.

If you're interested in joining in 2025, please reach out via the email address below.



For enquiries contact: hhpsuniforms@gmail.com

The uniform shop is located opposite the year 6 classrooms and alongside the teachers car park.



ACTIVITIES AND WORKSHOPS AT PCYC

At PCYC we provide quality activities across a diverse array of term sports, vacation care workshops and activities

Mixed Holiday Activities

Holiday Gymnastics

Arts & Crafts, Pickleball, Basketball, Gymnastics, Parkour, Silent Disco, Table Tennis & More!

Walkover workshop, trampolines and WAG intensives

For the full summer program visit our website and book today or email hornsbyskuringgai@pcycnsw.org.au

