



Hughesdale HAPPENINGS

Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day

Principal's Report

Week 1 Term 4 2018 Issue 27

Welcome back everyone to Term Four.

My reading over the holidays led me to revisit stories of change. Similar to an old story "Who Moved My Cheese" by Spencer Johnson, I read "Our Iceberg Is Melting" by John Cotter. At a time where it is so tempting to open my article with a reflection on how quickly the time has passed so far this year, and even rue the rapid and unstoppable passing of time as Christmas speeds toward us, it reminded me to celebrate the opportunities we have had for learning, growth and relationships over the year so far. With planning well underway for 2019, my reading led me to reflect again on how truly fortunate we are (particularly with the tragic Tsunami that has unfolded in Indonesia), to have the privilege of planning for the education of your children in the year to come. So I thank you for the trust you place in us as we learn together, grow together, experience change together and maximise learning opportunities in this final Term for 2018.

NAPLAN Results

Opinions on standardised testing have long been divided, and the use of NAPLAN testing across Australia to compare school data has a mixed response from parents, teachers, principals and educative experts. I personally believe in the power of this knowledge and in the use of meta-data (having a collection of data samples rather than just one source) and do value the insights NAPLAN can potentially provide in highlighting whole school trends. This testing and the information it gives us, helps proactive development of an on-going whole school improvement agenda, and allows me to refer to a consistent data set as required. One disadvantage of NAPLAN is the time lag between students sitting the test, and school receiving the results, having said this, I would like to share with our community some of our data which I received at the end of Term 3.

One of my favourite ways to examine this information, is to compare the results of our Year 5 students, with their results when they sat NAPLAN in Year 3. It means that I am comparing like with like; high student results may be fantastic, but if they were comparatively higher in Year 3, I don't see that as success as it indicates less growth achieved than their potential would indicate as possible. We refer to this as Matched Cohort or Growth Data. The data is standardised, to level the playing field, and the state mean would indicate that 25% of students can be expected to achieve LOW growth, 50% can be expected to achieve MEDIUM growth and the remaining 25% of students can be expected to achieve HIGH growth. Hopefully, this background information will assist you to understand the follow data received from our 2018 NAPLAN testing.

As you will see, in all areas bar Spelling, we have a larger percentage of students demonstrating HIGH growth, and a lower percentage of students demonstrating LOW growth than the standardised State expectations. What most delights me is

Category	LOW Growth	MEDIUM Growth	HIGH Growth
State Mean	25%	50%	25%
HPS Reading	10.29%	41.18%	48.53%
HPS Writing	8.96%	44.78%	46.27%
HPS Grammar & Punctuation	20.59%	35.29%	44.12%
HPS Spelling	35.29%	42.65%	22.06%
HPS Mathematics	19.12%	52.94%	27.94%

Term 4 Dates

Saturday 13th October	• P&F Bunnings BBQ
Monday 15th October	• School Council Meeting
Tuesday 16th October	• L3 Aquarium Excursion
Friday 19th October	• L1 Late Stay
Tuesday 23rd October	• L6 Family Life Program
Thursday 25th October	• Jump Rope for Heart
Friday 26th October	• Bandana Day • L2 Sleepover
Monday 29th October - Friday 9th November	• L6 Earn & Learn
Wednesday 31st October	• L2 MCG Excursion • Foundation Myuna Farm Excursion
Thursday 1st November	• Whole School Photo
Tuesday 6th November	• Melbourne Cup Holiday
Wednesday 7th November	• L3 Star Lab Incursion
Thursday 8th November	• 1B & 1C Melbourne Zoo Excursion
Monday 12th November	• 1A & 1D Melbourne Zoo Excursion
Monday 26th - Thursday 29th November	• Book Fair in the Library
Tuesday 4th December	• L5 Travelling Kitchen Incursion
Thursday 13th December	• Whole School Community Night
Friday 21st December	• Last day of the Year School finishes at 1.30pm

HOW TO CONTACT THE SCHOOL

SCHOOL 9570 4808 OSHC 0423 940 728

www.hughesdaleps.vic.edu.au

email: hughesdale.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

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Principal's Report cont:

the outstanding results in Writing, as well as the flow on effects in Reading, Grammar and Punctuation following our immersive focus on Writing and the development of a whole school approach in this area. While we can celebrate outstanding results, it is also essential I look for potential, which in this data set highlights Spelling as an area for future focus and development. "Watch this space" as we use an on-going commitment to improvement to respond to data such as this.

