Dear Parents and Carers

As you are aware Hutchins is now a KidsMatter Primary School. KidsMatter Primary is the first national mental health promotion, prevention and early intervention initiative specifically designed for primary schools. It has been developed in collaboration with the Australian Government Department of Health and Aging, Beyond Blue: the national depression initiative, the Australian Psychological Society, Principals Australia and Australian Rotary Health.

KidsMatter recognizes the fundamental importance of students’ mental health to their learning and wellbeing. It has been developed in response to the national concern regarding mental health and the need for coordinated and strategic action. (14% of Australian children have mental health problems such as anxiety, depression and behaviour problems.) KidsMatter builds on the work schools are already doing in relation to addressing the mental health of their students. KidsMatter is based on a comprehensive program that involves the entire school community. It targets the mental health and wellbeing of all students in primary schools through creating a positive school environment and providing education on social and emotional skills for life. In addition, it provides additional help at school for those students who are exposed to psychological and social stresses.

KidsMatter considers all the avenues of school life — the school climate, policies, practices, events, teaching and learning — to enhance the mental health of children and reduce experiences that impact negatively on children’s mental health. This whole-school approach also involves the people who have a significant influence on the lives of children including parents and carers, families and community groups.

Over the next two years our ELC/Junior School will be focusing on four key areas to improve student mental health and wellbeing:

1. A positive school community
2. Social and emotional learning for students
3. Parenting Support and Education
4. Early intervention for students experiencing mental health difficulties

Before we start addressing each of the four components, as a school we need to identify how well we are currently meeting the objectives and to set goals in relation to this. All our primary school staff have recently been surveyed and our next step is to survey parents on KidsMatter Parent Survey link on this page: http://apollo.hutchins.tas.edu.au/news/isnewsletter

I know that no one enjoys filling out surveys. However, in order to get an accurate picture of where we are at, it is important to get feedback from as many people as possible, so your assistance in this area would certainly be appreciated. Once we have collected and collated all the information, we are able to complete the ‘School Mental Health Map’. We will analyse the map, see where our strengths and weaknesses are and sort out our priorities accordingly.

At the moment we are concentrating on the first key area 1. A Positive School Community / Belonging and Safety

Positive relationships at school enable children and families to feel that school is a place where they feel welcome, where they will be listened to and where they can contribute. A positive school community helps children feel that school is a safe place where their needs can be met. Research has shown that when children and families feel connected to the school, children are less likely to develop mental health problems and they succeed better at school. Some KidsMatter ideas are below.

Connecting at School for Parents and Carers

Being connected at school is not about having mobile phones and computers. It's about knowing you can get support; that you will be listened to and that you can work together with school staff to help your child learn and develop. Working together to care for children is the best way for schools and parents/carers to support children’s mental health.

When School and parents/carers work together children find it easier to understand what is expected from them (as the message is consistent) and are better able to manage. They have fewer behaviour problems and do better at school.

When parents/carers are connected to school it helps them get support when they need it. Support may come from talking with teachers or other school staff, or from making connections with other parents. Schools help families to connect through having lots of different activities that parents/carers can get involved in.

Being connected to the school helps keep parents informed. Parents who are informed about what their children are learning at school and about opportunities to get involved are able to support them better at home.

Jenny Manthey - Head of Junior School/Early Learning Centre

If you would like to know more about KidsMatter Primary at our school ask your child’s classroom teacher or visit the website at www.kidsmatter.edu.au/primary. The school’s action team consists of Jenny Manthey, Dean Docking, Jason Berry, Mark Holland and Adam Palfreyman to ensure that all pastoral aspects of the school are represented.

Winner of Cross Country School House
Rainjan Blakers and Nat Franklin
**Early Learning Centre**

**Kindergarten**

*Kindergarten T boys are investigating storms*

Teacher: How does the thunder and lightning happen?

**Cody** - It happens when it's all dark and the clouds crash together, then the storm comes down.

**Archie Simondson** - It comes from a black cloud, and actually comes from the "culigolimbus". That's a big cloud and it has rain and lightning.

**Nelson** - When rain's pouring down it goes stronger and stronger and lightning flashes in the night.

They talk about making rumbling with a drum. They decide they need rain sounds and the teacher suggests a cymbal for the lightning crash.

We explore sounds and compose a piece combining these sounds.

**Year One**

I went to Bonorong Park. I saw a koala. They only have 4 hours to stay awake. They are the laziest animals in Australia.

Riley Knopfstein

We went to Bonorong Park. 1S went on Friday. Tassie devils cannot see very well and when they are born they are as small as a grain of rice.

