PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Welcome back to all students, to all our new students, especially those in Kindergarten and Year 7. Hillston Central School is a great little school which has much to offer and a proud record of achievement.

This year has commenced early for staff with teachers and admin staff spending Monday and Tuesday engaged in professional learning that will have a direct bearing on the teaching and learning in their classes. As well as the mandatory training which teachers state wide have to complete Hillston staff participated in several active workshops led by staff who had completed specific courses during 2012. High on the list of priority areas for the school in 2013 are literacy and numeracy. Students are expected to show increasingly sophisticated mastery of these essential skills in all their subjects as they learn throughout the school year. Leadership and engagement are the other priority areas for the school this year. A number of in school programs will be operating within the school to support students in these priority areas. The new Australian curriculum will be implemented at the start of 2014. This year staff will be preparing for the introduction of new K to 10 syllabuses in English, Maths, Science and History. This will involve modification and renewal of existing programs and resources.

All students from years 5 to 12 will be issued with a Student Planner in 2013. This is a comprehensive resource that will be used each week to build learning and wellbeing skills. There will be related items in each newsletter and parents are encouraged to have a good look through these booklets when their children bring them home. Students are expected to have their planners with them each lesson. Students are also expected to keep their planners in neat and tidy condition. Lost planners will be replaced at the students expense.

At the end of last year several key expectations of students were published in the last newsletter. These expectations are repeated later in this newsletter. Importantly students are requested to leave their mobile phones at home. If it is absolutely essential to have a mobile phone at school then it should be kept out of sight in the student’s bag and used after school. Parents are asked to support the school by ensuring that their children do not bring their phones to school.

All students will be bringing home a series of notes dealing with permission to publish, local excursions and email addresses among other items. This information will allow the school to improve communication with parents and reduce the amount of paper used each week. Parents are requested to complete and return the notes by Monday of next week.

Finally this week nominations are being called for the 2013 student representative Council SRC. Nomination forms are being issued to students. Students from years 5 to 12 can be nominated. Forms are to be completed and returned to the Front Office no later than Monday lunchtime. Students will be reminded about the nominations on the assemblies.

Steve Chapman
Principal
All Hillston Central School students will attend the whole school swimming carnival on Thursday. Please ensure your child has sunscreen, hat, rashie, water and food for the day. A BBQ will run, please bring money for a sausage sizzle and drink. Students should be dropped off at the pool by 9am. All students will be dismissed from the pool at the conclusion of the day. Buses will pick up bus travellers at 3:20 from the pool. Primary students may walk or ride home at 2:50. No students will be allowed to leave before the end without a note. Please contact class teachers if you have a concern.

Infant races and games are scheduled for the early part of the day. Parents are encouraged to pick up younger students about lunchtime—it is a long, hot day for little people. Primary swimmers are encouraged to ‘have a go’ in 25 metre races and may use floatation aids to help with confidence. Please wear your house colours with pride and be ready to march and cheer for your House Team.

**P & C News**

This is an active and inclusive group of parents who meet each month in the school common room at 7.00pm. Each meeting provides an occasion for parents to contribute to the school. ALL are welcome. Please consider giving only 2 hours each month to play a part in the active life of the school.

A full list of the meeting dates for Term 1, 2013 are listed below.
Tuesday 12th February
Tuesday 12th March
Tuesday 11th April

**Class Structure in 2013**

**Primary Classes**
There will be four primary classes in 2013.
K/1 Miss James.
Year 2: Miss Martin.
Year 3/4: Miss Ryan.
Year 5/6 Mrs Murphy.

**Secondary**
In each year group there will be one class except year 10 which, under current planning, will have two mixed ability classes.
enjoyed their special Year 6 Graduation Night last term. All in Primary wish them the best for their future learning in secondary school.

Swimming Carnival

Primary students will attend the whole school swimming carnival on Thursday (tomorrow). Please ensure your child has sunscreen, hat, water and food for the day. All students will be dismissed from the pool at the conclusion of the day. Buses will pick up bus travellers at 3:20pm from the pool. Primary students may walk or ride home at 2:50pm. Please contact class teachers if you have a concern.

Infant races and games are scheduled for the early part of the day. Parents are encouraged to pick up younger students about lunchtime—it is a long, hot day for little people.

Primary swimmers are encouraged to ‘have a go’ in 25 metre races and may use floatation aids to help with confidence.

K/1 Volunteering

"Every child has the right to a good education and every member of our community has a role to play as a mentor and role model to ensure that our children receive this education."

Last year we implemented community Volunteers in the school and had a great deal of success. The students loved having helpers in the classroom and the volunteers really enjoyed working with the students.

If you would like to come and help from 9-11am one day a week please contact Sarah James at school.

Crunch&Sip®

Crunch & Sip
Hillston Central School encourages Primary students to bring along fruit or veges to snack on in a mid morning break. This is a quick snack to rehydrate with WATER only and fresh fruit. Please help by remembering to pack a small amount of fruit and a water bottle.
MOBILE PHONES
Mobile phones are not part of school equipment. Students who bring them to school are to keep them in their bags switched on silent. Preferably students are to leave them at home. Mobile phones interrupt lessons, are used for cyber bullying, distract students from the learning in the classroom and seriously reduce student conversations. Mobile phones that are detected in the classroom will be taken to the front office and securely stored until collected by a parent. Students who refuse to follow this direction will run the risk of suspension from school for persistent disobedience.

