



## From the Principal...

### PUBLIC EDUCATION IS FOR ALL

Public education stands as a cornerstone of our society, embodying the belief that every child deserves access to quality learning opportunities, regardless of their background or circumstances. This commitment to inclusivity ensures that every student, whether they come from affluent neighbourhoods or underprivileged areas, has the right to a free education. Such a system not only promotes equality but also fosters a sense of community where diverse experiences and perspectives enrich the learning environment. In this way, public education serves as a great equaliser, empowering all children to pursue their dreams and ambitions.

As educators and members of the school community, we have an extraordinary opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our students. Each interaction, lesson, and moment in the classroom can significantly impact a child's future. It is our responsibility to recognise the unique potential within every student and to nurture that potential through support, encouragement, and tailored learning experiences. By our staff actively engaging with our students and understanding their individual needs, we can help them overcome challenges and thrive academically and personally.

Public education fosters not only academic growth but also the social and emotional development of students. Schools are places where children learn to collaborate, empathise, and build relationships with others from different walks of life. This social fabric is essential in shaping well-rounded individuals who are prepared to contribute positively to society. By instilling values of respect, inclusivity, and community service within our students, we help cultivate future leaders who are equipped to make a tangible difference in the world around them.

The beauty of public education lies in its unwavering commitment to providing every child with the right to learn and grow, regardless of their circumstances. As staff, we dedicate ourselves to making a meaningful impact in each student's life, we create a brighter future not only for them but for our community as a whole. Together, we can champion the ideals of equity and accessibility in education, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to realise their fullest potential and contribute to a more just and equitable society.

### SCHOOL UNIFORMS

As we approach the end of Term 1 I thought it important to update you on the school's policy for school uniforms.

The students are to continue wearing their summer uniform for the remainder of Term 1.

For the first three weeks of Term 2 students can wear either

the summer or winter uniform. The school strongly suggests that families consider the weather conditions when making this decision.

From Week 4 all students should be wearing their winter uniform.

Please contact the Uniform Shop if you have any questions or need to purchase uniform related products.

Matt Pinchbeck  
Principal



## Around K-2 this week...

### GARDEN CLUB

Our Garden Club has been busy planting and caring for our plants this week! The K-2 children had a great time checking on our garden, planting seeds for snow peas and leeks. Each week, we'll check how our plants are growing and watch as they sprout and flourish. Stay tuned for more updates on our garden adventures!



Michelle Beencke  
Classroom teacher

### MUSIC & MOVEMENT STAGE 1

Students in Year 1 and 2 who love to sing and dance meet each week in 2I classroom to learn the lyrics and actions to songs. During the year they perform at assemblies for their peers and at school events. Any student in Year 1 & 2 may attend, we just ask that they attend each week on Friday lunch so that everyone knows the songs and moves when the performances come around.



We also have some rising performers in Kindy. Last week students shared their favourite rhymes with their classes. I was lucky enough to have a presentation in my office from Sienna and Phoebe from KM.

Congratulations on your confident performances!

### K-2 EASTER HAT PARADES

#### MONDAY 7 APRIL

Next week students in K-2 have their Easter Hat Parades. All three parades take place on the 3-6 quadrangle.



9:30am – Kindy

11:40am – Year 1

12:15pm – Year 2

Mrs Collett has organised the Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten) parade. The students met with their Year 5 buddies and designed and created their hats at school. We look

forward to seeing the creations.

Mrs Lewis and Mrs Irvine organised the Stage 1 (Year 1 and Year 2) parades. In Year 1 and Year 2 students are asked to make a hat or basket at home and bring to it school on the day of the parade. A colouring competition was sent home earlier in the term and a winner from each Year 1 and 2 class will be announced at the parade.



*Julie Hall*

Deputy Principal

## 3-6 Matters...

### STUDENT VOICE

Mrs. Cale accompanied the school captains, Elisa and Ethan, to the Department of Student Voices in Education and Schools (DOVES) event at Hornsby Girls High School, where they met with the Director of Educational Leadership, Mark Anderson.

Student voice is students actively participating in decision-making at school on things which shape their educational experiences. It is more than just students 'having a say' and 'being heard'. To be successful, schools must value the perspectives and opinions of students and act on them in a way that genuinely shapes learning and decision-making at the school.

Elisa and Ethan will share this information with the Vice Captains and Prefects, who can then begin to integrate student voice into our school.



### CLASSROOM FUN!

One of the highlights of my job is when students stop by to share their incredible work with me. This week, I had the pleasure of seeing the fantastic tessellating art created by some students in 3JP for World Maths Day.



