



Hunters Hill
High School

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The Figtree

THE JOURNAL OF HUNTERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL

Term 1, 2023



OPEN DAY 2023

Thank you to our wonderful staff and students involved in Open Day 2023 for helping make the day a success. We hope all visitors to our school enjoyed seeing our spectacular grounds and facilities, as well as having a chat to Principal Greg Lill, staff and students. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us on 9817 4565 or huntershd-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Principals Report

The term is just flying past, but that happens often when people are having such a great time!

It seems that, just maybe, we are almost back to normal. An important part of being back to normal is the recognition that we are a community. It was great to get back to a whole school assembly in week six where we were able to recognise a range of achievements of our students from academic to debating to sport. We were able to have some musical performances and recognise students who have made achievements within the school's merit system.

It was great too, to see so many of our students come along to help at our recent Open Day. In many cases the students took on a very active role within the various faculty activities and interacted with prospective students and parents. Universally the feedback from our visitors on the day was that our students were articulate and confident, a by-product of our 4C's approach. Well done to everyone involved.

There are a whole lot of building works being done over the next few months. As I write the canteen refurbishment is well underway. When this is completed, there will be a lot more things that can be done in the canteen and I'm sure there will be a whole new celebratory menu.

At long last we are finally getting a revamp to make us more disabled accessible. The main features of this will be a new pedestrian entranceway off Reiby Road that will go to the Administration office; ramps throughout the school in various places to provide an alternative to steps. The installation of lifts to allow access to the upper part of K block and the library and also some work outside N block to make it wheelchair accessible. I'm sure this will help not only some of our parents with a disability but open the way for students as well.

As well as this there will need to be extensive modifications to the L block roof to prevent further rain damage and after this, attention to the internal detail in the library. The LED lights have already been installed throughout the school.

There have also been a lot of in-house gardening projects by our industrious General Assistants and our equally industrious P&C Environment Group who are doing their regular P&C Working Bees.

As I write NAPLAN is coming up so good luck to all those students in Year 7 and Year 9.

On practical matters, although we have been able to get staff, we have not been able to get the staff with the best qualifications that we needed, to do exactly as we intended to do with the timetable this year. Still, that being said, it has been a relatively settled start to the year and disruptions have been kept fairly minor. My thanks to Mr Neilson and Mr Luk for making these unavoidable transitions as smooth as possible.

With a relatively smooth start to the year, we have the upcoming Cross Country to look forward to as well as peak assessment task time during Term 2. This is especially so for Years 11 and 12. Year 12 should be well on their way with their Major Works by now.

Oh, and Easter! That means chocolate! Have a great rest of term.

Greg Lill



Hunters Hill High School Parents & Citizens' Association

President: president@hhhspandc.org.au
Secretary: secretary@hhhspandc.org.au
Treasurer: treasurer@hhhspandc.org.au
ABN 64 216 780 628



It's the start of the academic year and members of the P&C exec have been busier than usual.

Uniform shop

The last few weeks of term 4 last year saw the company that managed the uniform shop giving the required notice period. They decided to pull out of all schools so they can focus on their other business. Unfortunately, due to illness the last day of them managing the shop fell early in the middle of the school holiday. Added to this the uniform shop, which had been operating out of a temporary location all term, had to relocate to the main shop.

In a display of unprompted school community spirit, we had a teacher spend over half a day moving stock from the temporary uniform shop back to the main shop, we had parents and students help with organising stock in the stock room and assist with serving customers as there was a very long queue at the uniform shop on the first day of it opening for order pick up at the end of the school holiday.

For those who came to pick up their order and had to wait in the queue, we would like to thank you for your patience.

The uniform shop is now operating more smoothly, we have been in contact with suppliers to get stock replenished and as you would have seen on the P&C Facebook page, the stockroom is better organised.



Second hand uniforms

We had a successful second hand uniform sale at the end of term 4, where we sold uniforms donated by students who've left the school or outgrown them. Tops were sold for \$2, bottoms for \$5 and accessories for \$1.

