I am writing this just before we go to our first performance of the Magic Faraway Tree. The students are all very excited, not to mention a few teachers. I am sure it will be an absolutely fabulous show and I thank the many parents who have put hours and hours into this production. The page is not long enough to mention all parents, however, a special mention must go to the following people.

Cathy Kempe (production), Leigh Murray (choreography), Marion Giles (set design), Jane Blackall (design work for poster/flyers), Rachel Hazel (ticketing), Diana and Anita Jones (costuming and props), Nicole Sciacca (catering), Lonny Schall (props), Rose Somers (catering) and Miss Owens’ mum and dad, Laura and Mark (filming). For all your help, I am extremely grateful.

During the holidays (Sat 28th September) Beaumont St, will be transforming into Chinatown for the day. A famous Chinese tradition is the giving of red envelopes. Red envelopes, usually filled with money, are given out on special occasions such as birthdays and weddings. To help celebrate all things Chinese, students from our school have been writing positive messages to put in 1000 red envelopes that we plan to give away to the community on that day. Mrs Smith (Kellie) and I will take turns in manning the stall but would love for some students (in school uniform) to join us. The festival runs from 9.30 - 4pm. If your son/daughter or even yourself is interested in helping out on the day, please call the school and let us know what time you can volunteer.

Another group of hardworking volunteers have been putting in hours of time on the weekend to help support the school. Hamilton Men’s Running Group are in the middle of making 4 fabulous tables for our outdoor learning centre. The learning centre will be inside the Blue Gate Garden and will be used by all classes to do environmental education and sustainability lessons.

The P&C have been lucky enough, thanks to Chris Saunders (Tristan’s dad) to secure the Regal Theatre for their major fundraising event of the year. Movies are yet to be announced, but we have secured 2 nights in case babysitting is a problem (mum can go one night and dad can go the following week). So grab your diary right now and put aside 22nd or 29th of October – or even both nights, if you are able. We were also able to secure a liquor licence for the night, so grab your friends, book a babysitter and enjoy a night out with the fabulous, friendly parents of Hamilton Public School.

I’m sure I’ll be seeing most of you over the next two days for the concert, however, if I don’t get time to speak with you personally, I wish you all the best for an enjoyable and safe holiday. Don’t forget school resumes on Tuesday 7th October for all students.

Teeny Blatchford, Principal

Mrs Hitchcock’s Retirement Assembly and Morning Tea

Mrs Hitchcock is retiring at the end of this term and we will be holding a special assembly to celebrate her amazing teaching career. Parents and caregivers are invited to attend the assembly, followed by Hello Hamilton Unloaders, morning tea in the staffroom.

When: Friday 19th September, 2014 – 10.15am
Where: The Performance Centre, Hamilton Public School

Hello Hamilton Unloaders

Our poetic term has ended on a sweet note. Stay tuned to ABC Newcastle radio this Thursday at 10am as four Unload students from different schools will be reading a poem they created for the Red Room Poetry Object. All the poems have been amazing and we will be submitting them to the Red Room website this week. We will let you know when they are published. Well done everyone.

Don’t forget to register for next term ...

Next term Unload will be mixing it up with epic stories, crazy characters, comics, poetry slams and generally exploring the kids’ bottomless well of imagination and creativity. Please find attached our new and improved online form to fill in and email back to save on printing and hassle.

Note – For continuing students, we just need your child’s name and birthday, tick the acceptance box, payment options and any details that have changed.

We welcome feedback from parents and students so please feel free to contact us. Enjoy the holiday break and we hope to see you back next term!

Suzie & Aleeta
0409 409 141
www.unload.org.au

If you have a child or know of a child in our area to start kindergarten next year please let the office know by the end of the week.
P&C Update
The AGM was a great success, thanks for those who came and gave the Executive their vote of confidence. The 2014/2015 Executive is Craig Evans - President, Marion Giles - Vice President, Rob Foster - Treasurer and Nicole Sciacca - Secretary

Thanks to Grant Jackson who was President in 2013/2014. Work commitments have meant he was unable to participate this year. Hope to still you at some meetings though Grant and thanks for your time and energy.

The next meeting is going to be on 14th October at 6pm - originally was scheduled for 21st October, we've moved it a week earlier.

Fundraising
The Father’s Day Art Express was great fun. Thanks to those who participated (135 students!) and we hope the recipients enjoyed their bit of colour! We raised just over $300. We did have a couple of hiccups and sincere apologies to those affected.

