Principal's Message

Dear Families,
Welcome back to Term 3 at Hoa Nghiem Primary School! We have had an excellent start to the term already, with an extremely successful fundraiser last Sunday and all grades getting straight into their learning.
We also have an exciting time ahead of us, as we begin our Transition Program for next year’s Foundation students this August. We are very happy to announce that we have a large intake of Foundation students next year, with the school being close to doubling in size in 2017! We are already making great strides in planning our future direction and working hard towards accomplishing our goal.

Warm Regards,
Jacqui Bosman

Important News

Fundraising Event and Sister School News

“When educating the minds of our youth, we must not forget to educate their hearts.”

A huge thank you to all of the families and community members who attended our Mindful Gardeners fundraising night last Sunday. The evening was a huge success, with Ms Bosman’s class creating an advertisement for the school using iMovie, Mr Isma creating a video in which students shared parts of the Awareness Program and their learning and Coltyn V. delivering a speech about the Hoa Nghiem Primary School mural.

Upcoming Events

August 14
Vu Lan Festival

September 17
Children Festival (Tet Trung Thu)

September 19
Last Day, Term 3
All up, the school raised $7,893.00, a fantastic contribution from our families and wider community! These funds will be used to purchase plants and gardening materials, and we are currently at work investigating working with permaculture gardeners, the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden and Digger’s Club to help construct the garden. Students are already hard at work with their planning, with the 3/4 class involved in measuring and mapping our spaces and both classes currently planning the flower garden that will be planted near our playground.

We were also happy to have a visit from Joel Hines, the Principal of Daylesford Dharma School, to our fundraiser. We are continuing to build our sister school relationship with them, with Venerable Thich Thien Tam announcing a future fundraiser to help with their new school building project. The 3/4 class from Daylesford will be visiting us on August the 2nd, with plans for our students to visit Daylesford in Term 4.

### Southern Cross Program

Hoa Nghiem Primary School has been fortunate enough to secure a place in the Southern Cross Program, an intensive program aimed at school development and improvement. Our focus will be on beginning to work towards achieving permission to build and open a high school, which will surely benefit our Grade 4 students as they begin transitioning towards Year 7.

### News from the Classroom

**F-2 News**

The inquiry question “How Tall Am I?” has guided our Maths at the start of Term 3. We used giant sheets of paper to draw an outline of everyone’s body. We talked about what we could use to measure ourselves. The students came up with lots of options: dominos, playing cards, blocks, magnetic letters, textas and books. We’ve spent a few sessions measuring ourselves and decorating our outlines. Yesterday we measured everyone on the same piece of paper using centimetres.

We watched the powers of ten video (http://bit.ly/29WZ8sg) to find out what happens if we measure very large and very small distances. The fact that everything is made from atoms caused a lot of discussion!
3/4 News

Students in the 3/4 grade have hit the ground running this term: completing their spelling and reading assessments, as well as successfully filming an advertisement that they had created late in Term 2. Particularly pleasing is the growth that all students have made in their spelling, with members of the class advancing by an average of three ‘feature points’.

This term, we are beginning with an investigation of graphs, with students surveying the school in order to provide information to the Board about what they would like to learn more about, or how they playground could be improved. We are also learning about fables and mythology (in reading) and community history and diversity (in Inquiry).

The 3/4s continue to lead the school in meditation during assemblies. All students have now led meditation at least once, and they should be extremely proud of the mature and confident way that they are directing the school during these sessions.

Vietnamese Language News

How amazing it is that all students now feel confident to use Vietnamese in the community and as part of their social life. Year 3/4 students enjoy learning one new Vietnamese word per day and being creative with their learning. F-2 students are working on their vocabulary in class through flash card games and matching games. All students are instructed to be independent in their learning and move forward with creativity and confidence.

Art

F2I has combined with 3/4B for Art and we began making our lentil and bean mosaics. Once we’ve finished our lotus flowers we’re going to work together to create a large piece for the Dandenong Interfaith group. We’ve learned a lot from our first session and are looking forward to refining our skills.
Yoga

This term all our students are learning about Yoga on Monday afternoons. The course is run by Miss Foster, a qualified school teacher and yoga instructor. Miss Foster is taking our students through an energised and dynamic course of yoga that will help them develop body awareness, balance and strength.