Welcome back to our new school year!

We are looking forward to a very successful year with lots of good opportunities for learning as well as lots of fun activities. Our Art festival will be held in term 4 and Gaye will soon be looking for ideas and helpers.

This year we plan to extend our robotics program to our grade 3 & 4 students. Coding will be further embedded into our curriculum with our Preps commencing coding activities later in the year with their Buddies.

Technology is a big part of the Victorian Curriculum and we are fortunate as there has always been a big presence in our school. The first round of the school netbook program will be open next week. These netbooks are not mandatory however, where possible we do encourage students to have their own device. They are open for students from 3-6. The school does have devices available for those students who don’t have a personal netbook.

Our swimming program kicked off today with our Grade 5&6 classes. Students, who have not paid for swimming, will not be attending. There are some students who are competent swimmers who will remain back at school by parent choice. We don’t wish to offend families but accounts do need to be paid for promptly.

Student supplies have been delivered and parents who have yet to pay for the booklists need to make their payment as soon as possible.

Grade 5 & 6 students will be heading off to the PGL adventure camp in the last week of the term. Already teachers are planning for a great experience for these students. This is our first time at this adventure camp and we have received very positive feedback from students in having this opportunity so early in the year.

We would like to express a very big welcome to our new families. Our very bright eyed and bushy tailed Preps are settled already. The Prep interviews will continue through February, as such, no classes for Preps on Wednesdays until the week commencing Monday 27th of February, week 5.

Our school sports will be hosted on the 2nd of March with a reserve day, due to poor weather, on the 9th. These will be twilight sports and more information will be sent home shortly.

In 2016 our School Council was extremely hard working and the Community Relations group was very successful. Funds, at this stage, will go towards a new shade port which is a result of the wind in term 4 2016. This was an unplanned expense however we are fortunate to have funds available.

Our fort will not be going ahead as regulations have made it difficult to erect. In addition an inspection was undertaken over the break and the results indicated that there was insufficient room for an additional structure. All funds raised however will go towards extras for our students. These may be include: robots, sports equipment for the yard, or resources that, without fundraising, we would be unable to offer.

School Council Elections will be coming up in February signage will be displayed shortly, calling for nominations.

Education is important, “It’s not ok to be away”, or to be late!!

Please send in absences via Tiqbiz. Or phone in by 9am 5342 4487
2017 Netbooks

Netbook order forms are now open for semester 1.
Order forms available at the office.

Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)

Forms are available for or families to get assistance for Camps and Excursions. Eligible families will receive $125 per child. To be eligible for assistance parents or guardians must:

• Be an eligible of a health care card or concession card.
• Be a temporary foster parent.

These funds can be used for any excursion / swimming or camps. The funds cannot be used for the purchase of student requisites.

Forms must be handed in to the office by 15th June.
School Hours and expectations.

8:50   Students to go to class
9:00   Classes commence, our learning day starts.
11:00  Recess
11:30  Classes resume.
1:30   Lunch – eaten in the classroom.
1:40   Recess
2:30   Classes resume
3:25   Dismissal bell.

Students that arrive prior to supervision commencing at (8:50) are required to go to the back area of the school inside the blue fence. They are not to be on the oval or tennis courts. These areas are not visible to staff.

Please make sure your child is aware of these requirements.

We have an early bird program for early drop offs, in the library. No students are permitted to gather around the front of the school, they are to drop off their bags and go to the asphalt area or the quiet area.

Our classes commence promptly at 9 a.m. There is to be no interruptions to classes, as such we expect all students to arrive on time. Our commitment to our student learning time is unwavering any interruption can prove a distraction and we rely on parents to support this expectation. Late passes are available at the office where students need to report if they arrive late.

Working With Childrens Check

As of 5 December 2016, Victorian applicants for the Working with Children Check are able to have their identity securely verified online, reducing the time it takes to finalise their application at a participating Australia Post outlet.

Applicants who electronically verify their identity only need to present one photo ID document or card from the list of acceptable proof of identity documents at Australia Post.

Electronic identity verification is a fully secure service, as applicants’ details are checked by the issuing body, such as VicRoads or Australian Passport Office, and are not retained during the verification process.

Applicants who choose not to, or are unable to verify their identity electronically can go to a participating Australia Post outlet with multiple documents from the new list of POI documents and verify in person.

Australia Post will take a digital photo of each applicant, free of charge.

In conjunction with the new electronic identity verification service the list of acceptable proof of identity (POI) documents has also changed. See the next article New proof of identity requirements for details.
Full payment must be received by the commencement of the first session. Students who have not paid will remain at school and be placed in other classrooms.

Returned before the end of the school year.

The cost of the session and travel will be $55 per student for seven sessions. Student information forms have been sent home (extras available on website) and need to be completed. The sessions will commence at 2:45pm and conclude at 3:45pm.

The sessions will run for 40-45 minutes with a ratio of 1 instructor to 6 students. This is in response to last year’s swimming survey where parents requested small instruction groups.

Swimming instruction sessions have been booked for term one 2017. For all classes from Prep-6 at the Bellfield Aquatic Centre. Two grades will go to swimming each day.

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2017 Haddon Primary School Swimming