



## SPECIAL EDITION – STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

28th August 2025

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

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to a very special edition of our newsletter! As I write this, our Year 3-6 students are busy at the Athletics Carnival and I'm sure we will see some future stars today. We have witnessed the incredible talents of our students in performing arts in Madagascar Jnr. and each week we are entertained with the musical talents of the students through the Instrumental Music program and choirs in assembly.

Not only do we celebrate our students' many academic achievements, but during the school year we often see many of them participate in extracurricular activities and achieve exceptional success through hard work, grit and determination. This year has been no exception and I really wanted to share with you some of the fantastic results and efforts we have seen over the 2025 school year so far.

### **SPORTING SUCCESS!**

We have had great success recently with our sport teams competing in various levels of competition.

***Congratulations to our team of Year 6 netballers who competed at the Netball Victoria Schools Championships at the State Netball Centre in Parkville.*** Playing seven matches against a range of teams from across Melbourne, the standard of netball was impressive. A day of back-to-back, fast paced, intense netball saw the girls' skills develop exponentially. Thanks to coaches Charlotte and Liz Pearce and well done to Annie, Ava, Becca, Emily, Georgia, Grace, Heidi, Mia and Olive.

***After winning the Boroondara Division Championships, our Year 5 and 6 Girls' Soccer team*** headed to Templestowe to contest the Eastern Metropolitan Finals. Skilful, strong, determined and showing impressive tactical awareness, the team made it through to the finals. In a gallant effort and showing much grit, the team came home with bronze

medals for their third place standing. A shout out to our parent cheer squad who had their "3,2,1 Hartwell" chant at the ready every time the girls scored. It was evident the day was joyful for both the players and the parents! Well done to: Amalia, Amie, Annabelle, Aria, Audrey, Ella, Emma, Eva, Imogen, Jasmine, Matilda, Mia, Poppy and Sammy.

***Our Girls' Hockey 7s team is going from strength to strength again this year.*** Taking on the best schools in the east at the EMR finals, the team won a tight contest (1-0) against Yarra Valley Grammar to bring home the blue pennant for first place EMR Champions. A special mention to Eleanor who scored 13 goals across the day and was certainly the player of the tournament. These super star hockey players will now head to the SSV State Championships at Footscray Hockey Club in a few weeks. Thank you to Sian Naulls and Lauren Reitz for coaching the team. Congratulations to Alexandra, Becca, Eleanor, Emily, Lexie, Olive, Olivia, Poppy and Zoe. Back-to-back State Finalists sounds pretty good!

Our Hartwell students represent us all over the state and last week Luca from Year 3 participated in the ***Victorian Interschool snow sports competition*** at Mt Buller. He competed in the Alpine GS multiclass and won the gold medal for division 5 boys. What a magnificent achievement.

***And in latest news - Congratulations to Year 6 student Becca who has been in Bendigo this week representing SSV Team Vic in the 12yr Girls' Hockey Team*** competing at the School Sport Australia Hockey Championships. This is a sensational achievement and by all accounts Becca is having a great tournament and newsflash this morning we heard that the team have been awarded a Bronze Medal! What a fantastic result!

**Congratulations to all our Year 4 Learning Community who took part in the Prime Minister's Spelling Bee.** This was an optional activity and all the students were keen to participate. We were thrilled to hear that Phoenix spelt 28/30 words correctly in a time of 1:04:35! seconds! This makes Phoenix our Year 4 Spelling Champion and placed him in the top 200 spellers in Victoria for his age range – amazing work Phoenix!

**Congratulations to Claire who entered the Boroondara Literary Awards** which is open to thousands of Year 5 and 6 students. She wrote an outstanding poem about a place that inspires, and she will receive a prize or highly commended honours in the upcoming ceremony to be held at the Hawthorn Arts Centre. This is her poem, which showcases a real talent for painting a picture with words and creating something really atmospheric. Well done Claire!

#### Where the Gum Trees Stand

Gangly gums shimmer in the sun's white gaze  
Their branches like dancers in a languid daze  
Red dust swirls freely on the breath of the land  
Echoes of Dreamtime carved deep in the sand

Crimson riverbanks, run dry with ancient lore  
Where shadows stretch on a soundless floor  
The wind rushes low through eucalyptus leaves  
A lullaby the Aussie outback weaves

Here, time forgets to chase the day  
The Gum Trees stand tall, and spirits stay.

**Landcare Grant Winner! Congratulations to Katrina Hall, one of our Science Specialist Teachers who recently submitted and was successful in securing a Landcare Grant.** We are very excited that Hartwell was one of the 111 chosen to receive a 2025 Victorian Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grant. We received \$4269 for our 'Planting the Future' project. Next Term our Year 1 and Year 2 students will be developing their understanding of bio-diversity at school and establishing an indigenous garden here. Well done and thankyou to Katrina for this fantastic opportunity!



We are always delighted to hear about the achievements of our Hartwell students and love to celebrate. Our students really do show the 'Hartwell Have a Go' attitude and as well as achieving fantastic results in productions, NAPLAN, ICAS, Maths Olympiad and many other competitions, musical or dance exams we love to see them grow as young people who pursue their passions and 'strive for the highest'!

We also know this is very much a team effort, my thanks to our teachers for their continual encouragement and for providing such a rich learning landscape, and to our families who support the children's endeavours.

I hope you've enjoyed this very special edition,



Kind regards,