Flynn Millhouse

At Bonorong Park I saw lots of kangaroos, a wallaby and a lizard. It was awesome to feel. We saw a koala and 4 Tassie devils. Also we learned about them. He told us they smell.

Oliver Elrick

Ben Horsham, Zac Phair and Ben Barker

**Prep**

After weeks of training the Prep boys got to show us their amazing running skills and stamina at the ELC/Junior School Cross Country. The rain held off for our race and there were smiles all round as we celebrated crossing the line and being good sports. A great day!

William Hale and his parents

Ben Fergusson and his parents

**Year Two**

*Cross Country News!*

On Tuesday everyone was pretty pumped. We went outside to eat and we had a little play for five minutes and then we went on the bus to Dru Point. Michael put out the mat and we sat on it. It rained so Mrs Bamford took us to sit under a tree and then when it stopped we watched the Year One's run. The man said 1, 2, 3 GO and Max, Axel and Seb were running like the wind. They had to do two laps. Max was coming third. It was a great race!

Max Denehey

Axel and Jack nearing the finish line.


### Year Three

Year 3V and 4B made Anzac biscuits last week. These are some of our thoughts after our cooking creations! Thank you to the parents who helped.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Positives</th>
<th>Minus</th>
<th>Interesting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our Anzac biscuits turned out well</td>
<td>Some biscuits got burnt</td>
<td>We had to use our hands and they got dirty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They taste sweet and yummy</td>
<td>It was hard to make the balls of mixture the same size</td>
<td>The groups made different amounts of biscuits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everyone worked well together</td>
<td>Our mixture was a bit dry</td>
<td>We had fun!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We got to eat the crumbs that were left</td>
<td>The mixture ran out quickly</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We got messy</td>
<td>We needed to clean up the mess</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

James Brown, William Sharman, Jordan Kiley and Alex Titchen

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### Year Four

Year 4 viewed a short animation of *The Piano*. This film has no words. After viewing the animation we retold the story.

I sit down on my old chair as I play my favourite tune on my beloved piano. Memories flow through my mind. All of a sudden I see a figure of my wife as she plays the tune with me. She kisses me on the cheek as she fades away. I remember being a young ANZAC. I was a medic in those days. I remember my best mate, Pete who died in 1918. I have fond memories of my father giving me my pride and joy, my wooden horse. I see myself playing with it. As I got older I couldn’t play with it anymore so I gave it to my grandson. He comes up to me and says thanks.

I am in a long black tunnel and there seems to be no one around. There is a piano in front of me. I sit down at my old but shiny grand piano and start to play my favourite song. My wife comes to me but fades away as she tries to kiss me. She is only a memory. I remember I was a medic in World War 2. I remember when my best friend got shot and he died in my hands. I wish I could see him again. I remember when I got my toy horse which I played with a lot. My son has it now. He puts it down and helps me finish the song.

I am on the piano playing the keys and thinking back into my past. My old veiny, almost see through hands, are playing an old tune. As I play my wife appears in my mind. I almost remember her sitting next to me. She used to kiss me on the cheek. The memory is so strong that it almost seems real. I fought for my country in a bad war. Many friends were never seen again. When I think back as a boy it seems I’m looking at a whole new perspective. The day my mother gave me a box covered with blue silk I knew I would treasure deeply whatever was inside. I opened it carefully and inside was a wooden horse. I played on it every day. When I grew old I passed it on to my grandson. Now he is sitting with me on the piano.

Liam Kinne

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### Year Five

The Hutchins Environmental Wiki

On 22 April Thomas Dunbabin, James Tucker and our class teacher, Ms Knight, attended an Environmental Wiki workshop at Rokeby High School. It was held in the TLC (not Tender Loving Care, Teacher Learning Centre)!

Our task was to create a Hutchins wiki, about our environmental initiatives at our school for AuSSI-Tas. There were many other schools there as well, some of whom who had been to a previous session before us.

AuSSI-Tas stands for Australian Sustainable Schools Initiative Tasmania.

We had a whole day to do this. The people running the program taught us how to make and edit our wiki and related items like how to compress pictures.

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### Save the Children

The ELC have a bright red recycling bin for pre loved kids clothing, toys and books.

*Please, please, please, help those less fortunate.*

Donate don’t dump, bring pre loved clothing and toys to school and pop them into the bin.

The bin will be emptied regularly and funds raised from the sales of donated items support the Save the Children’s programs.

