Welcome back to Haddon Primary School for the beginning of yet another fun filled year! We hope that you have all had very safe and relaxing holidays and that everybody's ready for the term ahead. Also a warm welcome to those students and families who are new to Haddon, please don’t hesitate to ask questions if you are unsure of anything.

This newsletter is designed to keep you up to date with up-coming events and to provide you with general information. Please remind your eldest child to take home the additional weekly newsletter as this ensures communication. This should be located in your child’s diary.

**Important Dates**
Please put these on your calendar or in your diary.

**JANUARY**
- 28th - Teacher’s resume
- 29th - Parent Teacher Interviews (please refer to timetable previously handed out)
- 30th – Parent Teacher Interviews (please refer to timetable previously handed out)
- 31st – Parent Teacher Interviews (please refer to timetable previously handed out)

**FEBRUARY**
- 3rd – Students start back
- 4th – Gr 6 HPS Hoodie fitting in the library (11am)
- 6th – North Melbourne Football Clinic
- 10th – Adventure Park Excursion Gr 5/6
- 13th – 3/4 Swimming commences
- 13th – Active After Schools program starts

**MARCH**
- 4th – HPS Sports Day
- 10th – Labour Day Holiday – *no school*
- 11th – Hockey Clinics (Gr 3-6)
- 14th – EcoLink Excursion: Biodiversity Gr 5/6
- 25th – School Photo Day
- 25th – Llanberris Sports (TBC)

**APRIL**
- 4th – Walkathon, casual dress (Last day of term 1, 1:30pm dismissal)
- 22nd – Term 2 begins
School Captains
We look forward to listening to speeches prepared by those Grade 6 students aspiring to be our School Captains for 2014. We know some students were very keen to prepare these over the holidays and can’t wait to hear them. We encourage all Grade 6 students interested in representing their school to write and present a speech to an audience of fellow 5/6 students, teachers, our Principal (Mrs Moody) and Vice Principal (Gaye Carrigan). Speeches must be prepared by the 7th of February. Shortly after this date, we will announce Haddon Primary School’s boy and girl School Captains, House Captains, Vice House Captains and Junior School Council Representatives. We wish all candidates the best of luck.

Hoodies
On the 4th of February, at 11:00am, Grade 6 hooded jumpers will be available for students to try on in the library. Parents are welcome to attend.

Curriculum
This year we are very excited to be studying Australian colonisation and Australia as a nation. We will be endeavouring to cover a time period from the 1800s and beyond. If students have any family members who were refugees or had a role in any of the World Wars then could they please collate as much information and documentation as possible to share with the class. If you know of anyone with an interesting history willing to speak to our students then please don’t hesitate in contacting Miss McIntosh or Miss Ellis.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome some new faces on staff at HPS. Miss Lilburne will be taking our students for Japanese lessons once a week. Learning another language is now part of our curriculum and we encourage students to share and practise speaking Japanese both in and out of school. Miss Lilburne will also be driving our Science curriculum and working with our students once a week. Throughout the year we are also looking forward to working with experienced Ecolinc and Earth Education staff members to deliver a thorough Science Education program.

In addition, Miss Davison will be joining the 3/4 team here at Haddon Primary School. We are sure they will both contribute fresh ideas and further learning opportunities and experiences for our students.

Homework Policy
Students are expected to complete a minimum of 15 minutes of reading each weeknight, with titles and page numbers recorded in student diaries. We ask that parents sign student diaries to monitor their child’s reading on a nightly basis. It is important that your child is exposed to a wide variety of texts both fiction and non-fiction. Students are encouraged to explore different genres and authors. Teachers will check diaries on a weekly basis. In addition, grade 5/6 students are expected to complete an allocated section in their Maths Mate homework books each week, with completed sheets expected at school on Fridays. Students should also be revising their spelling words at home each week, with further tasks, including project work and speech rehearsal, to be added throughout the year.

During the first week of school, students will be encouraged to record any dates/special events from their home calendar into their school diaries.
Buddies
Our Grade 5 students began enquiring about their buddies Term 4 last year! They are looking forward to getting to know their buddies and will endeavour to help our new preps settle into the routine of school life. They will accompany their buddies for lunch, help familiarise them with the school and facilitate the pack-up routine prior to the home time bell. Grade 5’s will continue further activities with their buddies each term.

Swimming
This Term the grade 3/4 students will participate in swimming lessons at the YMCA. The swimming program provides the opportunity for students to learn to swim and to refine stroke technique. It is a fun and healthy activity. The AusVELS curriculum expects that by the end of grade 6 students should be able to:

Swim competently for a continuous distance of 50 metres (25 metres in freestyle and 25 metres in another stroke), demonstrate sound breathing and stroke techniques, throw a rope or buoyant object to a person at least five metres from the side of the pool and pull or guide them to safety, perform survival techniques of sculling, treading water, floating and survival strokes for an extended time (four to six minutes), while clothed, in a pool and/or in open water.

We hope that our students are confident and responsible in and around water. Will your child leave primary school with these skills?

Rules for inside the Main Building
By taking careful consideration of these rules we can maintain a safe environment together.

