

Our mission is to create a safe, respectful evidence-based learning environment where a diversity of student learners feel: Valued, actively engaged, challenged and supported to achieve success and maximum independence post-school.



HAMLYN VIEWS SCHOOL NEWSLETTER | 8th October 2021

KEY DATES

- **October 10th – October 16th**
National Carers Week
- **Monday 11th October**
Parents Victoria Online Conference
- **Thursday 14th October**
Allied Health Professional's Day
- **Monday 18th October (Week 3)**
Principal & Chaplain Online Parent Chat (time and date TBC)
- **Wednesday 20th October**
Geelong Cup Public Holiday
- **Tuesday 26th October**
All students return to onsite learning
- **Friday 29th October**
Report Writing Day - *Student Free Day*
World Teachers Day
- **Monday 1st November (Week 5)**
Swimming Commences
- **Friday 12th November**
PASS Awards Night
- **Monday 29th November**
Learning Conversations (SSG's)
- **Friday 3rd December**
International Day for People with a Disability
- **Tuesday 7th December**
Step-Up Day (TBC)
- **Friday 17th December**
Last Day of Term 4 – 1:30PM finish

PH: 5215 5700

www.hamlynviews.vic.edu.au

Principal – Suzanne Armstrong

Book Week



Last term, we acknowledged the 2021 book week theme of *Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds* by getting dressed up and reading a variety of texts such as *Aliens Love Underpants* and *Alice in Wonderland*. Staff and students always enjoy the opportunity to get dressed up for a theme! Fingers crossed next year we will all be on site together again.



PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

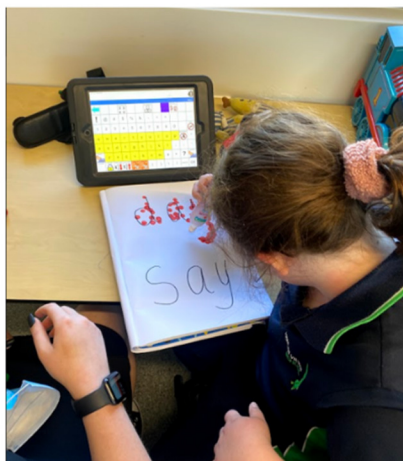


Principal News

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to Term 4. I hope everyone had a chance to relax in the holidays and enjoy greater freedoms with the lifting of some restrictions in the second week. I was fortunate that Regional Victoria changed in time for me to take a short holiday to Halls Gap during the last week of Term 3 for my long service leave and am grateful for Michele for being Acting Principal during that week.

It is pleasing to have more students back at school as part of DET's staged return to onsite learning. As per the plan all students, in age-appropriate year levels, are expected to be back at school by Tuesday 26th October. During this period, remote and flexible learning will continue for students not onsite, with access to onsite also available as per previous guidance, for vulnerable children and children of parents/carers who are on the authorised provider or authorised worker list. All families have been provided with information about their child and the plan for the return to on-site learning. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.



We are very aware that the recent Lockdowns, and now a staged return to onsite learning, has been a very unsettling time for many students and adults alike. Hopefully, we will have a less disrupted period leading up to the end of the school year. Our staff are very keen to have more focused time with their students, prioritising academic learning, as well as, supporting their wellbeing, as they adjust to more structure and routine back at school.

We continue to operate under a range of restrictions but expect many of these will ease after the full return to onsite learning. Please support us to keep our community safe and follow the Victorian Chief Health Officer directives that include;

- Wearing a face mask whilst onsite during pick-up and drop-off times
- Practicing social distancing
- Checking-In with the QR if you are required to be in the building.

We will continue our current drop-off and pick-up arrangements to support our covid safe plan.

We appreciate families notifying us when students and family members have a Covid-19 test when they display symptoms or have been at an exposure site and isolate accordingly. It is important that if there is positive case we are notified promptly.

Access to the school building for families and visitors still has restrictions as per DET Operational Guidelines.

Parent Support Needs



If parents have any support requests, please don't hesitate to contact members of our wellbeing team or your child's teacher who will make a referral. They are only too willing to help you.

Parent/Carer Cupper



Please join Paul, our Chaplain, for an online chat. (Bring your own cuppa). This will be held in week 3. Date and time to be confirmed next week.

Swimming – Term 4



This term swimming will commence in week 5 and finish in week 10. Marty will run a program of 3 weeks for Foundation/Early Years then for Later/Middle Years. I know students will look forward to this program resuming.

Grant Success



Our Speech Therapist Alice has been successful in getting a \$5,000 grant from the **Lions Club of Geelong, Hamlyn Heights** for an eye gaze device. Well done Alice on obtaining this specialised equipment for our students.