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The School of St Jude

On Friday ten boys from Year 5 went to Waimea Heights to listen to Gemma Sisia. She talked about how she had set up a school in Africa for really poor people and that how any ordinary person can do something extraordinary. The school of St Jude takes only 7-8 out of 2000 children each Friday between September and December. The School started in 2002 with just 3 students. The school currently has 1200 children and 123 staff. Gemma raises money in Australia to build new buildings and educate these students. Mrs Headlam our previous Teacher/Librarian has been working in the school for the last year.

Thomas Dunbabin and James Tucker
Year Six
Canberra/Melbourne trip
It was 4:50 am when everybody finally got to the airport. Mr Prebble handed out boarding passes as we checked in our baggage. Once we had passed security everybody sat in the lounges until it was time to leave. We grabbed our packs and boarded the plane. When the flight finally ended everyone got off the plane in Melbourne and sat in the lounges until our next flight to Canberra arrived.

When all of us finally got off the plane in Canberra everyone grabbed their bags and hopped on the bus that was waiting for us just outside the airport. It was ready to drive us up a mountain to see Parliament House. When we got to the docks we went for a quick boat ride before going for a bike ride around the lake. The AIS was the highlight of the day. We swam at 8:00 for one and a half hours.

The next day was interesting. We went to the bowling alley, which was awesome, and then we went to the War Memorial, which was interesting but sad, and then Parliament House.

The third day was the last day in Canberra and we went to the Space Museum and the Art Gallery then after lunch we went to the National Museum and that’s where most of us bought presents for our families.

To end the day we went up to Telstra Tower late at night to see where we had visited in the last three days.

On the fourth day we flew back to Melbourne and went to Sovereign Hill in Ballarat. We went gold panning, some old fashion bowling, and bought lollies and some people went for a horse ride around the whole place to some places other people can’t see. The entire trip was awesome.

Jack Wallace

While some boys in Year 6 went to Canberra for a few days the rest of the year group spent time at Maria Island. Lachlan Gardner and Angus Reid sitting near the summit of Mt Bishop and Clerk on Maria Island.

PARENTS’ ASSOCIATION
Have you ever wondered what the Parents’ Association does? When they meet or how to get involved?

The Parents’ Association plays a key role in the life of the School and provides a forum for parent input and discussion on issues of importance to the whole school community. There is some fundraising done through the organisation of key events such as the School Fair and various social events such as the Masked Ball and Day at the Races.

Most importantly the Parents’ Association is an opportunity to build friendships which can last a lifetime.

The Association meets once a month during term time, and all parents are welcome to attend. Meetings are short, focused and fun.

Following the recent AGM the following positions have been filled. Please feel free to talk to these members of the Parents’ Association or come along to the next meeting.

President Cathi Burnett Cosgrove (son in Year 3)
Vice Presidents Martyn Hagan (9 and 12) and Andrew Mitchell (Kinder, 1 and 4)
Treasurer Herbert Moll (8)
Secretary Rachel Oddie (1 and 5)
Committee Members Dani Calvin (11), Carol Plunkett (3), Anne Haward (11), Scott Law (5 and 7), Belinda Denehey (2 and 7), Cheryl Johnston (7 and 10), Lyn Sayers (11)

Next meeting Wednesday 12 May 7.00 pm
Venue: Early Learning Centre

The Parents’ Association is currently reviewing the submissions it received from teachers who have applied to the Association for funding of particular projects. This process will continue at the next meeting. An input from the school community is greatly appreciated as this process is finalised.

For more information or to be included on the email list for agendas and minutes please phone: Rachel Oddie 0439 064 313

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Magenta and Black Exhibition

Last week the Magenta and Black Visual Arts Exhibition was held at the Long Gallery in Salamanca Place. It was an absolute delight to see the top work from Junior School over the past two years displayed in a professional gallery. The boy's work looked fantastic and many favourable comments were received from both the speechmakers and general attendees at the exhibition.

Particular congratulations must go to the Year 5 boys listed below who received a $150 book voucher (courtesy of Hillross Financial Services sponsorship) for the winning entry in the JS/ELC section. They created some beautiful Giaocometti style figures to represent characters from the First Fleet. The boys have decided to purchase some books for the Art room to share with all JS boys.

