From Daniel’s desk

To the School Community,
Building a positive culture at our school is a priority and living the values of Safety, Respect and Being a Learner needs to be important for all members of our school community. I hope that you have been able to discuss our Values Matrix, distributed last week, with your children.

The safety of the students at our school is most important to all of the staff members and School Council. You could imagine that in an organisation that deals daily with 460 occupants (students and staff) as well as parents and visitors coming through that there are a number of safety measures to be considered.

Since the beginning of school there has already been 37 recorded visits to the sick bay, some have been during play and others due to illness during class time. Supporting the students during these incidents is very important, particularly in deciding an appropriate course of action when an injury occurs. All staff members at Hamlyn Banks will complete their level 2 First aid training this evening after already completing a full days training earlier in the year. The training encompassed First Aid, Responding to Anaphylaxis and Asthma. This means that in any situation where a child is injured in the yard that we have confidence that all of our staff have the required most up to date training to assist in keeping our students safe.

Introductory Parent Teacher Interviews concluded last week, I would like to thank the families who attended and the staff for their effort during this time. After speaking to a range of staff and parents, the feedback about the interviews was positive due to making the most of the opportunity to build a connection between home and school. I continue to encourage and invite parents to communicate with their child’s teacher using the student diaries, school email or through arranging a phone call or catch up through the school office.

Just Brass is an exciting partnership being developed between the Salvation Army and our school. It involves 20 eligible students from our school participating in music lessons during school time and on a Monday afternoon. The program will be available to selected year 3-6 students further information will be forwarded shortly. I look forward to this program adding to our already extensive performing arts opportunities.

Chickens – will soon become an addition to our school community we look forward to the students becoming involved in caring for the chooks and collecting eggs. The pen is almost complete and we look to have chickens at school at the start of term 2. If there is a community member willing to assist in developing this project and care for our chickens please contact me directly at school.

HBPS Cross Country - Our year 3-6 students will participate in this event on Monday the 29th of February. Please remember to use the Facebook Page for updates and news about what is happening at our school.

School Council Election – Further information about the School Council Election Process will be sent out next week, at this stage elections will not be required, thanks to all parents and staff who nominated to be part of this group.

Daniel Vella

Tissues urgently required if anyone can donate a box for their classroom it would be much appreciated. Thank you to those families who have already done so!
**SCHOOL NEWS**

**Twilight Netball**

Times – Thursday, February 25th.

4.15   Gold Winners (3/4’s), Undefeatable Lightning (3/4’s), Bulldozers (netta)
5.00   Twilights (grade 5/6), Diamonds (netta), Undefeatable Thunder (netta)

Please make sure you check when your team is playing, as it changes. Last week we had a number of players turn up for the wrong round. Thanks to players for helping out where players are missing.

Please contact the office if you put your name down for a team but are unable to play this week. Remember a sports bottle of water and $3 game fee.

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**Writing by 2D**

This week in 2D we have been practicing ‘spotting’ ideas to write about. We have spotted ideas in lots of places; books, artefacts from home and the world around us. When we spot an idea that reminds us of a memory, we *think it, picture it and write it*. This week we bought our own artefacts from home to help us think of a memory. Some of the artefacts and ideas we had were:

- A toy penguin; it reminds me of when we went to Tasmania with mum, dad and Evan. - *Royce*
- Shells; This is memory of when I’m at the beach and I’m picking up shells with my cousin Penny. - *Leah.*
- A bongo drum; it makes me think of when I went to Bali and I saw my Bali brother. - *Zac*
- Photos of dad; It reminds me of when we saw the news years fireworks and it reminds me of my dad. - *Jake*
- Pokemon cards; It reminds me of my birthday. I woke up and I woke my mum up and then I got presents and dad took a picture. - *Seth*
- Toy dog; It reminds me of our dog Bella who we gave away because she was too yappy. - *Ava*

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**LIBRARY**

Library sessions will commence next week. Please make sure your child has a library bag so they can borrow each week.

