Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week our girls softball state knockout team made it’s way to Orange to compete against Bletchington PS in the quarter finals. By all reports the girls played enthusiastically and represented the school well, however unfortunately were unable to get a favourable result. Congratulations though to all the girls in the team for a fantastic effort and to Mrs Trevena and Mr Quirk as the successful coaches.

On Thursday and Friday last week Year 6 made the trip to Canberra to compliment the Government unit of work they have been studying. It’s always a great trip to Canberra as actively see Parliament House and put into perspective all the learning that takes place in the classroom. I questioned several students on their experience and they stated:

“ It was good to see Parliament house in real life and how it works, not just from a text book”.

“ It was good to see history come to life in Old Parliament House, rather than just reading an article”.

“ The War Memorial was a good way to see the history of our soldiers in war—I felt sorry for them”.

“ It was good to see learning come to life”.

As stated in last week’s newsletter in the coming weeks we will start to put together some models as to how our class structure will look for 2016. At the P & C meeting during the week I explained that “our numbers” are critical to this process. By that I mean how many students are confirmed as being enrolled (new and current) for 2016. If you are intending to leave our school for any reason could you please notify the office so we can keep an up to date number of enrolments. These numbers are then calculated by a formula provided by the Department and provide us with the number of teachers we can use to form classes—this year it was 28. At the moment we are looking at being very close to either having 28 very full classes or a 29th class. Therefore it’s very important to get as close as we can to the total number of enrolments for 2016.

When we have our final number of teachers we then create classes in K—2 are a recommended number aligned to a state average and we aim to get as close to that number per class as possible. From there it is a flow on effect as to how many students per grade per class. Every effort is made to keep classes grade and staged based, however this may not always be within our control and the need for cross stage and multi grade classes may occur.

When we form all classes there is an enormous amount of professional discussion that occurs between the teachers of this year and the prospective class teachers for 2016. Teachers know their students very well and often know other students in the grade well also. Academic data and performance, socio—being, emotional and behaviour concerns, student and teacher strengths and personalities are all taken into account when determining the individual students who will make up that class structure. This is not a process taken lightly.

Traditionally at Harrington Park parents and carers have been able to write requests to the school asking them to take into consideration various considerations. This will still occur this year and we will accept these requests until Friday 20th November. If you intend on writing such a request please consider what and why you are writing, remembering they are requests and not able to write requests to the school asking them to take into consideration any reason could you please notify the office so we can keep current) for 2016. If you are intending to leave our school for any reason could you please notify the office so we can keep an up to date number of enrolments. These numbers are then calculated by a formula provided by the Department and provide us with the number of teachers we can use to form classes—this year it was 28. At the moment we are looking at being very close to either having 28 very full classes or a 29th class. Therefore it’s very important to get as close as we can to the total number of enrolments for 2016.

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Enjoy your week.

B. Green

November
13th: Year 6 Mini Fair
17th: Year 3 Jibbon Beach Excursion
16-27th: Year 6 In-School High School Transition
27th: CBS Assembly

December
3rd: Year 6 High School Orientation Day
8th: EMHS Elements Tour 2-3pm in hall (Stage 3)
11th: Presentation Day
14th: Year 6 Formal
16th: Last day of Term 4 for Students
17-18th: Staff Development Day

January 2016
28th: Term 1 2016 Students Yrs 1-6 return
Stage one are very excited to introduce the new Mr and Mrs Harrington Bear. The previous Mr and Mrs Harrington have worked so hard over their time at Harrington Park that they thought it was time to retire. They are now living a lap of luxury sitting all cosy in Mr Greens office.

The new Mr and Mrs Harrington bear have already started to enjoy visiting the stage one classes and seeing all the wonderful things that they are doing.

A big thank you to the Mitschuinig family for their beautiful donation of the new bears. The students are so grateful and they will certainly be well loved.

Mrs Scherer.
Grandparents/Grand-friends Day 2015

Thank you to our beautiful grandparents and grand-friends for celebrating this special day with us.
Local Businesses Supporting our School

DISCLAIMER: Harrington Park Public School wishes all readers to be aware that the inclusion of an advertisement in this newsletter in NO WAY signifies the school’s endorsement of any particular product or service.

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