Compass

As outlined in previous Newsletter articles, we responded to the most recent parent survey with a decision to review, refine and roll-out an improved online tool for parents. I am pleased to announce that Hughesdale Primary School commenced Term 4 with the implementation of this promised tool - our new school management software *Compass*. *To say that I am greatly relieved by the feedback I am receiving from families so far would be an understatement!*

By now everyone should have received an envelope containing important, personalised information granting access to this system, and I urge you to set up your log-in as soon as possible. I love the *Compass iPhone/Pod application which is also available for android devices, and it makes the system very user friendly and portable.*

From next Monday, we will be implementing the next stage; Absence alerts.

What this means;

- We will be asking parents to log student absences using *Compass*, (either on a computer or Smart device) to save you from having to phone the school each time your child is away.
- We will be able to cease phoning you each time we are unsure of why your child is not at school. We are certainly aware that these calls can sometimes be a little intrusive. However *Compass* will message you if your child is an unexplained absence so remember to log their absence via *Compass* on your phone.
- Use of this system will also remove the risk of human error - where a parent may mention their child will not be at school in the morning, and staff get distracted between the conversation and their laptop, sometimes forgetting to record this data and resulting in us phoning you.

I sincerely hope that this function makes communicating this information to the school, much easier for you and your family.

Our Annual AGM

I would like to thank everyone who attended our Annual General Meeting. Incorporating a parent session on Writing certainly aligns with our school foci, and I hope that the information provided was beneficial to all.

Learning shared with me this fortnight.

Sarah from 2A read to me her fabulous poem about the Frog In The Bog.

Sophie from 6A created an engaging picture story book to demonstrate effective sentence structure. She was able to share her story with her buddy to support our school value "Teamwork".

Congratulations to all of our students that participated in the State Schools Spectacular. The dancers shared their appreciation for having this new opportunity.

Makayla and Belle from 3B shared some independent work they completed, promoting our school values.

Alina from 4C explored her learning goals based on planning and organisation, demonstrating her understanding with a poster.

Emily shared her learning about resilience and how to remain positive as one of our school's goals.

Lucia from 2A shared the most amazing poem that made me smile larger than Luna Park!

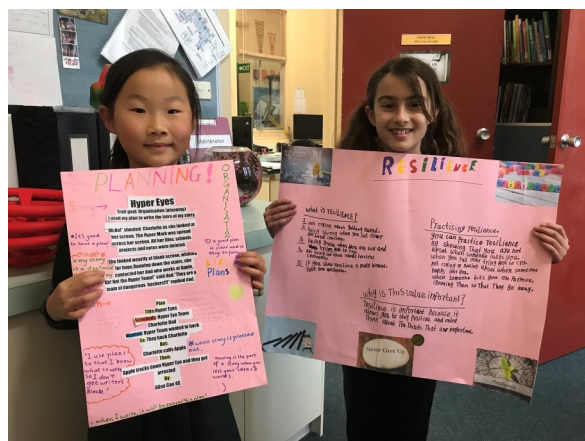
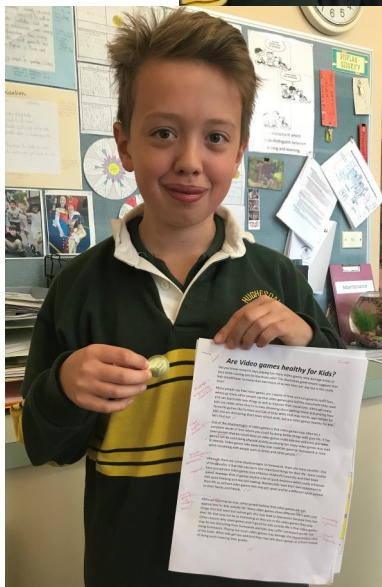
Gus from 6C visited with a thoroughly researched piece of persuasive writing about the negative consequences of too many video games.