There will be more second hand uniform sale days in 2023 - Keep an eye on the P&C FB page for dates or if stock is available, you can buy them from the uniform shop. We get second hand uniforms donated to the school from students who have left the school or who need a different size. You can donate old wearable uniforms by handing them in at the school office.



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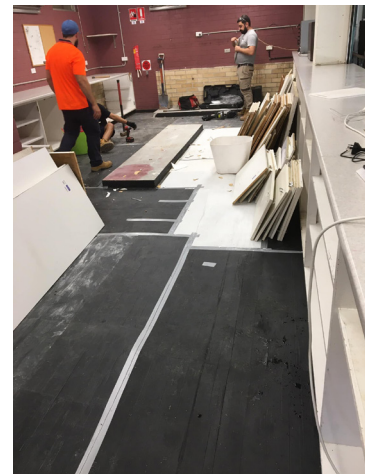


Canteen

The canteen refurb plans have now become a reality!

After seeing over a dozen builders, we found a handful that were able to carry out the work and one who we engaged. The refurb will require the canteen to be non operational for 3 to 4 weeks, with a reopen date of 20th March.

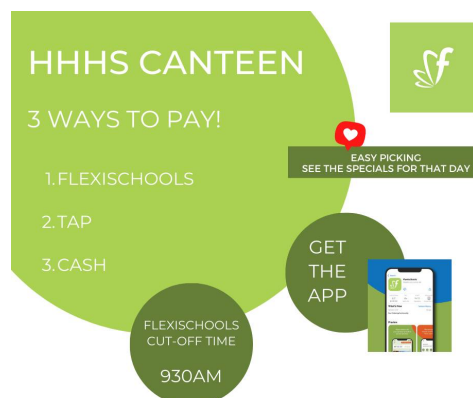
We were fortunate to receive a grant from Community Build Partnership, to help with some of the costs of the refurb.



While the refurb is underway, we've been operating a temporary canteen with food ordered from local eateries.

The long awaited app for the canteen got launched at the start of the refurb and as we get more families using the app, we'll be able to better manage quantities to make and purchase.

We encourage you to sign up to Flexischools as it offers an additional way to pay for food at the canteen.





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Healthy School Canteen - Menu check

We underwent a menu check as part of being a healthy school canteen, our last menu check was in 2019. We submitted our menu and after a few adjustments, we passed. This menu check will last till 3 years.



Environment

Working Bee

First working bee of the year was held on 25th Feb. There were many parents in attendance helping to keep the school grounds free of rubbish and weeds in preparation for mulching.

Goats

Organised by the environment coordinator, we had 13 goats at the school who helped clear a hard to weed area. The goats cleared the area, allowing easier access for removal of noxious weeds they aren't able to eat





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Tree planting

Trees are being planted around the school to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. This was funded by a grant we received.



Social activities

Welcome to the school

This event was held after the year 7 information evening on the verandah of Phil Daniels pavilion (school hall). It was a no alcohol event as children were able to and some did attend.

It was good to see so many new and existing families, teachers and community members socialising.

We had mocktails, light snacks and were able to hear the cicadas singing.





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Next event is Trivia Night!

We've had to change the date for this event and it will now be held on **6th May 2023**.

P&C Meeting and AGM

Our first general P&C meeting for the year was held on 13th February 2023. We had a good turnout with 21 people in attendance.

Our next meeting will be our AGM followed by a general meeting on 20th March 2023.

At the AGM all roles become vacant and those who have been nominated either by others or by themselves will be voted in for 2023.

So far all roles have received nominations, with the exception of canteen coordinator.

