

Welcome to Year Four! We are looking forward to working with you and your child to achieve their goals in 2024.

The purpose of this information package is to help you understand our classroom programs and routines. Please contact your child's teacher if you have further questions. Working in partnership with families is important to us to ensure your child has a successful year.

Daily requirements

- A school hat, drink bottle and appropriate footwear is required each day.
- We have a 'No hat, No play' policy. Students must wear school hats at break times and during other outdoor activities. If your child forgets their hat, we have plenty of shaded play areas.
- Sneakers are required for Physical Education lessons. Crocs are not appropriate footwear for school.
- Students can only borrow books if they have a library bag.
- Label all belongings including hats, jackets and drink bottles.

Meetings

If you have quick messages about your child, please see your child's teacher before or after school. However, if you require a longer meeting to discuss academic progress, behaviour or other issues please make a formal appointment. Parent/Teacher meetings will be held in Term 2 Week 2.

Should your child require a Documented Plan, you will be contacted directly and invited to meet and discuss the academic needs and goals for your child.

Break times and birthdays

In Year Four students can access the school canteen, Fabulous Food Factory for first and second break orders. These orders can be placed at <https://quickcliq.com.au/>.

For excursions, the canteen offers excursion packs. Information about this will be sent home as the need arises.

Birthday treats can be ordered through the Fabulous Food Factory. Please contact the canteen at canteenhpps@gmail.com.

Food items that are individually wrapped and clearly show the list of ingredients are also permitted (for example a packet of Freddo Frogs).

Crunch & Sip

Crunch & Sip is a whole-school program that promotes healthy eating and encourages students to drink water. Each day students are encouraged to have some **fresh fruit or vegetables** and a drink of water from their bottle. As we eat our Crunch & Sip in the mornings before recess, it is not suitable to order for first and second break delivery. Please send Crunch & Sip in a separate container to your child's main lunch box.

Before School

Before the doors open at 8:40am, the teachers are busy preparing for the day and as such are not on duty to watch children who are unattended at school. If you need to drop your child off between 8:20am and 8:40am please ensure they are taken outside of the Library where a member of our administration team is on duty.

If you arrive with your child at this time, please wait outside the classroom and ensure your child is not playing on the equipment or playgrounds.

Children should not be on school grounds on their own before 8:20am – we have a fabulous outside school hours facility on site for this purpose.

We appreciate your support in keeping all our students safe.

Morning Message Board

In the morning, the Morning Message Board will be displayed outside the classroom. The Board displays a message for the students to read about the days learning and will convey any messages or information required for the day. Please encourage your child to read the message and respond where necessary. Please discourage younger siblings from writing on the board as it is re-read and discussed in class. Please also do not give your child the answer to the question on the board, this is a great diagnostic tool for teachers to see your child's understanding of concepts being taught in the classroom.

Technology

Hammond Park Primary School has a range of technology available, including iPads, laptops, teacher Smart TVs and a range of other interactive resources. Parents have signed a technology usage agreement on behalf of their child, with the expectation their child will follow the rules outlined in these documents.

Yarning Circle

Each Friday students participate in a Yarning Circle to reflect on the week. We read the schools Acknowledgement of Country and share our favourite parts of the week. This is a wonderful way to end our week. Our Yarning Circle allow students to practise respect and active listening, as well as building a sense of community. This is in alignment with the Hammond Park Primary School Reconciliation Action Plan.

Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) updated matrix

Hammond Park Primary is a PBS school. This means students at our school are explicitly taught expected behaviours and these are reinforced through the use of tokens and various rewards throughout the year. Please familiarise yourself with the matrix.

Online applications

Students will engage with a variety of online learning tools including Connect. Students retain passwords at school. As per the ICT Agreement, students must not share passwords with other students or access other students' accounts.

Library

Please help support your child's literacy and reading skills by encouraging them to borrow books from our fantastic library. In Year 4 this will form part of homework.

It is important that your child is prepared and has a library bag on their class library day. We have a strict 'no bag, no borrow' policy. Our library has a wonderful range of fiction and non-fiction texts to choose from.

Parent Communication

Classroom teachers use the Department of Education's Connect platform to communicate with families and the wider school community. Please switch on your push notifications so that you receive all relevant student and school information. Any queries or questions please contact your child's teacher in the first instance.

Homework

Homework for Year 4s this year will comprise mainly of children reading their library books. Please help us to support your child with reading their chosen books at home.

In addition, in the event your child has not completed work during class time (despite being given plenty of teacher assistance and time to finish) your child will take the work home to finish and be required to return it the next day.

If you are interested in extra work for your child, you will find some great resources at Big W or online.

Curriculum

A large part of the school day is focused on the key learning areas of English and Mathematics. Over 50% of our day is dedicated to these areas to ensure our students are provided with important literacy and numeracy skills. We engage in a variety of learning methods including whole class explicit teaching; group, partner and individual work; daily review and consolidation; technology focused; and hands-on activities.



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English

In English, students engage in a range of differentiated activities such as: reading, writing, spelling, grammar, listening and speaking.

By the end of Year 4, some of the target goals for English include:

- Write simple and compound sentences using capital letters, full stops, apostrophes and other punctuation; and experiment with writing complex sentences
- Write in paragraphs following correct format for the text type
- Use a variety of reading skills and strategies to help with comprehension
- Understand and identify nouns, verbs and adjectives in simple sentences
- Participate in oral language activities and have confidence speaking in front of an audience.

We use Talk for Writing as our whole-school writing program. It provides children with opportunities to imitate texts through oral language strategies prior to writing on their own. Over time students develop a repertoire texts and vocabulary to call upon when involved in independent writing activities.

Children engage in a spelling program targeted to learning sounds, alternative spellings, homophones, compound words, suffixes and prefixes. Children also engage in a whole-school phonemic awareness program called Heggarty.

Mathematics

In Mathematics, students engage in a variety of differentiated learning activities across the three strands: Number and Algebra; Measurement and Geometry; and Statistics and Probability.

By the end of Year 4, some target goals for Mathematics include:

- Count, recognise and use numbers up into the 10,000s
- Recall multiplication facts of from 0×0 to 10×10 and related division facts.
- Tell the time to the nearest minute, convert between time and use 'am' and 'pm' correctly
- Solve purchasing problems and give correct change
- Model, represent and multiply fractions of $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{5}$
- Use a variety of mental and written strategies to add, subtract, multiply and divide numbers
- Describe key features of two-dimensional shapes
- Interpret, collect and create data displays and graphs.

Science and HASS

Science and HASS is taught each week.

There are four strands in Science: Biological, Chemical, Earth & Space, and Physical Sciences. We teach content, undertake investigations and make inquiries into Science.

HASS there are three strands: History, Geography, and Civics & Citizenship. We teach the content, undertake research and ask lots of questions.

Specialist subjects

Students attend the following specialist subjects: Visual Art, Music, Physical Education, AUSLAN and Geography.

We look forward to working with you and your child throughout the year. We are sure it will be an exciting and productive year for us all!

Kind regards,

Year 4 Teachers

Blagica Findlater and Shanice Galera – F13

Jonathan Kurtjak and Claire Smith – F12

Emma Lambert – F11

Michelle McDonald – F15