



## From the Principal...

### STUDENT ACADEMIC REPORTS - KINDERGARTEN TO YEAR 6

As mentioned earlier this term there has been a slight change in reporting requirements for all NSW Department of Education schools. Hornsby North Public School has implemented the necessary changes, and this will be evident in the report that will be provided to you in Week 9 of this term.

The new format has been developed by the NSW Department of Education in response to feedback from parents and educators to make reports easier to read and understand.

Your child's report will still show their progress across all subject areas.

Teacher comments will appear in English, mathematics and the general comment section, in line with department policy.

The general comment for Kindergarten also covers all other key learning areas including, creative arts, HSIE, PDHPE, and science and technology.

A new achievement scale and descriptions are included to provide a clearer picture of your child's progress.

### PLAIN ENGLISH ACHIEVEMENT SCALE

Achievement description	Word descriptor	Grade
Your child's achievement in this subject is outstanding. They confidently apply their knowledge and skills in a range of new and complex situations.	Outstanding	A
Your child's achievement in this subject is high. They confidently apply their knowledge and skills in a range of familiar and new situations.	High	B
Your child's achievement in this subject is at the expected standard. They apply their knowledge and skills in familiar situations.	Expected	C
Your child's achievement in this subject is basic. They apply their knowledge and skills in familiar situations with support.	Basic	D
Your child's achievement in this subject is limited. They apply their knowledge and skills in some familiar situations with significant support.	Limited	E

### REPORTING ON EFFORT

Reporting on effort is optional. If used, it can support family conversations about learning. Schools may choose the following descriptors.

Description for parents and carers	Effort
Your child actively participates and engages in most learning activities. They always try to complete and present work to a high standard.	High
Your child actively participates and engages in most learning activities. They regularly try to complete and present work to the required standard.	Satisfactory
Your child sometimes participates and engages in learning activities. They occasionally try to complete and present work to the required standard.	Low

If your child has been identified as an English or Additional Languages/Dialect (EAL/D) learner this will also be indicated on your child's report. The identifying of a child is nothing new, however, the reporting to parents is now included in your child's semester report.

In NSW many students come from a Language Background Other Than English (LBOTE). This means that the student, one or both of their parents, or another primary caregiver speaks a language other than English at home. Many of these students use Standard Australian English (SAE) in social and academic settings. This data is collected when you enrol your child at school.

Students learning English as an additional language or dialect (EAL/D) are a subset of LBOTE students. They are students whose first language is a language or dialect other than SAE and who require support to develop proficiency in SAE. EAL/D students are often skilled bilingual, multilingual or dialectal learners who have strong skills and knowledge in their first language or dialect but may require targeted support to access and demonstrate success with the linguistic and cultural demands of the curriculum.

EAL/D students represent a significant and growing percentage of learners in NSW schools. For some, school is the only place they use English.

In most Key Learning Areas (KLA) there are strands within the KLA. For example, Human Society and Its Environment is made up of the strands of History and Geography. Each KLA must be taught each term or semester, but not each strand. So, for some KLA you may see "Not taught this semester" on your child's report. You can be assured across the school year each strand in each KLA is taught and will be reported on next semester.

The updated Reporting Policy also includes recommended word limits for comments to improve clarity: 150 words for subject comments and 200 words for the primary report general comment.

Reports will continue to include information on attendance, social development and extra-curricular activities and programs.

Parent-teacher interviews remain an important way to discuss your child's progress and achievement in more detail. These will now be conducted after you receive your child's academic report to ensure we are adhering to the new Policy requirements. An email was sent home yesterday with the details to book an appointment. Please note the exception to holding parent teacher interviews after receiving their child's report will be students in 3H. Mr Hughes will be on Leave until 22 August 2025. We felt this was too long for parents to wait to discuss their child's progress with Mr Hughes.

*Matt Pinchbeck*  
Principal

## ***Around K-2 this week...***

### **MUSIC AND MOVEMENT**

Music and Movement performed 'Just Sing' in the Stage 1 assembly last week. It was an impressive performance and parents will be able to enjoy the item next term as part of the Education Week Open Day.

Music and Movement are made up of Year 1 and 2 students who love to sing and dance. Miss Floyd and Mrs Irvine teach the Music and Movement group during lunchtime each Friday. Thank you to those teachers for your time and dedication. Any Stage 1 student can join, we just ask that they attend regularly and commit to the group so that everyone is prepared for the performances.

Class 2A working collaboratively at 'World of Maths'



### **LOCKDOWN PRACTICE**

Last week K-6 had a lockdown practice. This is an important safety procedure designed to prepare students and staff for potential emergencies.



**Safety Preparedness:** Lockdown drills help ensure that students and staff know what to do in the event of a real emergency. Practising these procedures can reduce panic and confusion.

**Creating a Safe Environment:** Regular drills contribute to a safer school environment by reinforcing the importance of being prepared and aware of safety protocols. This helps foster a culture of safety within the school community.

**Building Confidence:** These practices help build confidence among students and staff, knowing they have a plan in place and have rehearsed it. This can also help alleviate anxiety regarding emergency situations.

**Communication:** Lockdown drills provide an opportunity for schools to communicate with parents and the community about safety measures in place, ensuring everyone is informed and understands the importance of these practices.

**Regular Review:** Conducting lockdown drills regularly allows schools to review and improve their emergency response plans based on the experiences and feedback from the drills.

Mr Pinchbeck and I walked through the school after the alarm to assess how well the procedures had been followed. We congratulate the students and staff on a safe and speedy response.