*Kylie Cale*

Relieving Deputy Principal

## Library News...

### PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

Over the weekend the Department of Education has changed the login details for all students in Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2. Unfortunately, students in K, 1 and 2 no longer have access to their PRC accounts. In the meantime, please write down on paper any books students read. Over the next few weeks I will endeavour to send the new logins to parents. Fortunately, students in years 3-6 are unchanged.

Thank you for your patience.

*Debbie Nicklin*

Teacher Librarian

### HARMONY DAY ART COMPETITION

Harmony Day was celebrated last week to promote inclusiveness, respect, and a sense of belonging. Students have been informed of a school-wide art competition to celebrate Harmony Day. The theme for submitted artworks is: "Harmony-We all have a role to play". This activity is optional and can be worked on at home.

**Please submit entries to Mr Kelen (4K) by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April.**

Prizes will be given to stage winners.



### INVITATION TO ATTEND YEARS 3-6 ANZAC DAY SERVICE



As ANZAC Day approaches, we extend a warm invitation to all current and former military personnel to join us at Hornsby North Public School for a service to honour the courage, sacrifice, and legacy of the ANZACs. This service will provide an opportunity for us to come together, reflect, and pay our respects to those who served, as well as those who continue to serve our country. We would be privileged to have you

attend and participate in this special occasion.

**Date:** April 9th, 2025

**Time:** 11:35

**Location:** School Hall

Please RSVP by Friday 4th April to confirm your attendance:

[hornsynth-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:hornsynth-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

## Coming Events...

Friday 4 April	Kindy Nocturnal Incursion #1
Monday 7 April	K-2 Easter Hat Parade
Tuesday 8 April	Year 3 Riverside Theatre Excursion
Wednesday 9 April	ANZAC Day Service (School hall) * Years 3 - 6 : 11:35am
Friday 11 April	Last day for Term 1
Wednesday 30 April	Students return for Term 2
Monday 5 May	Year 6 NSW Parliament excursion
Wednesday 7 May	Mother's Day stall



## Canteen News...



Congratulations to Dwan, our March Volunteer of the Month! Easter specials are available now (while stocks last) at the canteen - hot cross buns and honey-bread!

From Term 2, there will be a small price increase on some items from the canteen.

We are looking for a new Canteen Manager. Please share the job advertisement with anyone you know who may be suitable for the role.



### 2025 OPENING HOURS:

Wednesdays: 9am—10am

Fridays: 9am—10am

### CONTACT US

Email: [hnpusuniforms@gmail.com](mailto:hnpusuniforms@gmail.com)

*Uniform Shop Volunteers*

## P & C News...

### SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS & UPCOMING INITIATIVES

A gentle reminder to families to make their school payments and consider the importance of Voluntary Contributions.

As our school receives very little State Government Equity Funding and can only request assistance for a limited range of items, these contributions are more vital than ever. Your support directly enhances the learning programs we offer and helps maintain the high-quality education that HNPS provides.

Looking ahead, our Mother's Day Stall will be held on 7 May. Payments can be made via Shopify or in the classroom—stay tuned for a flyer with more details.

Additionally, as part of our ongoing commitment to strengthening our school community, we will soon be sharing a survey to help shape the P&C's future strategy, vision, and objectives. Your feedback is invaluable in guiding decisions that benefit both students and the broader school community. We appreciate your participation and support.



# WE ARE

# HIRING

We are looking for an enthusiastic individual to join Hornsby North Public School as

## Canteen Manager

**Do you:**

- Enjoy working with young people
- Have experience in canteen management
- Want to work term times only?

**RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:**

- SUPERVISE AND SUPPORT CANTEEN STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS
- PREPARING AND SERVING RECESS AND LUNCH TO STUDENTS
- ORDERING AND MAINTAINING STOCK
- CASH HANDLING AND BANKING
- ABILITY TO COLLABORATE WITH OTHERS INCLUDING P&C, SCHOOL, STUDENTS

**REQUIREMENTS:**

- WWCC FOR PAID EMPLOYMENT
- FOOD SAFETY SUPERVISOR CERT
- DEMONSTRATED EXPERIENCE IN HOSPITALITY OR CANTEEN MANAGEMENT

**THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT WILL BE WORKING IN A SCHOOL OF 1000+ STUDENTS AND WILL BE SUPPORTED BY COMMUNITY MINDED VOLUNTEERS AND A SMALL TEAM OF CASUAL CANTEEN ASSISTANTS**



**EMAIL FOR FURTHER INFORMATION TO:**  
[HORNBYNTHCANTEEN@GMAIL.COM](mailto:HORNBYNTHCANTEEN@GMAIL.COM)

## Uniform Shop News...

### IN-PERSON PURCHASES AT THE UNIFORM SHOP

Families need to purchase new uniforms via our online store:



<https://hnps-uniform-shop.myshopify.com>

You can use your own device or the Uniform Shop iPad even when making in-person purchases at the uniform shop. Volunteers will then provide you with your order to take

with you. **NO cash or EFTPOS accepted for new uniforms.** Second-hand uniforms and uniforms that may not be returned or exchanged may be bought via EFTPOS. No cash or AMEX.