Curriculum Days

Our staff had a very valuable professional learning day on Friday 17th September. Topics covered by a range of presenters included TEAM TEACH (Protective strategies), High Impact Engagement Strategies, Noise Levels and Music Therapy, and Staff Wellbeing. Our next Curriculum Day on 29th October will be a Reporting Writing Day.

Staffing Matters

As I announced in my letter to families on Monday we have some staffing changes this term. Elise Mascarin has taken up an Education Improvement Leader role at the new Western Region Diverse Learner's Hub, and Jessie Zerbst will teach Later Years Green. Michele Marcu is seconded 3 days per week as an Acting Manager for the South-Eastern Region's Diverse Learner's Hub for the next 6 weeks. Warren Dawson is Acting Assistant Principal in Michele's absence.

These days will vary across the weeks. Natasha McAuliffe and Claire Thomson have been appointed to a shared Inclusion Outreach Coaching Learning Specialist role. They will prepare for their role this term which they begin fully in 2022.

We welcome back April Drew from Parental Leave. She will be the ES in Foundation Blue each Friday. Megan Willis (ES) has returned from teaching studies and will work in Early Years Green whilst Abi Hobbs (ES) will work across the school as needed. Abhi Sarvananthar, our new Physiotherapist, will be here Monday, Wednesday and Friday from week 3, whilst Paul our Chaplain will work 3 days from week 3, generally on a Wednesday.

We expect our student enrolment to be over 100 in 2022 and have begun our recruitment process to secure new staff so we can be well set-up at the start of the new year.

Staffing Awards



We are delighted that again this year 3 of our 4 nominated staff have been shortlisted in the Annual Victorian Principal's Association of Specialist School Awards recognising their outstanding improvement project

work and exemplary practice. This is a highly competitive and prestigious Award program. Congratulations and good luck to Claire Thomson (Primary and Secondary categories), Ranelle McNamara (Graduate Teacher) and Alice Stubbings (Allied Health). Acknowledgment to Natasha McAuliffe who was nominated in the Learning Specialist category but not shortlisted. This year's online event will be held on Friday 12th November.

Jess Blakely has also been nominated for a Vocational Education and Training (VET) Champion Award. This is in recognition of her success in completing this training program and now securing her dream job (her words). Congratulations Jess and wishing you every success.

School Council Update

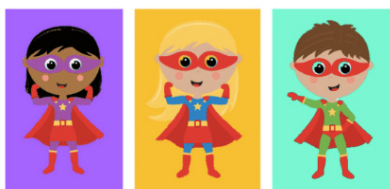
At the last School Council meeting the follow topics were covered;

- Child Safety Compliance Training
- The Out of School Care Survey – initial results
- Parent Payments Policy changes
- School Photography

Regards,

Suzanne Armstrong

Principal



Parents Victoria Online Conference



Parents Victoria is a Victorian government education stakeholder and is funded by DET to deliver its annual Conference.

The Conference is attended by parents, School Councillors and school staff from all over Victoria.

The Parents Victoria Annual Conference will take place online this year on **Monday 11th October**.



The theme this year is "Recipes for Great Schools."

Presenters will be talking about the importance of 'Vitamin C' for a healthy school environment - Community, Caring, Connection, Communication and Consent.

Program Summary

- 10:00am - **Conference Opening** and address by the Deputy Premier and Minister for Education & Minister for Mental Health, James Merlino.
- 10:30 am - **Caring through Connection** with Dr Elspeth Stephenson, University of Tasmania

- 12:30am - **Parents Victoria AGM**
A necessary part of the PV program
- 1:00pm - **Collective Conversation on Consent**
facilitated by Debbie Ollis, with special guests Chanel Contos and Katrina Marson.
- 2.00 pm - **Conference close**

Registration for the event is free but essential. Register now via: <https://bit.ly/3FuF2SI>.

Full program and presenter details can be downloaded here: <https://bit.ly/3BiwQCG>.

SunSmart



A reminder to parents and carers that Term 4 is a SunSmart term.

As we begin to transition back to onsite learning over the next couple of weeks, please send in a hat with your child that can be kept at school. A wide-brimmed or legionnaires hat is preferred. Classroom teachers will follow up on any students that do not have a hat at school.

In other SunSmart news, we are currently putting in an application for an additional shade sail for the Later Years yard to provide more outdoor learning space for our students.

Art with Mim

This week, our students enjoyed experimenting with marble painting and 'making their mark' after reading *The Dot* in Art with Mim:



Resource Smart – Caring for the Environment



The resource smart team along with the Green Team will be giving updates, information, activities, tips and reminders of ways we can help care for the environment.



This week, we are focusing on the environmental impact of **disposable face masks** and how we can reduce our impact.

- Disposable face masks are not recyclable, once used they must be put in the bin.
- Never litter on the ground, and try not to throw it away in an outdoor bin or sit it down outside, as the wind could pick it up and blow it away.
- Cut the ear loops with scissors before putting in the bin to prevent entangling wildlife



Alternative to disposable face masks:

- The most environmentally-friendly option is a reusable cloth mask.
- Have a look at this website for information around making your own and buying local.



