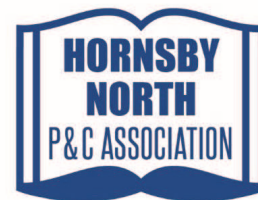


HORNSBY NORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL

P & C ASSOCIATION JULY UPDATE



On behalf of the P&C we hope everyone is keeping safe and healthy during these unusual times.

Whilst the P&C hasn't had any face to face meetings since Term 1 when social distancing restrictions came into play, work has been continuing behind the scenes on a range of issues of importance to the school and our children. So here's our update to you to provide some assistance with planning for Term 3.

We held our first general P&C meeting via Zoom on Monday 15 June – thanks to everyone who attended that meeting and the positive feedback we received following it. We had a number of parents attend for the first time and a number of you have told us that remote meetings give you the opportunity to participate in our decision making. We'll be looking to continue a mix of face to face and online processes as restrictions start to lift.

The clear message we've had from the school via our Principal, Maree Sumpton, is that current restrictions will continue as we move into Term 3. While there is some easing for specific activities, in general the physical distancing and hygiene requirements advise that parents / carers can only be on site if pre-organised with the school, hygiene requirements are met and the visitors sign in and complete a Visitor Acknowledgement Form. Importantly, while there may be some amendments to timing, the pick up and drop off arrangements currently in place will continue in Term 3.

Thank You

We know you'll all join us in sending a huge thank you to Maree, the teaching and administration staff of the school for the work they're doing and for the support they are providing for a number of our families who are experiencing difficulties.

CANTEEN

We're pleased to announce that, in conjunction with the school, we have begun planning for the canteen to re-open in Term 3. The canteen will recommence operations 5 days a week from week 1, starting from Tuesday 21 July. We are introducing additional hygiene measures to ensure the safety of the canteen staff and to adhere to the COVID-19 safety guidelines.



These measures will involve:

- Operating an online menu only – with no over the counter service at lunch or recess.
- Making hand sanitisers available outside the canteen and for any suppliers coming in contact with the canteen
- No parent volunteers, at least in the initial stage.

To support us through this transition period, we request that you familiarise yourself with the online order platform to ensure you are able to place your order when the canteen reopens. Further information will be provided regarding use of the online ordering, as we get closer to the re-opening day.

UNIFORM SHOP

We're sure you'll join us in sending a huge shout out of thanks to Tanya Manwaring, our amazing Uniform Shop Coordinator, who has single-handedly managed all uniform shop orders online since the physical uniform shop closed due to social distancing restrictions. On line services will continue and the P&C is currently working on some exciting improvements to the way the uniform shop operates – we'll keep you posted with details.

BANDS

Over the last few months the way the Band program operated has had to change significantly. We'd like to thank all band families for their patience and understanding. A big thank you to our Band Coordinator, Gavin Hunter, Band Committee, program volunteers, conductors and tutors who have worked tirelessly to ensure each band continued to stay connected remotely. Each band has now resumed some face to face rehearsals at school and we're looking forward to continuing the return in Term 3.

COMMUNITY FAIR

We're sad to report we've had to take the difficult decision to not hold our Community Fair in 2020, given the current restrictions in place. The Fair requires many months of planning and even if the restrictions lift in the second half of the year, there won't be enough time to secure the rides, and organise the Fair committee and the teams of volunteers that make a successful fair happen. We're exploring other fundraising options and we've started discussing some kind of event to take place in Term 4, as we head towards Christmas and the end of the year, to bring our school community together. All will depend upon the full lifting of restrictions and we'll keep you posted as to progress.

SCHOOL BANKING

At this stage, school banking remains on hold due to the requirements of physical distancing and restrictions on volunteers at schools. This will be re-assessed during Term 3, and we hope to reopen banking as soon as practical.

HNCCA OOSH – BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE

We know that many families make great use of this excellent service. For this past couple of months, Government support for the sector has covered the cost of fees; enabling free childcare for those who need it and enabling parents who are not using the service to maintain their places without cost. Additionally, some of the Centre staff have been supported by the JobKeeper payments.

This comes to an end on 12 July, midway through the school holidays, when the free childcare scheme ends, subsidies are reintroduced and JobKeeper payments for the childcare sector are withdrawn.

We know that for families who have children at HNCCA OOSH you've all been advised of these changes. What OOSH needs from us is clear information about what you'll be doing next term: Will you be maintaining your existing bookings? This service is vital for so many families and provides valuable employment for a large number of staff – so if you haven't already done so, we ask all families to please send their clear preferences for next term to OOSH as soon as possible, to assist with their planning moving forward.

UPDATE FROM THE JUNE P & C MEETING

A large number of items were discussed at the June Meeting including hygiene and hand drying in the school toilets, traffic arrangements and proposed hand sanitiser purchases for students. After further follow up, here's the post-meeting update on these key issues:

Hand drying in toilets – the school has explored the options for providing either paper towel or hand dryers in the school toilets and the P & C has offered to assist with the cost of installation if needed. Parents have expressed concern about hygiene, sustainability and the school has tried to balance this with practical logistics. All points of view have been considered and we advise that paper towel dispensers have been ordered and will be installed for Term 3. Education will be provided for all students and they will be strategically located to reduce potential plumbing hazards.

Hand Sanitiser – the P & C explored the option of purchasing and selling hand sanitiser to parents for individual use by their children. After investigation we have elected not to proceed with this, for a variety of reasons, as we believe sanitiser is now in plentiful supply in shops.

Traffic – a school-led working group with P & C representation, Department of Education and Council involvement is working through a range of ongoing traffic issues surrounding the pick-up and drop off points. You should expect to see more discussions with an opportunity for parent's feedback and a variety of action on these issues in Term 3. Traffic was a problem before COVID-19 and our school teachers and staff are making great efforts to manage this in this new environment, with all sites staffed at both morning and afternoon sessions: this is a huge commitment from our teachers! We ask all parents to please follow all instructions to ensure the safety of our children.



STAY IN TOUCH – NEW EMAIL ADDRESS TO CONTACT US

We want to ensure that there are easy ways to communicate with the P & C and to share the load across our volunteer team. To assist, we've created a new P & C communications email address to pass on your ideas, big or small or to raise issues of concern. Items raised will be discussed and addressed at the forthcoming P & C Meeting. This new address will be managed jointly by the President and our two Vice Presidents. Here is a fast list of how you can contact us:

What	Email address	Who
Uniform Shop	hnpuniforms@gmail.com	Tanya Manwaring
P & C Secretary	hornsbynorthpandcsecretary@gmail.com	Nicole Nicholls & June Song
P & C President	hornsbynorthpandcpresident@gmail.com	Janelle McIntosh
Communications NEW	hornsbynorthpandccommunications@gmail.com	Alokita Kapur, Michelle Tonge,

You can also follow us via our P & C Facebook site – <https://www.facebook.com/HornsbyNorthPublicSchoolPC/>

SAVE THE DATE - JOIN US FOR THE NEXT P & C MEETING – MONDAY 3 AUGUST 7:30 PM VIA ZOOM