



Newsletter Term 2
30 April 2025

Dear parents, guardians and community friends

We hope you have had a lovely time in the April holidays, a busy one with Easter and ANZAC day.

Some information to start the term:

Welcome to HSS

We welcome two new students and families this term, Ryker joins Miss Anna and the ECE 1 team, and Noah joins the P1 class with Miss Rachel. We hope you find the transition smooth, and we look forward to sharing our beautiful school with you and your family.

Change of rooms

In order to meet student need and maximise the spaces, we have had a change of rooms. The T1 students have now moved to the teacher DOTT room (very near to the car park and front office), the library has moved to the old T1 room and the old Library is now the teacher DOTT preparation space. Students have been informed of these changes during morning circle this week.

Other additions around the school, new paving behind ECE 3 and some in the primary playground, a new outdoor setting for staff (a very kind donation from Sarah Pollard's mum), a new exit door in S3 and paint freshen up for the seating near the chill out zone.



No school this Friday 2 May

This week for students is a short week, with this Friday 2 May, a pupil free day as the staff take time to do some professional learning. Our topic is trauma informed practice, the Berry Street Education Model, Day 1. We are very much looking forward to this learning.

Keeping in contact with the teacher

I encourage you to maintain regular contact with your class teacher around the needs of your child and any questions about school operations. If you have any class related questions, queries, updated information about your child, it is important you tell/ask the teacher. They are more than happy to chat/communicate with you. All classes have school mobile phones, and many use the Seesaw app or texting to keep in close communication. If this does not work for you, please let your teacher know your preference.

I also encourage you to visit our web page [Special Needs School Geraldton | Holland Street School | Australia](#) join our community Facebook page [\(8\) Facebook](#) as this is where we place many photos, reminders and information about school and community related events. If you need help with this, please come in and see our friendly office staff.

Compass

We now use Compass School Manager as our Parent Portal. You will be able to:

- View up-to-date class and school attendance information
- Approve or enter upcoming or past absences for your son/daughter
- Update your registered email and mobile number (used for SMS alerts) details
- Access information regarding upcoming events and news

Compass is a web-based system that is accessible on any modern web browser at <https://hollandstreetschool-wa.compass.education> or by using the 'Compass School Manager' app available for iOS or Android.

Your access details were emailed out today and are also attached in a letter with this newsletter. Upon the first login, you will be required to change your temporary password and confirm your email address and mobile phone number. Attendance SMS information is on the back of the letter.

Attendance

Attendance is everyone's business. If your child is absent from school and you have not notified the school by 10am with the reason, then a message from Compass SMS will be sent to parents. You are requested to give a reason for the absence. After two of days of absence, expect a call from your classroom teacher. This is a check in. For longer periods of absences, we will need to work with you on a plan. Often this is very individualised especially taking into consideration the many medical and social complications our students experience. Essentially, we want your child here with us, every day of the week. *Please note that family holidays during term time are not acceptable reasons for absence.* Notification is to be provided to the Principal prior to going on this type of absence.

Early Birds

Our school day **does not start** until 8.45am. Many of our staff do not start their contracted day until 8.30am. We have very few staff on duty/available to start earlier than 8.30am. Early Birds was originally established for students travelling long distances on the busses from Northampton Dongara. What can you do to help? ***Deliver your child to school at, or after, 8.40am. Arriving at this time means your child can go straight to class and does not have to be in a crowded room, out of routine, filling in time before instructional time starts with their own teacher.***

Winter Warmth

There is no official school jumper for students (apart from Year 12 students who will have a Leavers' jacket), however, we strongly encourage a navy jacket or jumper be worn on cooler days. The school logo can be embroidered by the uniform shop if you'd like it on the clothing. We discourage other jumpers of different colours and anything with logos/pictures etc are not appropriate school wear.

Canteen

HSS Canteen is supplied by Geraldton Primary School every Wednesday. Cash is the preferred method of payment. Please contact your child's teacher or the front office for a canteen price list.

Positive Behaviour in School

PBS focus this term is: **BE SAFE, TAKE A BREAK**

Secondary Leadership Camp

At the end of Week 2 S4+S5 are involved in special leadership activities. We thank Miss Wendy G and Miss Nat for their ongoing commitment to our students in this space. Have fun everyone!

Please find the term planner attached to this Newsletter. Dates are subject to change but will always be given with notification.

Thank you

Rachel Rutter, Principal