Thanks to the fantastic team of mums and Mum’s helpers (!) who helped out too. It really was a mammoth effort… Priscilla, Vanessa, Mia, Amanda, Kylie, Laura, Kate, Linda, Neroli, Michelle, Priyanka, Mairead, Jodie, Anna, Nicole and Joanne. And the ‘extra’ helpers - Jed, Darcie, Marla, Jess W, Lilian, Elise, Lexi and Christ - go kids!

We will let you know about the October event asap in Term 4.

Canteen
Jake and Darci’s charity - Assisted Dogs Australia - will be shortly receiving a cheque in the post for $35. It wasn’t the busiest of charity days, but we do appreciate everyone’s support. Thanks again for your help this term Darci and Jake.

We will continue Wednesday recess service in Term 4 with a more summery twist (!) and we’ll also be adding a few additional items to the lunch menu and removing a few more ‘wintry’ ones. We’ll let you know the changes well in advance. We always welcome new volunteers to the canteen and it’s a great way to be involved. It’s easy, relaxing and fun. We are asking for volunteers for term 4 - go to the canteen noticeboard to put your name down - lots of session choices and it really is easy!

And thanks to our volunteers in the past fortnight Rose, Nicole, Kim, Bec, Skye, Chris, Laura, Nat, Jane, Kate, Alison, Kim F and Mia.

A small team also helped cater for a regional school meeting on 3rd September - thanks to the team of Rose, Patsy, Peter, Linda and Nicole - a huge effort and the feedback was great. We’ve even been asked to do it again!

And we have started using lettuce from the aquaponics ‘tub’ in the Blue Gate Garden. We’ll have to start paying the Blue Gate team as it’s so tasty and so easy to get!

Thanks again for your support.

Hamilton P&C

Primary Ethics
Dear Hamilton Parents

Currently we have classes from Year 2 to 6, however the curriculum is now available to offer the opportunity to all years but we don’t have enough volunteer facilitators to deliver the program.

The Primaryethics program has been running at our school for four years and we were the first of two schools in the region to offer it. The program is a fantastic way to get involved with your children’s school and meet their friends.

The classes are run on Tuesday afternoon from 2.30 till 3pm, which is great as if you pick up your child at 3pm you can just come half an hour early and facilitate a Primaryethics class.

Training is supplied without cost over two days and must be undertaken to participate. Training is often run in Sydney which can be challenging for parents to attend however in October there will be training available in Newcastle Sunday the 19th & 26th October 2014.

To attend training you must first apply online and on acceptance you will also need to complete a volunteer working with children’s check and plus a national police check.


This can be a little time consuming but it would be fantastic if we could have a group of parents to attend the training in October.

Hope to see you Tuesday week to answer any questions you may have.

Kind Regards

Suzanne Barker (Billy and Daniel’s Mum)

Primary Ethics Coordinator

Blood Donations
Are you, or would you like to be a blood donor? Please help by joining Club Red next time you donate. The Australian Red Cross Blood Service is always in need of blood. Whilst the children of Hamilton Public School are too young to donate, we as a community can set a wonderful example, helping to save lives by donating blood. Whilst not everybody is eligible to donate, it is easy enough to find out by simply calling 131495 or going to www.donateblood.com.au

If you are already a donor please join the Hamilton Public School tally. How wonderful it will be to be able to tell the children that our school community helped to save ?? lives this year!

Why not get a group and donate together. They will even supply the cuppa and muffins afterwards!

DO RE MI SINGERS
WITH
NEWCASTLE CONSERVATORIUM
COMMUNITY STRING ORCHESTRA
Conducted by David Banney
Tuesday 9th September, 2014
7:00-8:30pm
Newcastle Conservatorium of Music
corner Laman & Auckland Streets,
Cooks Hill
Adults $12/ Conc $8/ Children
$5/ Families $25
at the door on concert night; suited
to children from 4 years
JOIN US! DO-RE-MI SINGERS
have continuous enrolment of
children aged 8-12 years who love
to sing, learn harmony, sight reading
and performance skills.
FREE TRIAL - Thursdays 5.00-6.15pm
4963 2026
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Term 4: Environmental and Gardening Projects

**Tidy Tuesdays**

Beginning next term, every Tuesday will be Tidy Tuesday! That means all playground bins (red and yellow lid) will be put away and the school will be **Binless Every Tuesday**. Students will need to bring a waste free lunch and recess every Tuesday. Any packaging brought to school will be taken home again with students at the end of the day. Fruit and veg scraps will be composted at school.