If you would like to know more about what's involved in being the canteen coordinator, email your questions to - exec@hhhspandc.org.au

Vacant role - Canteen coordinator

Main tasks:

- Liaise with canteen manager on behalf of the P&C
- Main point of contact for canteen queries between school and P&C
- Prepare and publish *brief* reports prior to each P&C general meeting

Join an existing team

Other than being part of the P&C executive team or a coordinator, we are always looking for people to join existing teams. Let us know by emailing exec@hhhspandc.org.au if you would be interested in being part of or finding out what's involved as a member of our social media, environmental, canteen, uniform shop or social activities teams.

Facebook

Join the P&C's private Facebook group. It's an easy and convenient place to keep in touch with canteen, uniform shop, social and fundraising activities and general school happenings. Request to join at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/HHHS.PandC>

P&C Working Bee

The P&C Environmental Group will be holding the
next P&C WORKING BEE on
SUNDAY 19 MARCH 2023

Where: HHHS (Meet near the staff carpark)

When: Sunday 19 March 2023

Time: 9am - 11am

What to bring: Gardening Gloves and Tools

RSVP and more details: Jo-Hanna on 0405 458 307



Everyone is welcome to attend to help maintain our beautiful school grounds.

We hope to see you on Sunday 19 March 2023!

#hhhsgreatnessbegins here



Wellbeing Report – Term 1

Welfare: We extend a warm welcome to all students, staff, and parents to Hunters Hill High School in 2023. Welfare at Hunters Hill High School is an instrumental part of our school life. Our Welfare team is composed of the 6 x Year Advisors, one for each cohort, our Learning and Support Team, our Careers and Transitions Team, our School Psychologists, and our Student Support Officer. We also engage external providers throughout the year to run more targeted programs such as Creating Chances, Raise Mentoring and Ready Set Sail, to name a few.

As a team we aim to ensure that every student feels known, valued, and cared for. We work collaboratively to help students troubleshoot challenges that they may face and help them build their resilience and self-efficacy.

UMatter and Year Meetings: U Matter is our weekly wellbeing program where students participate in activities to help their social and emotional skills. These include Self-management, Self-awareness, Social Awareness, Relationship skills and Responsible Decision Making. Every Wednesday, our students participate in lessons which are designed to help build their capacity to cope with change, resolve issues respectfully and to develop a strong culture of learning. By encouraging our students to be positive Upstanders, rather than Bystanders, we are developing a community of tolerant, kind, and empathic young people.

Our Year 11 Peer Support mentors also attend Year 7 U Matter classes to develop stronger bonds and connections. They are also looking forward to spending the day with Year 7 at camp in Week 11. When our students are not in U Matter, they are attending Year Meetings to recognise their cohort's achievements, receiving Bronze Awards and to hear about upcoming opportunities.

Merit System: At school we love rewarding positive behaviour. We have a wonderful merit system where teachers award students for their outstanding academic, interpersonal, and intrapersonal successes. Teachers electronically issue merits and students can see these accumulate on their Sentral profile. When they have reached 20, 40 and 80 merits they are awarded with Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates respectively in front of their peers. During our Whole School Assembly in Week 6, we were so proud to see so many Silver Awards being handed to students across Years 8 to Year 12.

Psychologist and Student Support Officer (SSO) Referrals: We are fortunate to have a school psychologist and Student Support Office (SSO) available Monday to Friday to support our students. The Welfare Team may refer students if there are concerns about their wellbeing. Students can also self-refer by slipping a note (including name, year group, date, time) under the door. When an appointment becomes available, the student will be called for discreetly from class. If the matter is urgent, students are encouraged to see their Year Advisor, Deputy Principal or U Matter teacher immediately to seek advice.

Regular Attendance: Regular attendance at school is essential for students to achieve quality life outcomes. Students who are at school on time each day not only learn important life skills such as time management, but also have better relationships and have a greater chance of success. It is also a timely reminder that any absences should be justified by parents or carers by contacting the school within 7 days.

Living Room – Library: Our Wellbeing space (The Living Room) has relocated to the mezzanine level in the library. This space is open to all students during lunchtime. Students are invited to play board games or puzzles, or simply chat to one of the Wellbeing Team members available.

