Maths
Last Wednesday evening our Teachers and Program Assistants participated in a fantastic learning session with Andrea Hillbrick. The session focussed on the planning and teaching of maths to meet each child’s personal learning needs. Every teacher left the session with a plan to further improve the maths learning in their classroom. I would like to thank all our staff for the dedication they show to our students in staying at school and working for 4hrs after a busy teaching day. One of the main messages from the session was that as teachers we can ‘reshape’ an activity to meet the learning needs of all our students. Students vary widely in their abilities in each area of maths and whilst for example a child may find number tasks really easy they may find measurement more challenging. This is why we do not have set groups for all areas of maths and children work with a wide range of other students across the course of the year. If you have any questions about your child’s maths learning please make a time to speak to the classroom teacher for further information.

Winter
The cold weather certainly has descended quickly upon us! Bearing this in mind, remember that children perform best intellectually when they are in a comfortable and stimulating learning environment. As such, wearing appropriate clothing and choosing healthy eating options can significantly impact on student performance. We encourage children to have a drink of water for school and our bubbler taps are always available when the children are outside. All our classrooms are heated, and in the case of inclement weather, students stay indoors during their breaks. During these times they have supervision and are offered a range of activities to involve themselves in.

Working Bee
Thank you to all the parents who came along to our Environment Meeting last night. As you are aware, our school does not have a ‘caretaker’ or ‘groundsman’ to assist in looking after our property and buildings. Each time we employ outside contractors, it is at a significant cost to the school and arguably, many people feel the money could rather be spent on improving student outcomes. As such, we try and do as much as we can ourselves and rely on parents and friends for support. On Sunday 29th May we will be holding a Working Bee from 9.00am—12 Noon when we would welcome any assistance to help with a few jobs around the school. You do not have to stay for the entire duration as we all understand how precious weekends are to everyone. We will be sending out letters to those 1/4 of our parents who are on the list for the next working bee, but as always we welcome help from everyone!

Have a great week.
Tessa Calder
Councilor's Discretionary Fund

We were thrilled to receive a grant of $2,500 from Councillor Ron Nelson. He has supported our Gr5/6 short film project and we have been able to purchase 10 ipod touches for the school. These will be a great resource for all students. Thanks also to the Goodhand family, from Harvey Norman, Waurn Ponds for helping us to get such a good price.

Prep News

What has been happening in the Prep Room? Our star reporter Aggie Forssman shares her reflections from her learning journal....

Today we made scrambled eggs on toast.
I cracked the eggs. Toby poured in some milk and Brooke stirred.
This was in the staffroom. We were risk takers and tried the eggs.
The master chef’s name was Cathy.

Community News

For More Details See the Noticeboard Outside The Office

- **Barwon MiniRoos is here!** Basic soccer skills, activities and a small-sided game all on the one night. Aimed at boys and girls aged 4-6 $90 per child includes a backpack, training shirt, size 3 soccer ball, drink bottle and shin pads. Places limited. Thursday 5th May to Thurs 30th June 4:30 - 5:30 Or Thurs 21st July to Thursday 15th September 4:30 - 5:30
- **Geelong Animal Welfare Society** You can sing for the animals. Groups for 5-7 yr olds, 8-10 yr olds and 11-18 yr olds and adults. Come and lend your voice to a worthy cause
  For more information email us at: geelongyoutchoir@ymail.com or contact 0431981652
- **Geelong Indoor Sports**—Kids Parties Cricket, footy, netball, dodge ball, poison ball, soccer and more. You bring the cake we do the rest. ph 52221822 or visit www.geelongindoorsports.com.au
- **Winter Futsal League—** Grade 5 & 6 and Year 7 & 8 Friday afternoons from 4.30 MORE INFO ngeary@geelongcity.vic.gov.au
- **Loved Auskick—**Girls aged 9-12 www.youthgirls.aflvic.com.au

For your Calendar

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>May</th>
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<td>Sun 29th</td>
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<td>Mon 20th</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week commencing 23rd May</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CANTEEN ROSTER</strong></td>
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<td>Sue Al Murieb</td>
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<td>9.00– 11.30</td>
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<td>Ruth McKinnon</td>
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<td>11.30-1.45</td>
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<td><strong>SICKBAY ROSTER</strong></td>
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<td>Samantha Lawson</td>
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Spore Project

Students and staff participated in a worldwide Art project named the "Spore" project. Here is the photo that was submitted. Congratulations, to all! Details are in our school foyer. Thanks from Ann Henzgen

Crossing Safety

Please remember the speed limits around schools. We have had a number of vehicles not observing the speed limits in school zones lately along with some cars making illegal right hand turns out of the car park. Safety of our children is the most important thing when driving around schools so please keep a vigilant eye out for the students on our paths and roads.