Class Timetable below:

**MONDAY:** 6/5H, 6/5G, 6/5S & 4/3J

**TUESDAY:** All Preps & 6/5U

**WEDNESDAY:** 4/3M, 6/5D, 1W & 1H

**THURSDAY:** 1D & all Grade 2’s

**FRIDAY:** 4/3S, 4/3T & 4/3P

The Library will be open from 9am for all returns.
School Canteen

The school canteen will be available for lunch orders Wednesday & Fridays. Over counter sales will be available these days as well. Menus have gone home and are also available either on the School Web page or outside the canteen. Could all parents please write lunch orders on a brown paper bag.

Barwon Services Connect

Barwon Services Connect will be providing an outreach service from our school again this year, starting on Friday 4th March 2016. They will be working in the library on a Friday afternoon (2-4pm) each fortnight. Here is some information about their service:

What is Services Connect?
Services Connect is an easier way for you to get the help you need.

What will happen if you take part?
We will talk to you about what is important to you:
* Having a safe place to live
* Working
* Learning
* Looking after yourself and your family
* Being a good parent
* Looking after your health
* Managing money
* Being safe
* Being part of the community
* Building relationships

Families who would like to be referred by the school to this service please contact the office at Hamlyn Banks PS on 5278 3100 to speak with Ms Joey O’Shea. If Ms O’Shea is unavailable, please ask to speak to Mr Daniel Vella or Mrs Kerrie Duan.

STAR OF THE WEEK

Grade 1D: William L
For an awesome start to Term 1. Continue this wonderful attitude to learn at your new school.

Grade 1H: Mitchell C
For an excellent effort during Maths activities.

Grade 1W: Summer L
For reading, making and writing numbers. A great Mathematician!

Grade 2D: Stefan S
For arriving in the classroom every day with a smile. You should be very proud.

Grade 2H: Renee B
For her amazing entries in writers notebook.

Grade 2L: Bailey T
For being a respectful student having a go at all his work.

Grade 3J: Liam D
For being a positive role model to his peers during Mathematics. Well done!

Grade 3M: Richard Q
For his great friends of ten facts in Maths

Grade 3P: Kai C
For handling a situation about sticks with maturity and listening to his teacher.

Grade 3S: Owen M
For being respectful and a great learner.

Grade 3T: Alex M
For making corrections while reading.

Grade 4D: Stefan S
For arriving in the classroom every day with a smile. You should be very proud.

Grade 4M: Richard Q
For his great friends of ten facts in Maths

Grade 4T: Alex M
For making corrections while reading.

Grade 5D: Sophia L
For coming into school each morning every morning this week with a smile on your face & ready to learn attitude.

Grade 5G: Jemma B
For her persistence in solving Mathematical problems. Well done on your positive approach.

Grade 5H: Millie S
For being respectful of other students.

Grade 5S: Stephanie D
For supporting & working well with all her classmates.

Grade 5U: Alex F
For supporting others students in group work.

Sport Star: George P
For trying his best during the 200m sprint. Keep up the good work George.
This week in BSC…

This last week in OSHC, I am happy to say that - the children have settled into the program very well. We have discussed our rules and looked at our routines, with children having their say in these matters. This helps them to take ownership of their practices in BSC, it also gives them a good understanding of why we do the things that we do.

After spending the last couple of weeks getting to know the children, we have been working on a program, which will include a theme. We have made a list of interests and likes and popular theme suggestions. We will start off by doing art, craft and activities around a Sports theme. It will be fun and informative and I am looking forward to sharing this week with them.

A special thank you to Leah for being enthusiastic in helping others to feel welcome and included. You are our STAR of the week.

Sharon

Hi everyone,

I have been pleased to see some new faces this week, welcome to the new families using the service, I look forward to getting to know you and your child/ren over this term. Don't forget if you would like your child/ren to attend the program all you have to do is log onto www.campaaustralia.com.au and register your child. As soon as this has been done your child can attend the very next day or even the same day depending on the time you register.

Last week we cooked some toffee and while it was not a complete success we thought we would still eat it and see if it was still something good to eat. This was a great learning opportunity to see that sometimes things don't work the way we wanted and that that is ok, we can try again and hope for better results the next time. We will be trying toffee again later on in the term.

It has been great to hear the feedback from parents about the service, I would like to remind you to have a look at our reflective diary and add any feedback to it that you would like. It is also a great way to see what your child/ren have been up to while they attend the sessions as we write down observations of what we see.

Thanks for your time,
Mel, Julie and Vina