<https://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/disposable-face-masks>



eSmart In Schools



eSmart is a behaviour-change framework, designed to help schools to improve cyber safety and reduce cyberbullying and bullying in general.

This is a whole community framework that builds up teachers, students and their families to encourage students to make safe choices for themselves and others when accessing the internet and technology devices.

The eSmart framework works alongside the School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support Framework, as well as the Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships resource.

Across the remainder of 2021 and continuing into 2022 Hamlyn Views school will work towards achieving their eSmart School's certificate and embed solid practices within students and staff that encourage and empower one another to be safe online and to have the courage to speak up when something isn't right.

<https://www.esmart.org.au>

Cyber Bullying and Online Drama



As our students grow, so do their interests in different search engines, apps and technology. Their access to the big wide world of the internet gets greater. With this comes great learning opportunities, however there is also an element of uncertainty and risk. Below is a link to the 'Parent's Guide to Cyberbullying and Online Drama' as well as a facts sheet with helpful links in relation to common apps our students access such as TikTok, Youtube Kids, Snapchat, and Instagram.

<https://vimeo.com/58232078>

Child Safe Standards - Four Critical Actions for Schools



In order for schools to meet Child Safe Standard 5 they are required to follow appropriate procedures for responding to and reporting

allegations of suspected child abuse. Child abuse includes any instance of physical or sexual abuse (including grooming), emotional or psychological harm, serious or significant neglect and family violence involving a child.

There are Four Critical Actions school's must follow as listed below:

- 1) Respond to an emergency
- 2) Report to authorities/refer to services
- 3) Contacting Parents/Carers where advised
- 4) Provide on-going support

School staff members must act as soon as they witness an incident or form a reasonable belief that a child has been or is at risk of being abused, including exposure to family violence.

Once a reasonable belief has been formed it is not the role of the school to investigate, this is the role of DHHS Child protection or Victoria Police.

Sun Shade Grant Success

We have been notified today that we will receive a grant to erect a sunshade at the front of our school staffroom. Great news!





COVID-19 testing, vaccination and hardship support fact sheet for parents

Testing and isolation

If you have any symptoms of COVID-19, you must [get tested](#) and stay home until you get your result. Do not go to work or to the shops.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- fever, chills or sweats
- cough or sore throat
- shortness of breath
- runny nose
- loss of sense of smell or taste

The COVID-19 test is free for everyone. This includes people without a Medicare card, such as visitors from overseas, migrant workers and asylum seekers.

If you test positive for COVID-19, you must isolate (stay) in your home.

If you are a close contact of someone with COVID-19 you must quarantine (stay at home) for 14 days and until you are advised you can leave quarantine by an Authorised Officer from the Department of Health.

If you live with, or have spent time with, someone who is a close contact, you will also be asked to stay at home.

Vaccination

What you need to know

- Everyone who is aged 16 years and over can get their COVID-19 vaccine.
- Make a booking by calling the Coronavirus Hotline on [1800 675 398](#). If you need an interpreter, press zero (0).
- People aged 60 years and older will be offered the [AstraZeneca](#) vaccine. Some people with specific medical conditions will be eligible for Pfizer vaccine.
- People 12 - 59 years of age will be given the [Pfizer](#) vaccine.
- The COVID-19 vaccine is free for everyone. You do not need a Medicare card.
- The vaccine is voluntary. You can choose to get vaccinated.
- You need two doses (injections) of the same COVID-19 vaccine to be effective.
- When you get your first dose, you will be told when you need to get your second dose.
- All vaccines are carefully tested to make sure they are safe before they are approved for use in Australia.
- If you are worried about your health or getting the COVID-19 vaccine, talk to your doctor.

Support is available

Hardship support

If you are worried about losing income while you wait for your test results, you may be eligible for a \$450 COVID-19 Test Isolation support. This will help support you to stay home.

If you test positive or are a close contact of a confirmed case, you may be eligible for a \$1,500 payment. For more information call the Coronavirus Hotline on [1800 675 398](tel:1800675398). If you need an interpreter, press zero (0).

If you or someone you know is feeling anxious or concerned, you can call Lifeline on [13 11 14](tel:131114) or Beyond Blue on [1800 512 348](tel:1800512348). If you need an interpreter, first call [131 450](tel:131450).

If you are feeling isolated, you can call the Coronavirus Hotline on 1800 675 398 and press three (3). If you need an interpreter, press zero (0). You will be connected to a volunteer from the Australian Red Cross who can link you with local support services.

- [\\$450 Coronavirus Testing Support \(Word\)](#)
- [\\$1500 Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment \(Word\)](#)

If you need an interpreter, call the COVID-19 hotline 1800 675 398 and press 0.