Pranjal from 2A shared her list of four upcoming experiences that she recorded in her gratitude journal.

Kindest Regards,

Lisa Gough

gough.lisa.n@edumail.vic.gov.au



Assistant Principal Report

Welcome Back Everyone!

It is lovely to see everyone back and refreshed, the warmer mornings are certainly helping get me out of bed and moving - I hope they are helping you and your children also.

It is difficult to believe we are in mid October already, I know they say "time flies" but it feels like it is travelling at the speed of light at the moment!

Mobile Phones

This week I was approached by a parent who was asking about Mobile Phones at school and at what age most students get their first phone.

Part of that question was easy to answer - Students are allowed to bring Mobile Phones to school, but they must be either switched off or on silent during school hours and like all valuable equipment, they are at your own risk.

The second part of the question was more difficult and dependent on many factors. This is very much the decision of the family, yet there are some important things to consider and discuss beforehand.

I have attached a document titled "Your child's first Smartphone - are they old enough? Which you may find to be an interesting and informative read.

The Government's e safety website, <https://www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent> is an excellent resource for parents can learn about the digital environment and how to help your child have safe and enjoyable online experiences.

Level 1 Late Stay

Next Friday, the level 1 students will be having their 'late stay'.

Kingston Division Athletics

On Wednesday, 19 Hughesdale students competed at the Division Athletics Carnival. All students gave their all against the best athletes from southern Melbourne. Congratulations to the following students who finished either 1st or 2nd in their event:

James Rashio	1 st 10yr Boys 200m
Mikayla Collins	1 st 11yr Girls Discus
Andriana Skandalis	1 st 11yr Girls 200m, 1 st 11yr Girls 4x100m and 3 rd 11yr Girls 100m
Chelsea Whittle	1 st 11yr Girls 800m, 1 st 11yr Girls 4x100m and 2 nd Girls 11yr 1500m
Aimee Hewitt	1 st 11yr Girls 4x100m
Erica Lake	1 st 11yr Girls 4x100m
Oscar Newman	2 nd 11yr Boys High Jump

These students will now go onto the Southern Metropolitan Region Carnival on Thursday 18th October.

Special mention to the 11yr Boys 4x100m relay team of Chris Liantiniotis, Leo Crommelin, Elliot Black and Chris Nakos who ran an exceptional race to finish in 3rd place.



This activity is an introduction to our camping program and a stepping stone before our level 2 sleep over! Students will take part in activities and remain at school after the 3.30pm bell. Enjoy learning some magic from "Dazzling Dan the Magic man" before enjoying a pizza dinner at school.

In order to accommodate this special event, our Senior School Assembly next Friday afternoon will be held under the Great Green.

Jump Rope for Heart - October 25th

Jump Rope for Heart is a fantastic physical activity and fundraising program that has been run by the Heart Foundation for 35 years. It's a great way for your child to keep fit and learn new skills, but it also helps raise funds for vital heart research and education programs.



Since Jump Rope for Heart started in 1983, schools have been skipping to raise awareness and funds toward heart health.

Students will be skipping on Thursday 25th October from 9.10 - 10am, and are encouraged to bring along a gold coin donation on the day.

Wanted

Do you have any unwanted sand pit toys, old pots, pans or plastic goods at home that you can donate to the school for our students to use in our sandpit? If so please bring them along to the school and leave them at the front office.

Amanda Breeden-Walton

PLEASE NOTE:
Hughesdale Happenings
will now be distributed fortnightly.