*Julie Hall*  
Deputy Principal

## ***3-6 Matters...***



### **YEAR 6 CANBERRA**

Early this cold morning Year 6 students began their journey to visit Canberra. They will stay in Canberra from Wednesday 11th June to Friday 13th June as part of their learning about government and civics. During the excursion, they will explore significant national institutions such as Parliament House, the Australian Mint, Questacon and many more. This is a valuable opportunity for students to deepen their understanding of Australia's history, culture, and democratic processes through real-life experiences.

Year 6 families, please check your emails on Friday afternoon in case there are any changes to our estimated arrival time of 5:00pm due to traffic. To ensure a smooth and safe dismissal, we kindly ask that you do not park in the turning circle or bus stop at Cawthorne St, as these areas are needed for the buses. Parents are asked to wait within the school grounds, and students will come to you. Please avoid gathering around the buses, as this can make it difficult to safely disembark the students.

*Photos to come next week*

*Kylie Cale*  
Relieving Deputy Principal

# SRE/E NEWS

The Ethics co-ordinator is currently looking for volunteers to teach a Kindy and a Y3 class. These two classes are currently without a volunteer teacher.

Primary Ethics is the provider for our ethics program and all training is provided.

A commitment of 30 minutes on Thursday morning is needed. Please see the ad at the end of this newsletter and contact Mandy Walmsley for details on:

[hnpes.ethics@gmail.com](mailto:hnpes.ethics@gmail.com)



Julie Hall  
Deputy Principal

# VALUE FOR THE WEEK

## Empathy

Everyone feels happier when we're kind and compassionate – and this is a practising empathy.

Being kind to other people in a special kind of magic, because it makes you feel good too!

## GEM Conversation

Share a time when you missed an opportunity to be helpful or caring to someone. What could you do differently next time?

## Coming Events...

Thursday 12 June	Yr 6 Canberra Camp Day 2 2CJ, 2I, 2S Aboriginal Studies incursion
Friday 13 June	Yr 6 Canberra Camp Day 3 Kindy "Fresh for Kids" incursion
Monday 16 June	1L & 1F - Schoolhouse Museum excursion
Wednesday 18 June	1B, 1BT & 1E - Schoolhouse Museum excursion
Friday 20 June	Kindy "Fresh for Kids" incursion
Monday 23 June	World of Maths - 1B, 1BT, 1E, 1L, 4F & 4K
Wednesday 25 June	P & C Meeting online
Thursday 26 June	Bronze and Honour Assemblies
Thursday 3 July	K - 2 Athletics Fun Day Rofo Park/ School Oval
Friday 4 July	2A, 2B & 2MP Aboriginal Studies incursion LAST DAY OF TERM 2
Tuesday 22 July	FIRST DAY OF TERM 3 (Pupil free on Monday 21)

# THE RESILIENCE PROJECT™

## WHAT ARE GEM CHATS/CONVERSATIONS

GEM Chats are regular discussions where students reflect on **Gratitude, Empathy, and Mindfulness (GEM)**, helping them build resilience and positive mental health through *The Resilience Project*. Parents can have GEM Chats with their child at any time, such as during mealtimes, on the way to school, or before bed. These conversations create a great opportunity to connect, encourage positive thinking and support emotional well-being.

## THE RESILIENCE PROJECT.

# GEM Chats Empathy

## CREATING WELLBEING HABITS & CONNECTION

GEM Chats help families practice The Resilience Project's principles, offering a simple wellbeing check-in while **building stronger connections through daily conversations**.

## HOW TO USE GEM CHATS

Make GEM Chats a part of your dinner routine to reflect, check in, and practice empathy.

Try these prompts:

- ★ Thank each family member for something they've **done or said** today.
- ★ Give each family member a **compliment**.
- ★ Share a time when someone has done **something kind for you** this week. Describe how it made you feel.
- ★ Think about someone special in your life. **What makes them special**, and how will you let them know this week?
- ★ Who made you **feel cared** for this week? What actions did they take?



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE RESILIENCE PROJECT, HEAD TO:

[@theresilienceproject](https://www.instagram.com/theresilienceproject) [The Resilience Project](https://www.facebook.com/theresilienceproject) [The Resilience Project](https://www.linkedin.com/company/theresilienceproject) [theresilienceproject.com.au](https://www.theresilienceproject.com.au)



## Canteen News...

The canteen would like to remind parents and carers that canteen orders should not be placed if your child has an excursion. Please do not place canteen orders if your child is attending the incursion on 12 June (2I, 2S, 2CJ) and 4 July (2MP, 2A, 2B).

If you have a couple of hours to spare to help prepare lunches and snacks, the canteen would love your help. Please contact [hornsbynthcanteen@gmail.com](mailto:hornsbynthcanteen@gmail.com) for more information.

## 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>

#### 2025 OPENING HOURS:

Wednesdays: 9am—10am  
Fridays: 9am—10am



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 above website.

#### CONTACT US

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

*Uniform Shop Volunteers*



## P & C News...

The P&C will soon be sharing a survey for all to fill in, to hear your thoughts on the P&C and how funds should be spent. We hope to discuss some responses at the next meeting (rescheduled to 25th June).

Contact us at [hello@hornsbynorthpandc.com.au](mailto:hello@hornsbynorthpandc.com.au)

*P & C Committee*

## Community News...



## 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 [hnps.ethics@gmail.com](mailto:hnps.ethics@gmail.com) for more details.