IMPORTANT DATES:

FEBRUARY
Prep classes not operating on Wednesday so individual testing can take place. Normal Wednesday classes begin in March for all Prep students

MARCH
3 House Athletics Day at Casey Fields
6 Staff Professional Learning Day—no students at school
10 School Photo Day
13 Public Holiday—school closed
20-24 Grade 6 Camp Week

NEXT ASSEMBLY:
Monday February 20

2017 School Council Elections

All government schools in Victoria have a School Council. A School Council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students. Each year in February, we hold an election for membership of the School Council. School Council membership includes parents and teachers and this year we have 4 vacancies for parent members. Information is being sent home with this newsletter about the election process and how you are able to nominate for a position on the School Council of Hampton Park Primary School.

I encourage you to consider becoming involved in School Council so you can assist in making decisions which will have a positive influence on the educational experiences for all students at Hampton Park Primary School. School Council meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month during term time from 3:45 to 5:30pm.

2017 is going to be a very exciting year for the school and it would be wonderful to have new parents involved in key elements of school planning.

Nomination forms are available from the school office. Please feel free to make a time to speak with me if you have any questions about School Council.

Keeping Safe in Extreme Weather

At different times throughout the year, the weather conditions can be quite extreme. This includes heat, wind or very wet weather. On these days, the school considers whether it is appropriate to implement its *Extreme Weather Policy*, a copy of which can be found on the school’s website under the policy section. Please be assured that we regularly monitor the weather and make decisions about managing in extreme weather conditions.

Communicating with Families

We work very hard to maintain good communication with families, but we need your help:

- Please read your child’s homework diary or reading diary each night and sign it
- Please provide a note if your child is away from school for any reason, or ring the school and explain the reason for their absence
- Please read the newsletter each fortnight
- Please open and read your Tiqbiz messages

To view this newsletter online go to http://www.hpps.vic.edu.au and follow the newsletter link

Leonie King
Principal
Contact Details:
Parents please make sure you have provided the school with your current phone numbers and address. This helps the school to contact you, especially in an emergency.

Tiqbiz:
Please download the Tiqbiz app from the App store. The school uses this to communicate to parents. You will need a current email address and tick the box of the grade your child (children) are in to receive notifications.

If you already have Tiqbiz – please update your child’s grade. Remember to read all notices – the school can see on the Tiqbiz Administration site who is and is not reading notices. Many people have registered but are not reading important information.

Lunches and allergies:
Please supply your child with a lunch every day that is nutritious and has less sugary or fatty treats than healthy options such as fruit, vegetables and sandwiches. We encourage healthy eating and no food sharing to keep all children safe from allergies. Please keep foods containing any nuts to a minimum in lunch boxes and remind your child not to share their food. If you child does have an allergic reaction to any food – please inform this year’s grade teacher so they can reinforce the “no sharing food” message.

The school also encourages families to provide lunch packed in their child’s school bag at the beginning of the day. Take-away items (McDonald’s, KFC, Red Rooster etc) are already appearing at the office and we strongly encourage families not to bring such food in – as a treat for a birthday is fine but not on a regular basis. If you need to bring your child’s lunch in to the office, please opt for a healthy option. With the building program and interruptions to our communication systems, it is can be very difficult to hand out lunches from the office – so we respectfully request lunches are only delivered to the office if it is extremely necessary.

Uniforms:
A reminder to name all clothing. Students often take jumpers off in the playground and forget to pick them up when returning to class. It is much easier for us to return the item to a student if there is a name on it.

Students must wear full school uniform to school every day. This includes black shoes and a red sunsmart hat.

Attendance:
School starts at 8:50 am and finishes at 3:20 pm. We encourage all students to be at school every day, all day and on time! This allows for maximum learning time and less disruptions to classes with children entering late or leaving early. If your child is late (after 9 am) or needs to leave before 3:20 pm – please come to the office to sign them in or out.

Sleep:
Many children find the start of school tiring especially with the hot weather. It is recommended most primary school age children receive 10 or more hours sleep a night. This helps them to refresh and be ready to learn the next day.