Foundation PE

I am proud to announce that the Foundation students have been showing such fantastic enthusiasm and effort in their sport lessons. We have been lucky enough to have gymnastics instructors come to the school and teach the students various skills such as walking on balancing beams, Spiderman handstands and cartwheels. We will be doing gymnastics for three weeks. The remainder of the term will see other skills being the focus such as dodging, forehand and backhand strikes and two handed side strikes. We will revise our skipping skills to support the whole school Jump Rope for Heart day on Thursday 25th October. We will also be revisiting skills that the students found more difficult throughout the year to give them the opportunity to master these. Well done to all of the Foundation students on a great first year of school sport lessons!



Mrs Wilson.

Assistant Principal Report cont:

Cybersafety

As teachers we regularly discuss and draw students attention to the importance of staying safe online. I was delighted to have the information report below shared with me last term by one of your level 4 students.

Cyber safety and bullying

What it is

Cyber safety is about being online and sharing information that is private to strangers, although there is way more than information and strangers.

What can you do to help

Children use a variety of online services, and each of these services can have different safety concerns. However, there are some basic tips which you can employ no matter how you use the Internet.

Remember that Internet technology can be mobile, so make sure to monitor cell phones, gaming devices, and laptops.

Surf the Internet with an adult and let them know what you are using the internet for.

Know who is connecting with you online and for social networking, instant messaging, emailing, online gaming, and using podcasts.

Don't communicate with strangers online and never agree to meet in person.

Tell a parent or another adult if a stranger contacts you in a chat room or through email or text messaging.

Don't enter contests, join clubs, or share your personal information for any reason, unless your mum or dad says it's OK. Personal information includes your name, address, age, phone number, birthday, email address, where you go to school, and other facts about you.

No Talking to Strangers

Since you were a little kid, your mum or dad has probably told you not to talk to strangers. The same goes for the online world. It's easy to meet a stranger on the Internet. You might visit a chat room or get an email or text message from someone you don't know.

It can be fun to make new friends, but do not communicate with strangers you meet online. Don't talk to them, agree to call them, or email them photos of yourself. To a kid, this can seem kind of silly. Why not make a friend with someone who likes dancing just as much as you do? The writer might seem really nice and tell you how you sound really smart and cute.

Unfortunately, kids have been tricked online by people who pretend to be something that they're not. Someone might lie and say they're in fourth grade, too, when they're really all grown up and they don't even know how to dance. Some kids have found themselves in a dangerous situation when they agreed to meet the mysterious online "friend" in person.

Let your parents know if a stranger emails you, sends a text message, or starts a conversation with you in a chat room. The email could be from a person or a company trying to sell you something. A grown-up should decide what's best to do, which may include changing your email address or telling the police.

Keep Your Privacy

Anybody who uses the Internet has been asked to sign in, log in, or create a personal profile. Kids need to check with a parent or grown-up before doing so. Why? This information could be used for reasons you wouldn't like, like getting a lot of junk mail.

Another word about email: If you have your own account, let your mum or dad know before you reply to the email that asks for your personal information. Some email looks official, as if it was sent by your Internet provider, but it's actually a trick to get your personal information.

Another way to keep your privacy is to choose a screen name or email account name that isn't your real name.

by Samantha

School Council Proceedings

Since last Annual General Meeting – 18th September, 2018

Hi All,

The Hughesdale Primary School AGM for 2018 was held on Monday 17th September and on behalf of school council, I would like to share the following report with you.

18th September, 2018

Welcome to Hughesdale Primary School's 2018 Annual General Meeting. I'm Rozelle and I am the Hughesdale Primary School Council President. As this is an official meeting of the school community, per the Standing Orders of School Council, we will start the evening with an Acknowledgement of Country:

"We would like to acknowledge the Peoples of the Kulin Nation, the traditional owners of the land on which we are gathered, and pay our respects to their elders both past and present."

The format of our meeting today is my report on School Council's activities and achievements over the past year. This will then be followed by our Principal, Lisa Gough's report. Representatives from our Junior Action Group (JAG) have prepared an informative video to share with you to give you greater insight into their activities. Finally we welcome Danny Hyndman, school consultant and teacher educator, to explain how we teach Writing, and how you can support your child through this process.