We look forward to another productive year and encourage all students to be respectful learners.

Edwina Patten
Head Teacher Welfare (Acting)

Careers Term 1 2023

Opportunities for career exploration have already started in Year 10, with students attending TAFE YES programs, and jumping at opportunities for work experience. Opportunities are regularly being posted on the Year Group Google classroom. At the end of this term, we will have our first Careers Lessons, where students will be introduced to a range of resources to assist them in taking their next steps.

Later in the term, students will have the opportunity to attend excursions and incursions, such as Money Talks, attend a Childcare Site Inspection, and the beginning of our annual University Guest Speaker Series.

Year 12 one-to-one interviews have commenced, and students are encouraged to actively seek out career guidance as they begin applications for early entry.

Careers at HHHS is on social platforms Facebook (closed group for parents and carers of Year 10 – 12 students – please request to join as you would the year group page), and Instagram, @hhhscareers. These pages are used to regularly communicate about upcoming events and opportunities, and to celebrate the amazing things our students achieve, participate in, and explore.

Nikki Polak

Careers Advisor

WHAT DOES YEAR 7 LIKE ABOUT HIGH SCHOOL

Playing at lunch with everyone made me happy and was very fun. *Dylan M*

Making new friends. *Melody N.*

Getting to know new people. *Cooper E.*

Playing table tennis at lunch with my friends and making new friends. *Eloise H.*

Having U Matter because I got to talk to the year 11s. *James D.*

Making new friends and using my new laptop for the first time. *Nevaiah W*

Making friends with people. *Will D*



DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 15 - 22 March – NAPLAN – Years 7 & 9

Sunday 19 March – P&C Working Bee

Monday 20 March – P&C AGM & General Meeting

Friday 31 March – HHHS Cross Country Carnival

Monday 3 April – Sydney North Regional Swimming Carnival

Wednesday 5 April - Thursday 6 April – Year 7 Camp

Thursday 6 April – Last Day of Term 1, 2023 for Students and Staff

Monday 24 April – All Staff Return for Term 2, 2023 – NO Students

Tuesday 25 April – ANZAC Day

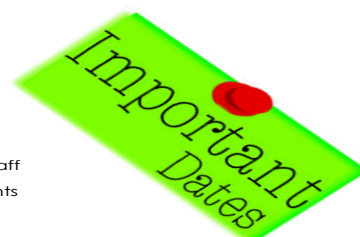
Wednesday 26 April – ALL Students Return for Term 2, 2023 – Week A

Wednesday 26 April – ANZAC Day Assembly

Wednesday 3 May – Friday 5 May – NSWCHSSA Swimming Carnival

Thursday 4 May – Year 7 Vaccinations

Friday 5 May – HHHS Athletics Carnival



Open Day 2023



Week 6 Assembly - Congratulations to all of our award recipients







LEARNING AND SUPPORT

Schools use their allocations of learning and support resources to personalise the learning for the individual needs of their students.

Teaching and learning can be adjusted in many ways, based on every student's unique needs, to enable students with a disability and additional learning and support needs to enjoy the same opportunities and choices in their education as their peers.

Adjustments are made in close consultation with students and their parents and carers and are regularly reviewed to assess their effectiveness and to identify any need for changes.

The first point of contact is the school's learning and support team.

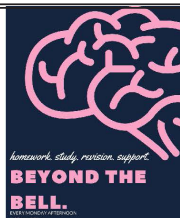
Learning and support teams include key personnel involved in supporting students with disability and additional and learning and support needs.