For online purchases please visit our website:

<https://hnps-uniform-shop.myshopify.com>

**Hornsby North Ethics requires a volunteer to take on an existing Ethics class in 2025.**

Until volunteers are recruited, the SEE class will participate in other meaningful activities.

Ethics classes are thought-provoking and give children a chance to practise skills like disagreeing respectfully with others. They will be encouraged to try to find answers to the questions posed by giving reasons, finding evidence and building on each other's ideas. For more information about the Primary Ethics program, please visit [primaryethics.com.au](http://primaryethics.com.au).

Each week the children discuss a topic from the approved Primary Ethics curriculum suitable for their age. Children discuss topics such as:

- how should we treat living things?
- what is laziness?
- how do we disagree in a respectful way?
- what is fairness?

Classes run for 30 minutes in the SEE timeslot each week – Thursday morning from 9.45am.

Lesson plans for ethics classes are provided by Primary Ethics, so you don't need to create your own lessons. Ethics teachers receive full training through online modules and a comprehensive 2-day training workshop.

If you or someone you know is looking for an opportunity to make a valuable contribution to our school and your family, please use the QR code to register, or contact the HN Ethics Coordinator, Mandy Walmsley on [hnp.ethics@gmail.com](mailto:hnp.ethics@gmail.com) for more details.





## THE QUEEN'S COMMONWEALTH ESSAY COMPETITION 2025



### Our Commonwealth Journey

Journeys are a fundamental aspect of our lives, helping us to explore, to learn, and to grow. Throughout history, nations, communities and individuals have undertaken their own journeys, navigating the tides of an ever-changing world.

Since its founding in 1949, the Commonwealth has undertaken many journeys to evolve into its current form, with 56 member countries, and recently celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. There are also many great journeys to be had within the Commonwealth, which spans five continents, is responsible for a third of the world's oceans and has a hugely diverse population of 2.7 billion people.

The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition 2025, therefore, asks entrants to consider the relevance of journeys in a Commonwealth context, whether geographical, historical or personal. What journeys the Commonwealth has taken or may take in the future, as well as to reflect on their own individual journeys.

#### TOP PRIZE

The two winners from each age category will be awarded with a **trip to London** for a week of educational and cultural events, culminating in a special **Awards Ceremony** at a Royal Palace.

#### AWARDS

All successful entries will receive a Certificate of Participation and a number of entries will receive **Gold**, **Silver** and **Bronze** Awards for excellence in writing.



ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY



## THE QUEEN'S COMMONWEALTH ESSAY COMPETITION 2025

The Commonwealth is a voluntary network of 56 countries, based on a shared English language and the key values of democracy, equality, tolerance, human rights and the rule of law.

#### ABOUT THE COMPETITION

The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition is the world's oldest international writing competition. The competition is open to nationals or residents of all Commonwealth countries and territories, as well as residents of Hong Kong, Ireland, and Zimbabwe. Please see our **Terms and Conditions** for more details.

#### HOW TO ENTER

The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition is open for entries between 14 March and 23 May 2025. For more information on how to enter the competition please visit, [www.royalcwsociety.org](http://www.royalcwsociety.org)

Follow @RoyalCWSociety on Facebook, X and Instagram for writing tips! Email: [competitions@royalcwsociety.org](mailto:competitions@royalcwsociety.org) with any questions.



#### SENIOR CATEGORY - (14-18 YEARS OF AGE)

**Word Count: maximum of 1500 words**

1. Equal access to education is enshrined in the *Commonwealth Charter* as one of the key values and aspirations that unite the Commonwealth. While the Commonwealth has come a long way on the journey towards this, there is still progress to be made. Imagine a Commonwealth in which everyone has the same access to education.
2. National legends and folklore can take us on a journey through history and culture. Retell a famous folklore from your own or another Commonwealth country in a surprising way.
3. "Human beings have always needed the connection of literature – its wisdom as well as its sheer escapism." - Her Majesty Queen Camilla. Books can take us on journeys to the wildest and most unexpected places! Write about a time a book took you on a journey; how did it affect you?
4. From tiny seeds to large redwoods, trees and plants experience changes and growth throughout their life cycles. Write a story about the life journey of a plant growing in the centre of your community; what does it experience?