Under the legislative requirements of School Councils we must call a public meeting at least once in every year and that meeting must:

1. Present a copy of the audited accounts if the accounts of the school council have been audited

With respect to audited accounts, the Department of Education are subject to a rotational audit program whereby a number of schools are selected for audit each year. Hughesdale Primary School was not selected in the 2018 year and accordingly, there are no audited accounts to present.

2. Present a copy of the annual report published by the Council

The annual report published by the Council will be outlined by Lisa and is available on the school's website. I invite you to read this document which contains general information about our school, performance from the perspective of student outcomes and financial performance. If you have any points of clarification, feel to contact myself, Lisa or any of the 2018 Councillors.

3. Report the proceedings of the Council for the period since the date of the previous public meeting

Prior to providing you with an insight of what has been achieved by Council, it is important that I introduce you to the 2018 Hughesdale Primary School Councillors that have supported each other and volunteered their time throughout the year to help our school. There are 8 parent members, 1 community member and 4 Department of Education employee representatives who have served on Council for the year:

- Adam Greene (DEET) – Secretary
- Aishwarya Swaminathan (parent)
- Alexandria Muyemba (parent)
- Amanda Breeden-Walton (DEET) – HPS Assistant Principal
- Angus Laing (community member)
- Ben Welsh (DEET) – Leading Teacher
- Cheryl Laing (parent)
- Guru Prasad (parent) – Vice President
- Kirsten Williams (parent)
- Lisa Gough (DEET) – HPS Principal
- Michelle Edmonds (parent)
- Tania Patterson (parent) – Treasurer

Councillors meet approximately once a month, excluding during school holidays and there have been 6 meetings held to date for 2018. As a council we support the school's leadership and staff to ensure that Hughesdale Primary School provides the best educational environment for our children.

Councillors are appointed for a 2 year period and each year approximately half of the Councillor's tenure ends. This provides an opportunity for new parent and teacher members to join Council while retaining knowledge and experience from the current Council. This year School Council introduced increased efficiency with respect to additional subcommittees; each councillor supports one of 3 key sub-committees.

1. Finance

From a financial perspective, Council continues to monitor the financials of the School to ensure statutory compliance and accountability. The 2018 whole of School Budget was reviewed and approved at the end of 2017 and is subject to a monthly review against actual performance. There have been no significant issues to date.

2. Buildings & Grounds

The Buildings and Grounds sub-committee has been very active as always and has increased its profile in 2018. As a result of the continued hard work of sub-committee leaders and members, the group has enjoyed more community support this year with higher number of attendees at organised working bees compared to 2017. While working bees have been over a shorter time period, the amount of work achieved has been significant and is celebrated at the end of each working bee with a lunch and a social gathering. The list of achievements by Buildings and Grounds in 2018 to date is extensive and a full list of all projects can be provided on request. One of the biggest projects for the year has been the development of a new play space and the purchase of play boats for the children. School Council President's Report AGM 2018 Page 3 of 4

3. Education (Policy)

The policy sub-committee are responsible for periodically reviewing and revising the policies of the school to ensure they remain appropriate and relevant. This is another very active committee that presents numerous policies at each meeting for consideration by Council to ensure all policies remain relevant and appropriate. Policies that have been reviewed to date include:

- Cash handling policy;
- Parent payment policy;
- Investment policy;
- Internet banking policy;
- Purchasing card policy;
- Emergency Management Policy
- Equal Opportunity Policy
- First Aid and Asthma Policy
- Management of Food and Allergies Policy
- Buddies Policy
- Professional Practise Days Policy
- Acceptable Use Policy
- Fund Raising for External Charities
- Leave Policy 2018
- Mathematics Policy 2018
- JAG Policy 2018
- Parent Concerns and Complaints Policy 2018
- Refund Policy 2018
- Student Dress Code Policy 2018

Policies are available for viewing on the school's website or by contacting the school office.

