



NEWSLETTER

17th December 2025

Optimism | Integrity | Empathy | Respect | Cooperation *Strive For The Highest*

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Dear Hartwell Families,

Welcome to the final newsletter for 2025. We should be so proud of the achievements and successes this year: the high standards of student learning, a joyous whole school production, many sporting successes, musical performances, PIE programs, fabulous artwork and wonderful whole school connections; there is much to acknowledge and celebrate. Our community activities with lap-a-thon and the very successful Trivia Night added so much fun to our year. My thanks to our School Council, Friends of Hartwell and the staff for their wonderful planning, organisation and implementation of the 2025 school year. We wish Eliza Black, Emma Shelton and James Irlam all the very best in their new schools and to Jos Markerink who will be working in the Northern Territory next year, many adventures and we look forward to her return in 2027. We send Gretchen O'Donnell and Shiranee Jansz into their retirement with our thanks, love and best wishes.

Strategic Review

Attached to the newsletter is the executive summary from the school review. We are incredibly proud of the feedback our school received. It detailed a 'high' outcome in all four of the assessed areas: teaching and learning, leadership, engagement and wellbeing. My thanks to everyone involved in the review; our staff, students, families and School Council Members.

Grade Six Graduation

This important event takes place tomorrow (Thursday) in the Performing Arts Centre. Thanks to the Year Six teachers and to all our teachers who have supported the organisation of the graduation ceremony and to the Graduation Committee led by Sophie Mellem who have planned and prepared the lunch, hall decorations, the disco and parent celebrations. We are looking forward to sharing this important milestone with our Grade Six students and wish them every

future success. To the families who are leaving Hartwell this year, thank you very much for your support and partnership. I hope you will look back at your association with Hartwell with fondness and treasure some beautiful memories of your children during their primary school years.

Hartwell System Change – SENTRAL to COMPASS

Please action the requirements sent via a separate communication to ensure you have completed your registration with COMPASS for 2026. I remind you to download your student reports as the system will be inactive at the end of 2025.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

My thanks to everyone for your support and making good use of the second-hand uniform shop. PLEASE BE AWARE WE WILL NOT BE TAKING ANY MORE DONATIONS THIS YEAR.

I would like to thank Katie Cooper (and Dale, Heidi and Evie) for their hard work, organisation and the time they have committed to supporting and operating the shop. Katie has been a fabulous part of our school community and we wish her and the family all the very best. Next year Claire Maher will be taking over the role as co-ordinator. My thanks to Claire for helping us offer this great service to the school.

PREPARING FOR 2026

Working With Children Check: please ensure this is up to date. It is important that everyone should have a WWC, particularly when entering the school grounds and learning communities.

Supporting A Positive Transition: please note the following resource for families:

<https://www.vic.gov.au/new-year-learning>

Important Dates 2026 and School Operations

In order to assist with a smooth start to the year please note the following dates in your diaries:-

2026 Dates to Remember	
Wednesday 21 January	<i>Book Pack pick up for families with surnames A-L 8:30am-12:00pm</i>
Thursday 22 January	<i>Book Pack pick up for families with surnames M-Z 8:30am-12:00pm</i>
Tuesday 27 January	CURRICULUM DAY – Teachers commence – No students at school <i>Book pack pick up available from 8:00am-3:00pm</i>
Wednesday 28 January	Students in Grades 1-6 start school
Thursday 29 January	Normal school Grades 1-6 Prep Students in half day sessions Prep C and Prep G @ 9.15am to 11.45am Prep M, Prep K and Prep R @ 12.45am to 3.15pm
Friday 30 January	Full School First Day of Classroom Cuisine ordering Year 1 – Year 6 LINK
Monday 2-6 March	Year 6 Camp
Monday 9 March	Labour Day Holiday
Tuesday 24 March	School Photos: Individual, Class, Prep Family
Wednesday 25 March	School Photos: Staff, Family, School Groups

End of Year

School finishes for the year at Hartwell on Friday at 1.30pm. The Final Assembly for 2025 will be on Friday at 9.05am.

Please be aware that there will not be a lunch break due to the early finish and so students should bring a larger amount of food than normal for their recess break. Students will have lunch at home after school is dismissed.

Finally, on behalf of our Hartwell staff, School Council and Friends of Hartwell, we hope you have a wonderful, peaceful and safe holiday with your children and families. Our very best wishes for the years ahead to the students in Year 6 and to those who are not returning to Hartwell next year.

We look forward to seeing you in January.

Kind regards,

Abanti

Lisa Banks
Principal

GENERAL REMINDERS:

- **Our School Office is officially closed tomorrow except for emergency phone calls and support.**
- **All medication will be sent home on Friday** via your child's schoolbag.

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Hartwell Primary

Welcome Picnic
& **MOVIE
NIGHT**



PIZZA | MOVIE SNACKS |
BAR | ACTIVITY ZONE

21 FEBRUARY 2025

Tickets on sale 4 Feb at 10am