#### JUNIOR CATEGORY - (UNDER 14 YEARS OF AGE)

**Word Count: maximum of 750 words**

1. Together, we represent a third of humanity, with all the splendidly diverse complexity that this entails." - His Majesty King Charles. Learning new information can take us on journeys to new places. Write about a time you learned something interesting about a different Commonwealth country from your own.
2. Commonwealth states range from small island nations like Nauru to larger countries like India. Write an account of a sea voyage from one Commonwealth country to a small island Commonwealth nation. What do you see, who do you meet?
3. You embark on a very special journey when you discover a secret door that takes you into your favourite book! What happens next?
4. October 2024 saw Commonwealth leaders travel to Samoa for the 2024 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM). Imagine what an animal CHOGM would look like! Which animals travel there? What do they discuss?



ROYAL COMMONWEALTH SOCIETY


## LOOKING FOR A WINTER SPORT?

Want to keep active during the winter season?

Do you want to make new friends?  
Scan the QR code and register to play soccer with Hornsby Heights Football Club!










**OPEN DAY**

**Mt Colah Girl Guides**

*Why do Girl Guides exist? Because Girls do*

*What does that mean? Come to our open day to find out!*



Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April, 5:45-7:15pm

All ages & families welcome

All children visiting must be accompanied by an adult

Mt Colah Guide & Scout Hall

Pierre Close, Mt Colah

Can't make it but want to find out more?

Contact: [MtColahDM@girlguides-nswactnt.org.au](mailto:MtColahDM@girlguides-nswactnt.org.au) or visit [www.girlguides-nswactnt.org.au](http://www.girlguides-nswactnt.org.au)

**COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS** **SHAPE**

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE** **LIFETIME FRIENDSHIPS** **LEADERS OF TOMORROW**

**FUN & ADVENTURE** **SKILL DEVELOPMENT** **LEADERSHIP SKILLS**

**SUPPORT**

**SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS**

**LEARN, PLAY & GROW**










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Book 2 days, and get the 3rd at 50% off



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**SHARE OUR SPACE**



**FREE PROGRAM**

- ✓ Location : Pennant Hills High School
- ✓ Date & Time : 24th April, 10am - 2pm
- ✓ For ages 5-12
- ✓ Scan QR code to register



**REGISTER NOW!**



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with The Friendly Club or  
register as an individual and we will  
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WANNA HAVE FUN  
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The Friendly Club




## HORNSBY RSL GYMNASTICS HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

JOIN US FOR A FUN FILLED DAY OF GYMNASTICS ACTIVITIES THAT IS  
SURE TO KEEP THE KIDS ENTERTAINED ALL DAY LONG.

**WHAT DOES THE DAY INVOLVE?**

- A full day program for children aged 5-12 years, members and non members, no experience necessary, all welcome!
- There are two programs types available where we fit the very best things into one fun filled, action packed day:
- COMBO DAY: Combining the very best of GymSKILLS, FreeG + Tumble, Tricks and Flips! Learn new skills and try a wide range of different drills, activities and creative time!
- HOLIDAY FUN DAY: Sessions loaded with lots of gymnastics activities, circuits, games and other FUN activities including craft, free play and lots lots more!
- Morning tea and lunch break (bring your own food, NO NUTS permitted)

**PROGRAM DETAILS**

**APRIL 2025 PROGRAM:**

MONDAY 14TH APRIL  
(COMBO DAY)

WEDNESDAY 16TH APRIL  
(HOLIDAY FUN)

WEDNESDAY 23RD APRIL  
(COMBO DAY)

9AM - 3PM

\$65 PER CHILD PER DAY


AGES 5-12 YEARS

BRING MORNING TEA, LUNCH, DRINK  
BOTTLE, HAT, SUNSCREEN

**Book Online**

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1 ASHLEY LANE HORNSBY NSW 2077  
9476 6689 INFO@HORNSBYRSLGYMNASTICS.COM.AU

**WWW.HORNSBYRSLGYMNASTICS.COM.AU**




# Screen Savvy Parents:

## *Empowering parents to tackle screen time impacts and build healthy habits*



Exclusive opportunity to hear from screen use expert,  
**Brad Marshall, The Unplugged Psychologist.**

**FREE  
Webinar**

This live webinar will empower parents to minimise harms from recreational screen use on primary school aged children's development.

**Hosted by:** Northern Sydney Local Health District, School Years team and the Northern Sydney Network of Councils.

**For:** Parents of primary school children living in the Northern Sydney Councils region and Northern Sydney Local Health District.

**Date:** Wed 28th May, 2025

**Time:** 6:30pm - 8.00pm

**Location:** Online via MS Teams



Scan the QR code  
or click here to  
register now!

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