In addition to the main subcommittees listed above, school council also support other areas of relevance to the school:

Hiring of School Premises

The School's gym is available for hire to local community groups. In 2018, the Bentleigh Lakers basketball club has been the main hirer of our facilities, occupying the premises 4 nights a week.

Uniform Shop

The uniform shop is managed by volunteers and manages stock by taking into consideration the presentation of the school, price and quality of uniform items. Where available, the uniform shop takes advantage of bulk order discounts in order to maintain reasonable prices. This year the uniform shop introduced a new electronic tagging system for items of lost property; electronic tagging has reduced the number of items in lost property for extended periods of time.

Junior Action Group

The junior action group (JAG) is an important group within the school and consists of 2 student representatives from each class in levels 2 to 6. This provides the Hughesdale Primary School students a formal voice and 2018 has seen JAG representatives being much more active and visible in the school as they consider the needs of the students they represent and plan various activities.

Out of School Hours Care

School Councillors work closely with Camp Australia with respect to before and after school care for the students. 2018 has seen continued growth in the number of attendees particularly in the after-care program and we continue to monitor the adequacy of the space available to satisfy regulatory child/area ratio requirements.

Parents & Friends

The Parents & Friends subcommittee have held a number of community and fundraising events throughout the year including the Movie Night, Easter Raffle, Hot Cross Bun Drive, Mother's Day Stall, Walk-a-thon, School Disco, Trivia Night and Father's Day events. Parents & Friends have also supported other school events such as Tea and Tears at the start of the year for Foundation parents and Grandparents' Day. To date, approximately \$27,000 in profit has been raised for the school. This will be enhanced in term 4 by the Bunnings BBQ. The final event for the year will be the Annual Community Night in which each class will perform an item on stage for the school community.

Other

Other significant items that have been achieved by Council since the 2017 AGM include:

- Appointment of Lisa Gough as Hughesdale Primary School's Principal.
- Commencement of work on the construction of our new building.
- The Annual Implementation Plan for 2018 (available on the website). The annual implementation plan describes how the key improvement strategies in the school strategic plan, and other significant projects, will be put into operation during the 2018 school year and how they will be monitored.
- Commencement of a project to develop a parent business directory; Carlie Flett, a parent in the community, initiated this idea and is leading the project.
- Ongoing discussions with Monash Council representatives with respect to traffic management around the school.

I have provided you with an insight of Hughesdale Primary School Council's work in 2018 to date and we look forward to continuing this work into term 4.

Parents + Friends News

Welcome back – can you believe it is Term Four already?

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Bunnings BBQ this Saturday 13th October

We welcome your help for this event. BBQ kings/queens and salespeople needed!

Please add your name to the volunteer roster outside Mrs Breeden-Walton's office ASAP.

Email: hps_pf@yahoo.com.au for more info.

Father's Day Event – a huge success!

Our very special thanks to Jess Edquist, all parent volunteers and our Grade 6 helpers for a fantastic Father's Day Event.

We would particularly like to thank our Grade 6 helpers. These students had already put in a massive effort during School Production performance week but continued to power on at our event. Thank you very much!

Annual P&F Brainstorming Meeting

Our annual brainstorming meeting was a great success. Thank you to everyone who came along to support P&F. Stay tuned for our 2019 plans!

Would you like to join P&F?

If you'd like to assist with any of our planned events, please email: hps_pf@yahoo.com.au

We look forward to hearing from you!

