

Upcoming Dates:

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
29/7	30/7	31/7	1/8	2/8 Swimming
5/8 Pupil Free Day	6/8	7/8	8/8	9/8 Swimming
12/8	13/8	14/8	15/8	16/8 Swimming
19/8	20/8 School Council	21/8	22/8	23/8 Swimming
26/8	27/8	28/8	29/8	30/8 Swimming

Important reminders:

Monday 5th August: Pupil Free Day
- no students at school

Our School Vision



Hamilton Parklands School's vision is to prepare young people to become active, engaged, and responsible citizens of the local communities.

We provide learning experiences that allow our students to reach their full potential, socially, emotionally, and academically.

At Hamilton Parklands School we provide a positive culture, which is a safe, inclusive and stimulating environment for all.

Bus Phone Numbers:

- Casterton 0448 257 683
- Macarthur 0427 808 109

Dear Parents and Carers,

In this fortnight's newsletter we are letting you know of some of the changes we have made at Hamilton Parklands School and some of the reasons behind those changes.

In an article in "The Age" on June 20th 2024, it was reported that police in Victoria are called to an incident involving family violence every six minutes, with a total of 96,000 incidents in 12 months to March 2024.

(<https://www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/one-call-every-six-minutes-family-violence-statistics-the-biggest-concern-for-police-20240615-p5jm25.html>)



These numbers are very concerning to us as a school and as members of our community. As a school we are trying to educate students to become socially responsible members of the community. Student behavioural choices in most schools in Victoria are becoming quite challenging, as they spend more time on social media, and digital devices. Please know this issue is not just in schools. Staff in supermarkets are now wearing badges that say things like "Abuse is not okay – I am a daughter".

To support our students to develop and increase the level of respect towards school staff and other students we have changed the way we address staff, now using the title of Mr, Miss or Mrs and asking all students to call each other by their proper names and not nicknames. The students have been practising this change and will be allowed time to learn the new titles, and remember that we use student names.

Some of the behaviours we are seeing at school more often includes – swearing at staff and students, name calling both students and staff, arguing with adults when asked to do something, refusing to follow instructions, increasing levels of violence – pushing, shoving, threatening to punch or hurt other people – both staff and students.

Historically we have allowed many of our students some leeway as people with intellectual developmental delay often need more time to learn new behaviours and ideas. While we are teaching our students an acceptable way to behave, we also need to ensure that staff and other students feel safe at school.

We will be reporting to you if your child has misbehaved at school, outlining the behaviour and the consequences. We will also be developing Behaviour Support Plans for those students who are demonstrating repeated poor behaviour choices. Once this occurs, the consequences will start to be suspension.

We have a system in place where students have the opportunity to collect stickers each day for demonstrating the school values and when they have received 5 stickers, they can access rewards. The rewards may include free time in the playground, a milk shake, some ice cream, some time on a laptop or iPad. When the class group has gained 200 stickers in total, they are able to have a class reward. Gumnuts had their pyjama day yesterday as their reward, and Waratah are about to decide on a reward for next week.

Working together to support our young people become responsible and respectful in all areas of their lives is our goal. Please come on this journey with us.

Sonya

General News:

Pupil Free Day:



- **Monday 5th August** will be a pupil free day, no students are required at school on this day.

Our school values:

- **Respect:** As a school we are committed to our values, and as such it has been decided that as a generally accepted acknowledgement of **Respect** all staff will from now on known as Mr or Mrs
We will continue to remind and support the students as they become more familiar with the change of titles. It would be appreciated if families were able to support and encourage their child in learning staff names:

Sonya - Mrs Holden
Gene - Mrs Devereux
Coral – Mrs Hearn
Rachell - Mrs Howell

Julie – Mrs Smith
Bernie – Mrs Chinn
Graham – Mr Devereux

Sam - Mrs Williams
Emily – Mrs H.
Deb – Mrs Tolputt

Ordering of Uniform:

A uniform order was sent home prior to the end of last term, the deadline was extended until the 20th July however, due to the lack of orders returned to school – no order will be placed at this time. The next order will be at the end of this term, watch the newsletters for the forms.

Wearing of Uniforms:

It is expected that all students are in correct school uniform everyday.

It would be appreciated if parents could ensure that students are dressed appropriately for the weather and have a coat at school.

We understand that from time to time students will need to be out of uniform especially over the winter when getting clothes dry can be a challenge.

However, should you child need to wear a different jumper it must not be a hoodie.

Hoodies are not to be worn at school.

In the Kitchen

Last week the senior students worked in small groups to prepare lunch for the school. Our first dish that was prepared was Potato Galettes with herby tomato sauce and a garden salad. Most student students were pleasantly surprised by the taste of the Galette and were keen to have the recipe to make them at home.



Ingredients:

6 medium (about 800 g) Carisma potatoes
2 egg
2 egg yolk
1/2 cup (120 ml) thickened cream
1/2 cup (70 g) plain flour GF
40 g butter
125 g goat's cheese,
thinly sliced 2 cups baby rocket

Tomato & herb sauce:

1 ripe tomato, finely chopped
30 g ghee or butter
1 tbsp finely chopped fresh herbs
(such as basil, chives or flat-leaf parsley)

Method:

Peel 1 potato and cut into quarters. Place in a medium saucepan and cover with water. Season with salt. Bring to a simmer over medium heat and cook for 15 minutes, or until tender. Drain well. Put the potato in a bowl, and mash with a potato ricer or fork. Add the egg, egg yolk and cream and stir to combine. Season.

Coarsely grate remaining potatoes and place on a clean, dry tea towel. Fold the towel over, enclose the potato and twist the ends to squeeze as much liquid from the potato as possible. Add to the mashed potato mixture in the bowl with the flour and stir to combine. Season. Divide the mixture into 8 even portions. Heat the ghee or butter in a medium frying pan over medium-high heat.

Add 4 portions of potato mixture to the pan and use a spatula to flatten slightly. Cook for 2-3 minutes each side, or until golden. Transfer to a plate lined with paper towel. Cover to keep warm. Repeat with remaining potato mixture.

Meanwhile, to make the tomato and herb sauce, combine tomato and ghee or butter in a small frying pan over medium heat. Cover and cook for 4 minutes, or until tomato breaks down. Remove from heat and add the herbs. Season.



Recipe Sourced from July edition of the Coles Magazine