Learning and Support Teachers

Jess Austin (R H/T) - Year 7 & 8

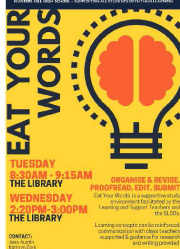
Kathryn Zerk - Year 9 & 10

Jessica De Santis - Year 11 & 12



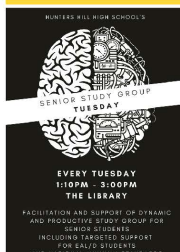
BEYOND THE BELL

Every Monday afternoon after school teachers volunteer their time to support students with their homework, assessments and in establishing positive revision habits. Students identify and work towards achieving SMART Goals for each session to reinforce good study practice.



EAT YOUR WORDS

Every Tuesday before school and Wednesday after school our Learning and Support Team provide guidance for study, proofreading and general feedback for students during a student's preparation for assessment tasks and exams. Students come prepared with their task outlines and drafts as they learn to refine their researching and editing processes.



SENIOR STUDY GROUP

Students in Years 11 and 12 are invited to participate in a study group that is facilitated by the Learning and Support Team on **Tuesdays** between **1:10pm-3:00pm** and on **Thursdays** from **3:10pm-5:00pm**. Students participate in independent study, discussion sessions and collaborative learning supported by teachers and SLSOs.



THE LIVING ROOM

Positive relationships are foundations for success. To support the building of successful social relationships and interpersonal behaviours, the Learning and Wellbeing Team invite students to attend the Living Room from Wed-Fri during lunch. Students engage in board games and creative activities in order get to know each other and staff.

LEARNING PROGRAMS

SUPPORTING ALL STUDENTS AND THEIR LEARNING

WHO DO I CONTACT? ABOUT WHAT? HOW?



1

FRONT OFFICE

Attendance, excursions, whole school events, general info, enrolments
via: school phone or email, Parent/Student Portal or Facebook

2

CLASS TEACHER

Missed class work or assessments, concerns about learning specific to subject
via: school phone or email

3

HEAD TEACHER

Misadventure or missed assessments, change of subjects (Years 9-12), syllabus questions
via: school phone or email

4

YEAR ADVISER, SSO OR H/T WELLBEING

Changes in family circumstances, across curriculum learning concerns, social/emotional concerns, counsellor referrals
via: school phone or email

5

LEARNING AND SUPPORT TEAM

Significant learning challenges, development of a learning support referral or IEP, applications for Disability Provisions etc. Please email ATT: Head Teacher Teaching and Learning and/or Learning and Support Teacher via: school phone or email

OTHER INFO?

FACEBOOK PAGE, CLOSED FACEBOOK GROUPS,
INSTAGRAM AND SENTRAL PORTAL

HUNTERS@H.SCHOOL@DET.NSW.EDU.AU

THE NUMERACY CENTRE

Monday,
Wednesday
&
Thursday
in 408

At the Numeracy Centre students get assistance in
reinforcing maths skills, preparing for exams and
assessments or to simply receive help with homework

Grab your lunch and bring a friend along!



IF YOU FEEL **WORRIED** OR **SAD** YOU CAN TALK TO:

your U Matter Mentor
WE CARE ABOUT YOU!



Year 7
Ms Reynolds



Year 8
Ms Guo



Year 9
Mr Centurion



Year 10
Ms Hutchinson



Year 11
Mr Habbouchi



Year 12
Ms De Santis

YEAR ADVISERS -

Each year group has one - you will find them in their classroom or staffroom.



We are Rebecca Hanson,
and Sidra Hameed.

We are **school psychologists**
and we are here to help you.

You can find us in Rooms
400 and Room 415. Monday
through Friday. Come and
say hello.



A/HEAD TEACHER
WELLBEING
Ms Patten



STUDENT SUPPORT
OFFICER
Ms Harvey



CAREERS
ADVISER
Ms Polak



LITERACY & INCLUSION
COORDINATOR
Ms Zerk



R/HEAD TEACHER
TEACHING & LEARNING
Ms Austin

#hhhsgreatnessbegins here

HHHS WEBSITE

The HHHS website is updated regularly! Please take the time to go to our site for updates, important information about our school, photos, videos, upcoming events and important dates.

www.huntershd-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

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