UNIFORM
Two key aspects of school uniform will be strongly enforced in 2013. Hats MUST be worn in the playground. SHOES must be black and meet minimum safety standards. (Soft Raven shoes do not) The school uniform requirements are described on the website and in school information booklets.

ATTENDANCE
Attendance at school is compulsory. Students who are absent MUST bring a note from home explaining their absence when they return to school. All absences are reported on the semester reports.

ASSESSMENTS
Assessment of student learning is a vital part of teaching. There will be much discussion at staff meetings in 2013 around assessment. Students are expected to do their best at school in all of their lessons.

SCHOOL CANTEEN
The canteen will be open on Wednesday 6th Feb and then on Friday 8th February. The next week the canteen will be open everyday.

SWEARING
Swearing is language that is intended to offend, to bully and intimidate. It is not acceptable. One of the blemishes in the school over the past few months has been the foul language used by many students. School is not the place for such language. Many parents have been shocked when told of the language used by their students at school. Students who continue to swear will run the risk of being suspended from school for bullying.

BOOKS
Student books are expected to be up to date and organised. That is ALL work should be complete and ALL sheets pasted in place. Students are expected to have the correct book for each lesson.

TIMETABLES
All secondary students are issued with a class timetable. It is explained to them on their first day at school. All secondary students are expected to have a copy of their timetable with them at school.

THE NEWSLETTER IN 2013
Parents who would like to receive a newsletter electronically each week in 2013 need only supply an email address at the beginning of the school term.
SCHOOL UNIFORM 2013

Secondary - Summer - Years 7-10

Girls
White polo shirt 'Midford' brand with school emblem on left or
White 'Midford' brand teen blouse with embroidered school emblem on left with
Navy 'Midford' brand hipster skirt or
Navy 'Midford' brand shorts with zip fly.
Grey socks

Boys
Grey polo shirt 'Midford' brand with school emblem on left or
Grey 'Midford' brand button through shirt regular collar with embroidered school emblem on left with
Grey 'Midford' brand elastic waist baggy fit shorts or
Grey 'Midford' brand tab college style shorts with zip fly
Grey socks

Secondary – Summer – Years 11-12

Girls
White polo shirt 'Midford' brand with school emblem on left or
White 'Midford' brand teen blouse with embroidered school emblem on left with
Senior skirt – available at school only
White socks

Boys
White polo shirt 'Midford' brand with school emblem on left or
White 'Midford' brand button through shirt regular collar with embroidered school emblem on left with
Grey 'Midford' brand elastic waist baggy fit shorts or
Grey 'Midford' brand tab college style shorts with zip fly
Grey socks

Secondary – Winter – Years 7-10

Girls
Navy 'Midford' brand hipster pants or
Navy 'Midford' waisted pants or
Navy pleated skirt – purchased from the school
White shirt (as for summer) – long white sleeve shirts may be worn
White socks, blue stockings or tights
Navy jumper, plain navy jacket or school jacket

Boys
Grey 'Midford' cargo pants (side pocket elastic waisted) or
Grey 'Midford' banded college pants (zip front pending sample)
Grey shirt (as for summer) – long grey sleeve shirts may be worn
Grey socks
Navy jumper, plain navy jacket or school jacket

Secondary – Winter – Years 11-12

Girls
As for Years 7-10, however instead of the navy skirt, they have the option of wearing a Tartan skirt

Boys
As for Years 7-10, however they must wear a white shirt (as for summer)

School jackets are available from the School Office for both boys and girls.

Sports Uniform

Girls
Sky blue 'Midford' brand polo shirt with school emblem on left
with Navy blue pleated sport skirt or
Navy blue basketball style shorts
White sports socks
Navy blue tracksuit (skirts not to be worn with tracksuit).

Boys
Sky blue 'Midford' brand polo shirt with school emblem on left
with Navy blue basketball style shorts
White sports socks
Dark blue tracksuit.

PE/Sports uniform only to be worn on Wednesday for Secondary OR on days they have practical PDHPE lessons.

Unisex Tracksuit all ages
Navy 'Midford' micro fibre tracksuit pants (side pockets Velcro leg tabs)
Navy 'Midford' polar fleece jumper
Sports uniform top

Boys and Girls Hats (K-12)
Soft navy bucket hat with cord and blue embroidered emblem or
Soft navy bucket hat with blue embroidered emblem
HILLSTON OUTBACK TRIATHLON – GET YOUR EARLY ENTRIES IN
DISCOUNTED AMOUNT IF PAID BY 22.2.13 ALL TEAM MEMBERS MUST BE PAID TO RECEIVE DISCOUNT.
Date: Sunday 24th February
Continuous BBQ available.
Entry forms available at St Josephs, Hillston Central School, Griffith Motorcycle Centre, Bendigo Bank, Reflex Physio & Gym and Carrathool Shire Council Office, Hillston Newsagency
For further inquiries contact Robin Bartholomew, Race Director on 69672999
Could all children entering complete their registration forms and take them to the school offices with the correct money in an envelope for collection.
HOT IMPORTANT INFORMATION –
All competitors must wear an Australian Approved Helmet making sure it is fitted correctly and have working brakes on their push bikes. These will be check on entering the transition area and if they do not comply you will not be able to compete.