



Dear Parents/Carers

It was wonderful to return to school this week and reconnect with our community. I feel incredibly grateful to be a member of this wonderful, caring school and have appreciated the many welcome-back messages from students, parents and staff. Students and staff have settled in well to the new school year. Annabelle Arnott and the team did an amazing job during my absence, and I thank them for their outstanding work.

## Student Safety

The safety of your children is our number one priority, and we take this responsibility seriously. A couple of safety matters have arisen this term that I am hoping parents can help us with.

**Safeguarding our children** – DECYP began implementing safeguarding measures two years ago in response to a Commission of Inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's Responses to Child Sexual Abuse in Institutional Settings.

We have adapted our systems and procedures to comply with DECYP's safeguarding initiative.

***One of the new procedures implemented last year was for parents to say good-bye at the office when bringing their child to school late or to wait at the office for their child when picking them up early.***

In other words, parents (with the exception of Kindergarten parents) are asked not to walk to the classrooms between normal arrival and dismissal times. This, combined with the Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) registration to volunteer in schools, provides higher safety protocols for our students.

Please contact the office if you have questions about this policy or would like information on applying for the WWVP card. Thank you for your support and understanding.

**E-scooters**—These personal mobility devices (PMDs) are becoming increasingly popular with students. They are fun to ride and an easy way to get around. But they accelerate quickly and can be ridden at fast speeds, making them dangerous machines. Some students are riding them to/from school and on our school grounds, which is causing concern. It is only a matter of time before someone is seriously injured.

In Tasmania, it is illegal to ride an e-scooter if under 16 years old or without a helmet. If your child rides an e-scooter to/from school, that is a family matter. However, they are not permitted to be ridden on our school grounds. Please click on the following link if you would like to know more about the lawful use of e-scooters and other PMDs: [e-Bikes and e-Scooters - Tasmania Legal Aid](#). Again, thank you for your understanding and support in helping to keep everyone safe.

Kind regards

Darryl Williams  
Principal

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March

Huon & Channel Athletics Carnival  
Huonville Oval

### Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March

Progress Reports go home

### Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

School Captains & Vice Captains  
Leadership Conference  
Huonville Primary School. 10 – 2

### Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April

Last day of term 1

### Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April

First day of term 2

### Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May

School Association Meeting  
3:15 pm Library

### Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May

Year 1 Excursion to the Marine Discovery Centre

### Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June

Student Free Day

### Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June

Kings Birthday Public Holiday

# Congratulations!

## PRINCIPAL'S ENGAGED LEARNER AWARD

### Mathilda Harder & Piper Byron-Thomsen

Congratulations also to the following students who received certificates at today's assembly:

**Lilly Scott** for **Courage** by settling back into her class so easily and confidently.

**Will Mackintosh** for **Empathy** by always showing respect & being a caring member of our class.

**Sadie Treadaway** for **Purpose** by working extra hard during phonics time to read & write sounds.

**Eli Blizzard** for **Gratitude** by showing beautiful manners & joy towards school life.

**Cai Green** for **Purposefulness** by demonstrating determination & resolve in his learning activities.

**Jo Hopwood** for **Empathy** by showing consideration & support for her classmates.

**Nathan Maclachlan** for **Responsibility**, Nathan it is fantastic to see you really taking ownership for your learning & trying to produce your best every time. Nice work!

**Kokoda Scott** for **Mindfulness**, Kokoda you have returned to school with such positive & focused attitude. Amazing job.

**Mirrin Cooke** for **Respect** for always engaging politely & courteously when speaking to staff & peers.

**Finn Hallums** for **Mindfulness** for persisting with a maths challenge & not giving up until it was done.

**Kane Schnebel** for **Purposefulness**, well done for being focussed, on track & getting work finished.

**Ruby McCauley** for **Mindfulness**, thank you for showing initiative, being polite & getting on with your learning in a focused, mindful way.

**Jack Fitzpatrick** for **Respect**, Jack is polite and respectful, setting a wonderful example for others and making him a joy to teach. Great job, Jack

**Rose Purvis** for **Mindfulness**, Rose demonstrated mindful focus during NAPLAN testing & approached the tasks with positivity.

## School Association Cake Stall Fundraiser

Cygnnet Primary School Association would like to thank our volunteers, and all the wonderful parents and carers who donated cakes and baked goods for the stall at the Cygnnet Community Children's Centre Fete over the weekend. It was a wet day, but that didn't stop families and community coming together to enjoy the event and show their support by buying a tasty treat. **We raised over \$550** to support our beautiful small school. Thank you!