- no running;
- shoes off and places neatly in designated class area;
- clean hands (we encourage everyone to wash their hands to help prevent allergic reactions - especially after eating);
- netbooks to be placed in secure class cabinet;
- netbooks are not to be borrowed by others;
- no one inside before the 8:50am bell;
- no entry at recess and lunch time without gaining permission from yard duty teacher;
- no animals (unless approved by classroom teacher);
- drink bottles should be filled with water, no juice or cordial please; and
- school bags and personal belongings to be kept neatly in bag area.
**Allergies**

Please be mindful of our students who have **SEVERE ALLEGIES** when packing your child’s lunch.

The following is a list of foods to avoid:

- Nuts and products containing traces of nuts for example: Nutella;
- Oranges and products containing oranges;
- Blueberries and products containing blueberries;
- Mangoes;
- Cheezles, Twisties, Corn Chips, Shapes and Barbecue and Chicken Chips; and
- Products containing **MSG 626 635**

**Punctuality**

*Early arrival* - bags should be placed outside your child’s shoe area door (against brick wall, not in the door way) and students **must** move around the back of the school to the quiet area. This is a whole school rule for all students, as teachers are unable to supervise before this time.

*Late arrival* - after the 9 o’clock bell students **must** obtain a late pass from the office. If your child is absent from school, a signed note is required when they return to school to explain their absence or please see Lisa at the office. If for some reason your child leaves the school grounds for lunch, could you please ensure that they arrive back at school before class commences, 2:25pm at the latest.

If you need to pick up your child at any time during school, all children **MUST** be signed out at the office before leaving.

**Notes**

Please be aware that there will be many notes going home with children at the beginning of the year.

Please sign these and return to school as soon as possible as often we need to know numbers for catering and if we don’t get these right it usually comes at a cost.

It is expected that children come to school in full school uniform at all times (unless stated). If for some reason your child needs to be out of uniform, please send a note along to school. Furthermore, please see Lisa at the office if you require any items of clothing.

**PE and ART**

Students require an art smock or an old shirt (labelled) which will be kept in the classroom for art classes and runners during P.E classes (to be worn on designated P.E days). Please check your child’s timetable to find out when these sessions are (please be patient as timetables are still being finalised).
Home Time
Please be mindful of student safety and walk into the school grounds when collecting your child from the front of the school. If your pick-up point is near the bus stop, please make sure your child is near you as this will make it easier for teachers to recognise who remains to be collected. Those students without parents should be waiting against the brick wall and not playing on the raised grass area or near cars.

School Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9am-11am</td>
<td>Class time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11am-11:30am</td>
<td>Recess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30am-1:30pm</td>
<td>Class Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30pm-2:30pm</td>
<td>Lunch Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30pm-3:30pm</td>
<td>Class Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:25pm</td>
<td>School dismissed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lost Property
Please ensure that all items are clearly named, especially hats and jumpers which are easily lost. If your child does lose anything please get them to check the lost property bin first, before asking the teacher, which is located in the main building outside Ms. Carrigan’s office. Also please get your child to check that they have brought home their own jumper, as sometimes students mistakenly pick up the wrong jumper.

Sun Smart Policy
During Term 1 and Term 4 every child is required to wear a broad brimmed school hat when outside. Children will need to wear a hat every day during this term for all play times and sports sessions. Please ensure that your child’s name is written clearly inside his/her hat. If your child has no hat they must sit in the shade of our quiet area. There is always sunscreen available for children to use.

ICT
We are lucky enough to have interactive whiteboards and netbooks and Ipads in all 3-6 classrooms, therefore the children have the opportunity to participate in many different online, interactive activities. The websites have a variety of Literacy and Numeracy activities for the children to participate in at home. Sites that can be easily accessed from home include:

- [www.ictgames.com](http://www.ictgames.com)
- [http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk](http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk)
- [www.crickweb.co.uk/](http://www.crickweb.co.uk/)

School Value – Respect
During the year, students will explore what it means to be respectful and how to show examples of respect. Some examples include people having a lot in common but not having to agree with everyone about everything, you should be accepting that people have differences in opinion based on topics.
Medication Forms
If your child requires ANY medication (including asthma puffers) a medical form must be filled out at the office as soon as possible. It is vital that all the information is correct and this needs to be up-dated each year. We cannot at any time administer medication to children until these forms have been completed with very detailed steps for what needs to be done. For some children, it can be a matter of life or death and we take this very seriously.

School Athletic Sports
Our School Athletic Sports will be held down on the school oval (see calendar for date). Students are reminded to wear their house colours on the day, however those students who don’t have a house will be assigned one and informed. All family and friends are invited to come along and show their support. Please read the newsletter to find out more information closer to the date. If you can offer help in any way please see Mr Jackson as we need lots of volunteers on the day and leading up to it.

Contact
Please don’t hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. We are constantly looking for ways we can improve our practices and appreciate your feedback, taking all thoughts/ideas into consideration.

Kind regards,
Senior Team,
Miss McIntosh, Miss Ellis, Miss Farquhar, Miss Davison and Miss Wilson