**Why?** We are encouraging students (and parents) to reduce throw-away packaging ie. cling wrap, foil, chip packets, poppers etc. **How?** Buying in bulk, making your own and using plastic lunchboxes with separate compartments/containers that don’t need individual wrapping will cut down on excess packaging.

**Where Does All Our Plastic Go When We’ve Finished With It?** About 95% of plastic (bags and bottles, cling wrap, snap-lock bags and chip/muesli bar packets etc.) ends up in landfills, where they may take up to 1,000 years to decompose, and potentially leak pollutants into the soil and water. It’s estimated that there are also 100 million tons of plastic debris floating around in the oceans potentially killing sea creatures and poisoning our oceans.

![Image of garbage and plastic]

So let’s practise plastic reduction by bringing a binless lunch to school every Tuesday! Bring a binless lunch and your name goes in the draw for an awesome prize! More details next term.

Please see Mrs Isaacs if you have any questions.

Thank you to all the parents and children for all the great work undertaken during Term 3, the gardens are looking wonderful.

Spring is almost here and during Term 4 our focus will be to create a new garden in the Infants Playground. Our theme is to create a “Coastal Garden” from recycled material. Over the school holiday we need your help to collect the following:

- Old bike chains and cogs,
- Plastic or metal spoons,
- Empty wine bottles,
- Champagne corks with the metal caps,
- Bread ties,
- Buttons
- 2lt milk bottles (only 2lt)
- Sea Shells and
- Gum boots to finish the boot wall.

All items can be placed in the collection box down in the old year 6 area from the beginning of Term 4.

Come and see me in the garden if you have any questions, thank you Linda.
Register Now for Unload Creative Writing workshops in Term 4!
Unload is a fun creative writing programme offered here at Hamilton Public School. Each week students experiment with language through word games, writing activities and story-telling. Next term Unload will be mixing it up with epic stories, crazy characters, comics, poetry slams and generally delving deep into the kids’ bottomless well of imagination and creativity.
Who: Students from Year 3-6 (open to younger enthusiasts on request)
Where: OOSH Room
When: Tuesdays, 7.55-8.55am (starting week 2)
Cost: 9 weeks @ $120 per child
Numbers limited to 15 per class so get in quick!
For further information www.unload.org.au or contact Suzie - suzie@unload.org.au 0409 409 141

My Bat
Michael Clarke, the name in the game
The fantastic cricket player with all the fame
Michael Clarke’s bat – here it is!
Too precious to ever put in a dirty pit
The feeling is great when you hit the soft rubbery ball
It also creaks something quite small
A few runs or points you see
But it grows into something big, something big to be
The fame you get when you score 100, back at the start with one run
If you have courage and bravery to get 100, when you are finished it will be fun
I’ve had the fun once against my Dad
It was so fun and I will remember the moment I had
I was 98 and the pressure was on
Until I hit the ball “PANG” and scored two runs, and won!
All of these dreams can happen like that
All with this one Michael Clarke bat
If I lost it I would be as sad as can be
But I will never lose it. It will always stay with me
RM Sleepyhead Yr 4

An Old Loved Shoe
Footsteps running on cold hard ground,
Around
Around
Whoops of joy, yells of glee,
My shoe, shoe and me
The taste of glory, the feel of success,
No rest
No rest
No rest
An old, loved shoe that feels of winning,
The beginning
Beginning
Beginning
If my shoe gets TAKEN from me,
I’d be a shoe without a sole.
Luckily, my shoe is with me,
And that’s all that matters,
ALL
Nicky P. Narnia Year 2

My Box and My Locks
You are shiny metal and old
And you feel very cold
You protect my old baby hair
And I wish I could give it another wear
You keep my hair feeling all soft
And I keep you in my very old loft
You make me feel very keen
To make you feel very seen
Now I keep you in a special box
Filled with you and my golden locks.
Nicky P. Narnia Year 2

My Dragon of Death
My necklace is metal and looks like death
Sounds like a dragon roaring, chinking metal of terrified knights
It tastes like metallic blood and fear
The necklace has a wretched burning smell
Like the dragon has been breathing fire
Feels like the scales of an obsidian dragon
Cornchips Year 4

My perfect parasol
My parasol smells like strawberries
And it smells like cereal too
It doesn’t only give room to me
It can also give room for two!
It sounds like meadows and gentle waves
To make way for the pretty caves
It looks like a rainbow, my dear, dear friend
Its colours will stretch ’til the very end
It feels like a pillow made of silk from the clouds
It makes me feel quiet, not loud
It tastes like things sweet and sour
Its beauty lies beneath its power.
Trevion Yr 4

Suzie Galwey
0409 409 141
www.unload.org.au