

Dear Parents/Carers

Developing A Safe School Culture

It has been seven school weeks since I wrote to parents about concerns regarding unsafe student behaviour. A couple of parents and the School Association have asked recently about how things are going. It was with trepidation that I adopted a partially new approach in June, which included a zero-tolerance stance on listed unsafe behaviours, including a wider use of suspensions. However, hardly a day has passed that a parent or staff member hasn't thanked me for adopting the new approach and taking firmer action. Our previous restorative approach and other proactive strategies continue to be an integral part of the learning process and management of student behaviour. Staff noticed an immediate shift in the demeanour of our students following the announcement of the new approach. They seemed to be more at ease and relaxed. There have been a few suspensions, and no one is happy about those, but we knew that progress would likely involve some short-term discomfort. The parents of those suspended have been very understanding and supportive of the new approach, as they also want our students to feel safe at school. We are taking every opportunity to deliver positive messages about the importance of achieving a safe culture at school, including:

- Reminding students about our behaviour expectations before every playtime
- At the start of the term, we conducted a class challenge to generate catch phrases that encourage safe behaviours at school. The winning phrases and classes were:
 - *Swearing ain't caring!* (3/4 Yellow)
 - *If you play safe, you'll always win first place.* (5/6 Yellow)
 - *Don't show attitude, show gratitude!* (5/6 Green)
- Conducted anti-bullying sessions from **Kids Helpline** with a focus on being an upstander during **Say NO to Bullying Week** (last week)

- Scheduled **ThinkUKnow** sessions by Tasmania Police, focusing most on how to be safe when online
- Continuing with weekly lessons from **The Resilience Project** curriculum, which helps to develop empathy
- The SRC and staff have collaborated on a new positive behaviour support program that was launched at assembly today. Starting tomorrow, teachers will distribute **Virtue Superhero Slips** to students during playtimes in recognition of positive and safe behaviour choices. We already have a similar system in place during class time.
- The School Association and generous donors are funding sessions by **The Resilience Co. (Lisa Ford)** on relational bullying for students, parents and staff next term.
- Our School Nurse will be conducting positive friendships sessions to nominated students next term.

We have great students! They have really taken on board the importance of everyone feeling safe and being safe at school. I am pleased to report that the incidence of unsafe behaviours at school are steadily becoming less frequent this term. **Last week, all members of the SRC agreed that they now feel much safer at school.** Thank you, parents, for your ongoing support as we continue this vital work.

Student Achievement

It is an honour to be chosen to represent the Huon & Channel at the elite level in sport, or to be an award recipient in a statewide visual arts competition. Congratulations to the following students for their achievements this term:

Young Archies Award

Kieran Heathcote and Mirrin Cooke

Huon & Channel Girls Football

Bonnie Wood

Huon & Channel Boys Football

Kaleb Barrett and Tyler Fowler

Warm regards,

Darryl Williams
Principal

Congratulations!

PRINCIPAL'S ENGAGED LEARNER AWARD Willow Maclachlan & Avianah Alcorn

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

Grace Watkins for **Purposefulness**, by working hard to get her learning jobs done. Well done!!

Lexie Calvert for **Empathy & Kindness** by being such a kind & caring member of our class.

Mathilda Nye for **Purpose**, by being a focused learner who accepts new challenges & helps others.

Dusty Cotter for **Empathy & Kindness**, for treating his friends with kindness & being an upstander.

Kidira Horan for **Purpose**, by always focusing quietly & mindfully on her learning.

River Kenway for **Empathy & Kindness**, by putting herself in other's shoes & showing care & concern.

Ollie Wicks for **Respect**, Ollie has been showing great effort in his self-management skills & is making thoughtful choices in the classroom.

Olivia Maeers for **Empathy & Kindness**, Olivia is kind, caring & inclusive of others. She always has a kind word for others when they are feeling down.

Ella Armstrong for **Determination**, Ella you have been displaying so much focus & responsibility with your reading. You are making massive improvements. Great Job!!

Scarlett O'Malley for **Mindfulness**, Scarlett you consistently show a focus & engaged attitude to all areas of your learning. Keep it up!

Nala Cleary for **Courage**, by giving everything a go & being an enthusiastic learner.

Mani Gardner for **Empathy & Kindness**, by being a considerate classmate who celebrates the success of others.

Lachlan Gasparin for **Purposefulness**, by showing huge growth in his focus, by doing his best & showing great thinking & ideas.

Louie Seccombe for **Gratitude**, Louie you have lovely manners & show Gratitude & thanks for people who help you with your learning.

Department for Education, Children and Young People

Date Claimer

Wednesday 17th December
Leaver's Assembly 1pm – 2:45pm

3-4 Green Clothes Swap

A HUGE thank you to everyone who supported 3/4G's Clothes Swap last week. Our class decided to host this during Science Week to highlight everyone's awareness of material, waste and thinking about how we can dress more sustainability.



Book Week 2025



Department for Education, Children and Young People

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 26th August

H&C Volleyball Carnival @
Margate Primary School
Selected Grade 6's

Friday 5th September

2pm
Prep Fathers/Special People Day

Friday 12th September

2:15pm
Cygnet Area Concert Band Performance

Tuesday 16th September

9:10am
Musica Viva Performance "Life is an Echo"
Whole School

Friday 26th September

Last day of term 3

Monday 13th October

First day term 4

Thursday 23rd October

Hobart Show Day

Friday 24th October

Student Free Day

Wednesday 29th October

Swimming Carnival Huonville Pool

Monday 10th – Friday 14th October

Grade 3-5 Swimming Program

Friday 14th October

Prep Grandparent & Special People's Day

Wednesday 26th October

Year 6 High School Orientation

Friday 28th October

Schools Triathlon Challenge @ Bellerive Beach

Wednesday 3rd November

Huon & Channel Swimming Carnival @ Huonville
Pool

Tuesday 16th December

Children's University Graduation @ My State Arena

Wednesday 17th December

Leaver's Assembly 1pm – 2:45pm

Thursday 18th December

Last day Term 4 for Students