

# Family Update December 2024

# First Day at School for Students - Wednesday February 5, 2025

#### **Dear Families**

Thank you for your support and feedback this year, I really value the rich relationships we build as a school with you all. I will be absent for a significant part of Term 1 recovering from a much-needed Christmas present on December 20 of a double knee replacement. Deputy Madeline Sinagra will step in as Principal and I have absolute faith that she will do an outstanding job, supported strongly by Manager Corporate Services Fiona Bode, Deputies Luke Chapman and Rowan Brookes, along with our experienced Senior Leadership Team. I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our School Board and P&C who have worked tirelessly throughout the year to represent the Hampton community. These two parent and community bodies achieved so much in 2024 and I look forward to working with them once again in 2025.

# Hampton 2025

We have had a significant growth in numbers at Hampton for 2025, including 230 incoming Year 7s. The Orientation Day on Monday November 25 was well organised by Year 7 2025 Coordinator Belinda Lowe with an array of Hampton experiences such as Performing Arts, experience in classrooms doing activities like a Science experiment, sports and getting to order their lunch. The Show Bags had a wealth of information for students.

We have at least three demountables being installed, as well as several refurbished spaces currently being upgraded to become classrooms and offices utilising a combination of school and Department funding. Our Metal engineering (Prevo) upgrade, approved in 2021, is finally starting and should be ready to use in Semester 2, 2025.



Merry Christmas

& HAPPY NEW YEAR

## **High Achievers Assembly**



Our **High Achievers Assembly** for Year 7, 8 and 9 students on Wednesday was very special. Our awards underwent significant revision this year, to reflect our goal of providing every student with a successful pathway and ensuring that the awards were clearly linked with student and school data and outcomes.

The categories of the awards range from sporting endeavours both in and out of school, The Arts across several categories, individual student achievement across many areas as well as top performers in single learning areas, community service and values. The award winners details for all awards can be found here.

The Athletics Academy award presentation took place after this assembly, our students had achieved some great results.



View the Athletics Academy Award winners list here.

### **Optional BYOD Program for Year 11 and 12 Students**



The Hampton SHS Board, P&C and staff are delighted to announce that we are rolling out an Optional Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) policy in 2025 for Year 11 and 12 students only\*. We have seen an increase in students in Senior School bringing their own device without the appropriate policy and process undertaken.

We want to assure families that current and appropriate laptops will continue to be supplied

to all students in classrooms who do not have their own device. At this point in time, **Year 7-10 students are not permitted** to bring their own device to school.

Year 11-12 students must return the parent/guardian signed agreement to Hampton SHS Reception and follow the set-up information to be able to use their device in classrooms under teacher direction. The Mobile Device policy (Off and Away All Day) will be in place before school, recess and lunchtime as per current policy, with the exception of the Library where appropriate use will be allowed. Please <a href="read">read</a> the attached Hampton BYOD Year 11 & 12 Overview carefully for more detailed information. The Year 11-12 parent agreement form can be found on Compass.

\*Some students with diagnosed conditions requiring a laptop will also be able to put a BYOD Agreement in place as managed by Learning Support and ASD Coordinators

#### Vale Jill Gibson



With great sadness we farewelled our beloved English teacher Jill on Wednesday November 20. She had been fighting her second battle with cancer after surviving breast cancer several years ago. Her husband Shane said to me, "It has been a hard few weeks, Jill passed away Thursday night (October 24), she fought the disease for so long, stoically and with grace."

Many staff had worked with Jill over her 12 years at Hampton, but what really stays in my mind is her beautiful nature, care for all students but especially those who struggled and the strong relationships she built with staff. She has been in the minds of many of us since her second diagnosis and our thoughts go to her husband and young son.

#### **Teaching and Learning**

We have some staff leaving us, we wish them all the best:

Sam Henderson, long standing English teacher is retiring after 18 years at Hampton. Caroline Dixon and Kate Kitscha are on maternity leave, and the following staff are leaving for other positions or have been filling in for staff this year at Hampton: Tiff Trajceski, Aureliana Di Rollo, Seldon Mart, Nicole Whiteside, Jenneane Barone and Jackson Tresize, Austin Gibbons and Betoul Ahmed.

We have nearly 40 staff joining us in 2025 so it is a very exciting space to work in!

Reflecting on the last 12 months, students have had so many opportunities this year, just to name a few:

Good Standing events,	Bushranger cadets camps and activities
First Lego League	Rotary speech competition
Drama, Cheer and Dance competitions	Follow the Dream camps and activities and
and performances	dance and music cultural activities
Orientation Day leadership	University visits
Hip Hop Workshop	SUBS in Schools and F1
Italian Film Festival	STEM Challenge mentoring
Volleyball	Career Taster activities
Swimming	Guest speakers
Athletics and Lightning carnivals	Author visits and Write a Book in a Day

Upcoming Dates for Term 1 – 2025	
Wednesday February 5	Students start
Friday February 7	Year 7 and new student photo day
Wednesday February 12	High Achievers Assembly from Semester 2, 2024
	Years 11 & 12
Thursday February 13	School Photos Year 8-12
Friday February 14	School Ball
Monday February 24	Board Meeting
	P&C Meeting

I hope you will join me in thanking Hampton staff for providing such a rich and diverse program for our students, ensuring they have every opportunity to experience challenge, joy and success.

Happy Christmas and Holidays to you all.

Tracy Griffiths Principal

December 12, 2024