Welcome to Cygnnet Sea Dragons Junior Soccer Club season 2025

We are now inviting Girls and Boys to join us for training and registration

All training is held at the oval across from Cygnnet Primary School

- U6 (born 2019 & 2020) Thursdays 3:30-4:30 pm
- U7 (born 2018) Wednesdays 3:30-4:30 pm
- U8 (born 2017) Wednesdays 3:30-4:45 pm
- U8-U12 All Girls (born 2013-17) Wednesdays 3:30-4:45 pm
- U10 (born 2015 & 2016) Wednesdays 3:30-4:45 pm
- U12 (born 2013 & 2014) Thursdays 3:30-4:45 pm

Registrations via the link on our Web Page

You can follow our club on facebook  
[Cygnnet Sea Dragons Soccer Club](#)

Or email us at  
[cygnnetseadragons@gmail.com](mailto:cygnnetseadragons@gmail.com)

## ANZAC poetry COMPETITION

The *Huon News* is holding an ANZAC DAY poetry competition

Please submit your unpublished poem by THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 4PM  
 to [greta@huonnews.com](mailto:greta@huonnews.com) or post or deliver to: ANZAC POETRY COMPETITION  
 Huon News, 3351 Huon Highway, Franklin TAS 7113

Please include your name, address and phone number

Winning entries will be published in the *Huon News*, Wednesday, April 23

**HUON NEWS**



# Every School Day Matters

If your child is absent from school, it is important that you discuss the reason with your child's Principal or a staff member as soon as practical.

## Authorised reasons your child may be absent

- Sickness/incapacity.
- Bereavement of a person your child had a close, significant or family relationship with.
- Medical, legal or related appointments.
- Have been subjected to a traumatic event.
- Terminal illness of an immediate family member.
- Natural disaster or extreme weather preventing your child from safely attending their enrolled school.
- Being a participant or official at a recognised State, National or International event.
- Where an independent student or parent objects, to their child participating in a school activity specified in the *Education Regulations 2017* (contact your school if you have concerns).
- Participation in a recognised learning experience.
- Provisional registration for home education being granted by the Education Registrar.
- Where directed to stay at home, based on advice from the Director of Public Health.



## What to do if your child is absent from school

If your child needs to be away from school, it is important to tell the school as soon as possible. You can:

- Send a note or email to the school.
- Telephone the school office.
- Use the school's preferred method (for example Szapp or Seesaw).

Your child's Principal may ask for a medical certificate or further evidence to explain absence for illness, after your child has been absent for a total of more than 5 days in a school year. The principal may also request evidence for other authorised absences; such as evidence of participation in an event or recognised learning experience, or a statutory declaration from a parent.

## Absence without an authorised reason

If your child is absent for a reason that isn't in the authorised list, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence.

Principals receive notifications about the number of unauthorised absences your child has. Your child's school may send you a letter notifying you of the number of unauthorised absences your child has.

If the Principal is concerned about your child's attendance, they will seek to work with you to increase your child's attendance to maximise their learning.

## Absence due to a family holiday during school term

Schools encourage family holidays to occur during the scheduled school holiday breaks.

If your family decides to take a holiday during school term, you are encouraged to discuss your plans with the Principal or your child's teacher.

## What happens if your child isn't attending school

Schools will follow up absences, which could include sending letters to let you know how many unauthorised absences your child has during the year.

## How to help your child get the most from their education

- Talk to your child about what's happening at school. You can help to support your child's interest and confidence in learning.
- Regularly remind your child that every school day matters. It is an opportunity to grow, keep up with peers and connect with teachers and mates.
- Minimise unnecessary absences to give your child the most opportunities to learn. For example, try and make medical appointments outside school hours and arrange family holidays in school holidays.

Schools will work closely with parents to support a child's attendance at school to maximise their learning. They can provide options for continued learning where illness is resulting in absences.

In some circumstances, the compulsory conciliation process may be used to help resolve issues that are causing a child not to attend school. For more information, see the [Information for Parents on compulsory conciliation](#) on the Office of the Education Registrar's website.

## Further information about attendance

- If you want your child to attend school but need help to do this, your child's school would really like to talk to you about what help you need.
- Schools have professional support staff who can support you and your child to improve school attendance.
- Please contact your child's school for more information.

# HELMETS

It has been noticed in our community that there is a large number of children riding, bikes and scooters without helmets.

Children not wearing bike helmets significantly increases the risk of severe head injuries, including traumatic brain injuries, and even death in bicycle accidents. Wearing a helmet can reduce the risk of head injury by up to 88%.

Here's a more detailed explanation:

- **Increased Risk of Head Injuries:**  
Bicycle helmets are designed to protect the head from impact during crashes, and not wearing one dramatically increases the likelihood of sustaining a head injury.
- **Severity of Injuries:**  
Head injuries can range from minor to life-threatening, and a helmet can significantly reduce the severity of these injuries, including traumatic brain injuries.
- **High Mortality Rate:**  
A significant portion of bicycle-related deaths are due to head injuries, and wearing a helmet can substantially reduce the risk of fatal outcomes.
- **Studies Show Effectiveness:**  
Numerous studies have demonstrated the effectiveness of bicycle helmets in preventing head injuries, with some research indicating a reduction of up to 88% in the risk of brain injury or death.
- **Importance of Proper Fit:**  
It's crucial that helmets fit properly and are worn securely to ensure maximum protection.
- **Helmet Standards:**  
Ensure that the helmet meets current safety standards, as indicated by the Australian Standard mark.
- **Legal Considerations:**  
In some jurisdictions, wearing a helmet while cycling is mandatory, and failure to comply can result in fines or other penalties.
- **Beyond Cycling:**  
Helmets are also important for other activities like skateboarding, scootering, and ATV riding.

**PLEASE** make sure that if your child is going to ride a bike or a scooter that they are wearing a helmet.