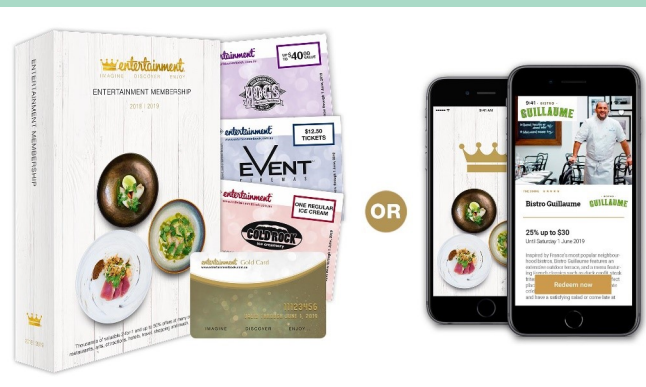
Rozelle and Camille

2018 P&F Coordinating Team

Get your Entertainment Membership NOW to help Hughesdale Primary School raise much needed funds!

Help us raise for our School by buying an Entertainment Membership from us. You'll receive hundreds of valuable offers for everything you love to do, and help our fundraising at the same time.

**CLICK HERE TO
SUPPORT US NOW**



Margaret Windsor 0420893630

margaret.windsor@hotmail.com

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

DON'T BE CAUGHT OUT!

EXISTING MEMBERS, ENSURE YOU REGISTER FOR THE UP AND COMING 2018/19 SUMMER OF CRICKET WITH THE MURRUMBEENA CRICKET CLUB.

What's on offer:

- Woolworths Junior Blaster for boys & girls aged 5-8 years
- Woolworths Master Blaster for boys & girls aged 7-10 years
- Junior Cricket Competition for boys Under 11, 13, 15 & 17
- Local based club, committed to developing the love of cricket at grass roots level for boys and girls. In addition, we support community involvement through social activities and volunteer roles within the club.

ONLINE REGISTRATIONS OPEN FROM 11th JULY 2018:
Email: junioregistrations@murrumbreenacc.com



All ages, all skills, all welcome!
www.murrumbreenacc.com

Murrumbreena Cricket Club

SCHOLASTIC Book Club

GO CRAZY with these Issue 7 reads!

ORDERS DUE IN BY Friday 19th October

SCHOLASTIC

NOBODY HAS TO KISS OUT ON BOOK CLUB! CHECK OUT THE GOLD COIN BOOKS INSIDE ISSUE 7

\$2



A 3/294 Police Road, Noble Park North
T 0418 585 227
E angela@kellysports.com.au

NETBALL ON A FRIDAY AT HUGHESDALE



HUGHESDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL



NETBALL FUN

Kelly Sports is giving children the opportunity to learn the game of netball and the fundamental skills used in netball. We have a qualified foundation coach taking each session who is looking forward to sharing her knowledge with the girls and boys in Prep to grade 3.

WHEN: Friday's
COMMENCING: 12/10/18
CONCLUDING: 14/12/18
(No session 19/10/18 and 26/10/18)
TIME: 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm
YEAR LEVELS: Prep -Grade 3

GET IN QUICK FOR TERM 4 AS PLACES ARE FILLING FAST
\$105.60 FOR 8 WEEK PROGRAM

SIMPLY GO TO WWW.KELLYSPORTS.COM.AU ENTER YOUR POST CODE AND ENROL FROM THERE. OR

FILL OUT THE BELOW ENROLMENT FORM & SEND WITH A CHEQUE OR CREDIT CARDS DETAILS TO:
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Your child's first smartphone—are they old enough?

Children often have access to devices, including smartphones, from a very young age. Whether it's watching their favourite program through streaming services on your phone, using educational apps or simply viewing photos with you and the family, they are engaging with devices in one form or another.

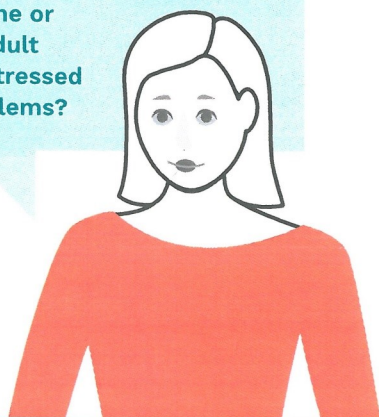
But when is my child old enough to be given their own mobile phone?