Student Awards

<table>
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<tr>
<th>PRC</th>
<th>Sanjula Mukherjee</th>
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<tr>
<td>PRD</td>
<td>Arielle Stella</td>
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<td>JKS</td>
<td>Tanayah Ford</td>
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<td>JRC</td>
<td>Anna Webster</td>
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<td>JRP</td>
<td>Oliver Jeffreys</td>
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<td>MDK</td>
<td>Lucy Orpwood</td>
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<td>MDR</td>
<td>Ronan Donohue</td>
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<td>MDS</td>
<td>Dillon Hall</td>
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<td>SNG</td>
<td>Connor Kennedy-North, Sam Gliszczynski</td>
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<td>SNK</td>
<td>Porter Dickson</td>
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Medical Advice

You should now have received a copy of the following letter from your child. This is a reminder that all medical conditions require an action plan, such as shown below, signed by our doctor for us to correctly care for your child.

Dear Families,
We are quite concerned at the lack of asthma and allergy plans which have been given into the school. According to our records we have over 75 children indicated to have asthma, allergy or medical condition on their enrolment forms yet we have received only 18 current action plans for students from a doctor.

If you have not yet given the school a 2011 action plan you are putting your child’s health at risk for 6 ½ hours a day, five days a week.

If you have not provided an action plan for a medical condition your child has, please do so immediately. If you are unsure if you have provided us with a current action plan please ask at the office. If one has been provided to us already we thank you for your effort.

School Council President’s Update

It has been a busy year so far for everyone at school, and for School Council this is no exception. We have welcomed new members to the team; parent members Cathy Davidson, Donna Brandwyk and Mark Griffin, and staff representatives David Keller and Carly Stafford. Their experience and new perspectives on school council matters and life in general at HPS are helping us to continue to focus on serving the students and representing the school community the best we can. To date School Council and its sub-committees have reviewed and ratified several important polices, worked through and approved the school budget, the annual implementation plan and our Essential Agreement and Standing Orders, along with all the usual governance matters we deal with ongoing. We have also assessed a healthy amount of excursions across all year levels and it’s great to see valuable learning experiences happening outside the school gates. At our most recent meeting, three Year 3/4 students presented their work on the human body and how it works. It always amazes me how knowledgeable each student is about his or her chosen subject and that they are all able to talk in front of a group of friendly strangers with such confidence. These sessions also help us to remember that the students and their education is at the forefront of everything we do and all decisions made by School Council. We meet at least eight times per year on Monday evenings, and our ‘next meeting date’ is regularly published in the newsletter (it’s 20 June, to save you searching) and we welcome community involvement if you can make it along. My mobile number is on the front of the newsletter if there is anything you’d like to discuss.

Mark Nicholls.
**Book Fair**

Highton Primary School will be holding its annual Book Fair from Wednesday 1\textsuperscript{st} June until Friday 3\textsuperscript{rd} June. A percentage of all sales from the Book Fair allows us to purchase new books for our school library. We will be needing parent volunteers to help setup, work during the opening hours of the book fair and then pack up. If you can help please leave your name and contact details at the office. Without assistance we cannot run this event and make it a success for the students.

**Sewing Group**

Our Craft Connections group are just about to start quilting and would love any donations of fabric to use for their creations. Also if you are quite handy with a needle and thread and have some spare time, we would love to benefit from your skills and assist our students in creating their masterpieces!

Thank you Carly.

**District Cross Country**

46 Highton Primary school students took part in the Barwon District Cross Country on May 6\textsuperscript{th}, along with students from Belmont, Roslyn, Oberon, Grovedale and Oberon South. Our students competed well and we have the following students who will go on to the Bellarine Division Cross Country Championships on Tuesday 7\textsuperscript{t} June at Eastern Gardens, Geelong.

Girls  
10 YR - Sophia Warden, Isla Ritchie  
11 YR – Denby Taylor, Lauren Readings, Erin Wade, Amy Hamilton-Jones  
12/13 YR – Sophie Chapman, Katrina Anastasopoulos

Boys  
10 YR - Samuel Tine  
12/13 YR - Christian Davis

Congratulations to these students.
Mathematics – Word Problems
I have had lots of positive feedback regarding families who are enjoying doing our maths problem each week. So, here is your next challenge…

How many addition signs should be put between digits of the number 987654321 and where should we put them to get a total of 99?

Lost
We have an unnamed size 16 year 6 hoody misplaced in our school. Could all year 6 students please check they have the correct one and check bags and at home for any spare one taken by mistake. Please return to the office when found.

PYP

An inquiry into:

- the interconnectedness of human-made systems and communities
- the structure and function of organizations
- societal decision-making
- economic activities their impact on humankind and the environment.