The winning sculptors were:
- Thomas Baddeley
- Tasman Daengdej
- Jack Hayes
- Owen Law
- Hamish McCulloch
- Sam McCulloch
- Jeremy Reid
- Isaac Sargent
- Lewis Wood
- Thomas Young
- Layne Alexander
- Samuel Caccavo
- Thomas Dunbabin
- Jake McIntyre
- Phelin Ndimanyi
- Albert Wyatt
- Robert Jiang
- Matthew Burgess

Dear Parents

Australian Government assistance for National Capital Excursion

Students from our school have recently undertaken an educational tour of the national capital. While on this tour they participated in a variety of educational programmes focused on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. To assist in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian government is contributing funding under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER) programme toward the travel expenses incurred. This contribution will be paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

We would like to thank the Australian government for their support of this program.

Activities undertaken as part of the educational tour are outlined in the newsletter. The excursion was a rewarding experience for all students.

Nick Eaves
Assistant Head of Junior School

Classroom helpers/Parent Volunteers

Parents and Carers

Please note that if you acting as a volunteer in the classroom and are under the direct supervision of the teacher (eg excursion or reading helper etc) you will be required to wear a Hutchins volunteer badge.

The Hutchins School takes security and safety of students and staff seriously and this is one measure we have adopted to allow boys and staff to readily identify people that are authorized to be on the school grounds.

Tags can be collected from the class or specialist teacher before you commence the activity and then handed back to the teacher on completion of the activity. We would like to sincerely thank all volunteers for their valuable support.

FULLERS BOOKSHOP presents...

Nigel Latta
Politically Incorrect Parenting

Why is it so hard to be the parent you thought you would be?

Nigel Latta will be at Fullers Bookshop Hobart to discuss practical commonsense answers and real-life examples, logical and realistic strategies and innovative behaviour modification tools that work in the real world — all from a parent and family therapist who's seen almost everything there is to see and offers some hard-won battlefield wisdom.

Nigel will soon be on Channel 9 nationwide — come and see him here first.

HOBART 2.00 pm Sunday 16 May 2010

RSVP Hobart to rsvp@fullersbookshop.com.au

Mother's Day Stall

We are holding the popular ELC/JS Mothers' Day stall on Friday 7 May.

To help stock the stall please send to school any suitable items such as soap, talc, chocolates etc.

Could these items be sent to school up until Thursday 6 May.
2010 ELC & JS Cross Country

On Tuesday this week all ELC and JS boys travelled to Dru Point recreational reserve in Margate to take part in our annual Cross Country Carnival.

After a bright start to the morning, there were fears that we could be in for a repeat of last year’s wet and windy weather as black clouds rolled in from the south west. Luckily, it was just a brief shower to help soften the track and the sun was out and shining again for the start of the Kindergarten race.

All the ELC boys run superbly and the poor old ‘Hutchins Lion’ found it hard to keep up. Our future champions set off at a cracking pace, whilst the main bunches were kept company by Mr Irons, who showed great form.

The great performances continued as the JS boys hit the track, and fine performances were witnessed across all year levels. It was also very pleasing to see all boys giving their best effort right to end, regardless of what position they finished in. Well done boys.

At the end of the day when the House points were tallied up for the Junior School, it was School House that made it four in a row!!! Finishing just out in front of Buckland, Thorold and Stephens respectively.

It was fantastic to see so many parents and grandparents there to provide support for the boys. Thank you! Your attendance helps to make it such a great day!!

The following boys have been selected in the Junior School Cross Country team based on yesterday’s results:

Year 3 - Torin Jones, Spencer Reid, Sam Kokkoris, Raiden Lemon, Lachlan Richardson and Lewis Drury

Year 4 - Oscar Chau, Ryan Marshall, James Anderson, Oliver Lamb, Kade Rossiter and Jack McTye

Year 5 - Owen Law, James Tucker, Patrick Kearney, Max Kokkoris, James Moroney and Sam McCulloch

Year 6 - Connor Schmidt, Andonis Pavlides, Rainjan Blakers, Nat Franklin, Fergus McShane and Will Burgess

COMING EVENTS

3 May 2.30 JS Chapel
4 May 2.00 ELC Chapel
5 May 10.30 Kinder B to picnic Boat Park Lower Sandy Bay
7 May 9.00 MOTHERS’ DAY STALL ELC
10 May 2.30 JS Chapel
11 May 2.00 ELC Chapel
12 May 10.30 Kinder T to picnic Boat Park Lower Sandy Bay
12 May 2.30 ELC/JS Assembly 3V host Audit
14 May 2.30 JS Chapel inc JS Leaders Induction
18 May 2.00 ELC Chapel
19 May 2.30 JS Assembly 4B host Audit
20 May 10.30 Both Kindergarten to Botanical Gardens
21 May LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

TERM 2 BEGINS TUESDAY 15 JUNE

No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.

Eleanor Roosevelt