In 2012, the Australian Bureau of Statistics revealed children as young as five years old owned a mobile phone—two percent of children aged between five and eight years old, and 29 percent for children aged five to 14 years. This figure is likely to be higher now!

For many parents and carers, five years old would seem too young. For others, it might offer them peace of mind and security to know they can keep in touch with their child—especially in an emergency.

The right age for your child will depend on their level of maturity. It's worth asking yourself the following questions before handing over a digital device.

- Does my child have a good sense of responsibility?
- Are they able to stick to the rules?
- Do they show a good understanding of actions and consequences?
- Do they come to me or another trusted adult when they are distressed or encounter problems?



For younger children it's best to start with a mobile phone without internet access, and introduce a smartphone when they demonstrate an appropriate level of maturity. Some younger children might argue that they are ready for a smartphone, especially if their friends already have one. But it's worth holding out until you feel confident that your child is mature enough.

My child has their first smartphone—now what?

When your child receives their first smartphone it's a great opportunity to instil safe online behaviours early on, so they can carry these skills through to their teens and beyond.

Here are some tips for getting them on board with good online habits.



Establish rules at the outset with clear boundaries

Talk about expectations and the consequences for not meeting these rules. Depending on the age of your child, you might want to set up a written signed agreement which lists the rules.

Here are some you may want to agree on:

- No phones after a certain time (i.e. 8.00 pm)—unless in an emergency.
- Keep to daily screen time limits (i.e. 1 hour per school night).
- Family time is a no-phone zone (i.e. dinner).

- Do not share your passwords with others—apart from parents.
- Do not share your real name (or full name), age and address when posting, talking to strangers or on sites where anyone can see it.
- Be kind to people—treat people on the phone as you would face-to face.
- Do not take or share photos of others (including friends) without their permission.
- Tell a parent or another trusted adult if anything makes you feel uncomfortable, or if a stranger contacts you online.
- Do not purchase or download an app or game without talking to a parent first—especially as these often have minimum age requirements.



Use technology tools to help set the boundaries to keep your child safe

Use parental controls to help manage your child's device and the types of content they can access. Most devices come with parental controls and offer a range of features:

- iPhone: Go to Settings > General > Restrictions. Here you can disable apps or features, prevent access to explicit content and specific webpages.
- Android (Google Play): Go to Play Store > Settings > Parental controls. Most Android phones use Google Play as the digital marketplace for purchasing apps and accessing content. Through Google Play you can restrict the content your child can download or purchase from Google Play.
- Google's Family Link is an app for parents to help manage their child's device and account and offers additional layers of protection. It enables parents to set screen time limits, review app permissions (such as their camera, location, contacts), block apps and approve downloads, block sites and filter content.
- You can also check with your mobile service provider if they offer any parental control tools.

Activate any privacy settings and safety features available on the device, in web browsers and apps. In some cases you can do this through parental controls or when installing apps on their phone. Carefully consider permissions and whether apps really need to access your child's location, contact list, messages and other features.

Help your child set up a pin or password to lock their phone. In addition to protecting their personal information, this will ensure that no one else can use their phone.

Help your child set up strong and unique passwords for their apps and websites. Even if the phone is locked, apps and websites can be accessed from other devices.



Communicate openly with your child, establish and maintain trust

Most importantly, communicate openly with your child about their phone and online use. It's not possible to supervise your child 24/7 and no technology tool is 100 percent effective in protecting them from online risks. So it's really important to establish and maintain trust.

- Talk openly and regularly with your child about their online activities. Show them that you are interested in how they connect with friends, who they talk with and the type of sites they visit.
- If you are using parental controls, be upfront about this and get them on board. Let them know that these can be reviewed and changed as they get older and they continue to demonstrate responsible behaviour.
- Talk about positive online behaviour and about respecting others online. Encourage your child to think carefully before they post, text or share comments or photos so they don't hurt or upset others. Remind them there is a real person at the end of the screen.
- Encourage your child to come to you (or another trusted adult) if they are upset because of an online experience, even if they think they are to blame.

