

HARRISTOWN STATE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Success for all through learning, respect, responsibility and safety

T3 W4

"Towards Excellence Together"

08/08/2026

SCHOOL CONTACTS

Principal : *Skye Gabler*

Acting Deputy Principal:

Sarah Roberts

Office Admin Staff:

Sara Williams BSM

Brenda Lindsay-Holley AO

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Engagement Officer:

Deanna Karaka

Family Support Coordinator:

Shontelle Hagan

Phone 46875333 **Fax** 46875300

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Email admin@harristownss.eq.edu.au

Tuckshop Convenor:

P & C Association

Meets monthly. All welcome!

Harristown Heroes School Values

Learning



Respect



Responsibility



Safety



Find us on Facebook to keep up to date
with school events and activities.



From the Principal's Desk - Mrs Skye Gabler

It's hard to believe how quickly the term is flying by! The classrooms are buzzing with learning, our students continue to embrace new opportunities and our school calendar is filled with events and celebrations. Thank you for your continued partnership and support. Together, we create a vibrant school community where every student has the opportunity to be a Harristown Hero.

Parent/Teacher Discussions - Monday 10 August 2026

Parent/Teacher discussions are an important opportunity to celebrate your child's progress and discuss their learning goals for the remainder of the year. If you haven't already done so, please book your appointment via the link below:

<https://eq.sobs.com.au/pt3/parent.php?schoolid=71249>

School Support Staff Week – Thank You

This week we proudly celebrated Queensland Department of Education School Support Staff Week and recognised the invaluable contribution of our support staff. Whether working in classrooms, the office, the library, around our grounds, or behind the scenes, our support staff help create a safe, welcoming, and successful learning environment for every student. On behalf of our entire school community, thank you for your dedication, professionalism, and the care you show every day. We are incredibly grateful for all that you do.

Central Zone Athletics

We wish all students representing our school at the Central Zone Athletics on Monday 10 August the very best of luck. We know you will represent our school with pride, determination and outstanding sportsmanship. Enjoy the experience and do your best!

Music Mini Concert

Our talented music students are excited to share their learning at our Music Mini Concert on Tuesday 11 August, from 3:15 pm to 4:30 pm. We are delighted to welcome students from Harristown State High School, making this a wonderful opportunity to celebrate music across our schools.

Families are warmly invited to join us and support our young performers as they showcase their skills, confidence and hard work. Performances will include the primary and high school strings, bands, ensembles, choirs, the Auslan Club, and several combined performances celebrating collaboration between both schools.

Transition Programs

Preparing students for the next stage of their education is an important part of our work. We are excited to welcome our future Prep 2027 students and their families through our upcoming Principal's Guided Tours.

- **Friday 14 August – 9:30 am**
- **Friday 21 August – 12:00 pm**

Our 2026 Year 6 students are also participating in transition activities, with Tuesday afternoon visits to HSHS helping them become familiar with their new learning environment and build confidence for secondary school.

Register your email with our school office to receive the Newsletter every fortnight.

Book Week is Almost Here!

Book Week is fast approaching, and we can't wait to see the wonderful creativity on display at our annual Book Week Parades on Friday 21 August.

- **Junior Parade:** 9:15 am
- **Senior Parade:** 10:15 am

Students are encouraged to come dressed as their favourite book character and we look forward to celebrating the joy of reading together.

Upcoming Events

Please remember to check our school calendar regularly for details of these and many other upcoming events. We look forward to seeing many of you at our school activities over the coming weeks.

Working Together to Promote Respectful Language

At our school, we are committed to creating a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment where every student can thrive. Through our Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) approach and Real Schools practices, we explicitly teach students how their words and actions impact others and how respectful relationships help everyone feel they belong.

We ask families to partner with us by having regular conversations at home about using appropriate language at school. Encouraging children to choose respectful words, even when they are frustrated or disagree with others, helps reinforce the expectations we teach every day.

Together, we can support our students to demonstrate our school values of Learning, Respect, Responsibility, and Safety, ensuring our school remains a place where everyone feels valued, supported, and ready to learn. Thank you for your continued partnership.

Calendar

Date	Event
Week 5	
10 August	Toowoomba Central Zones Athletics 9:00am 2pm Senior Parade Parent Teacher Discussions - New Hall
11 August	Year 6 You Choose program begins Year 6 Transition visit to HSHS 3:15pm Music Mini Concert
13 August	HSHS Year 10 Students visit Year 1
14 August	Playgroup 9:30am 2027 Prep Principal Guided Tour HSHS Year 10 Students visit Year 1
Week 6	
17 August	7:45am NRL Stars League 2pm Junior Parade
18 August	Year 6 Transition visit to HSHS
20 August	Bookfair begins - Library
21 August	Playgroup Bookfair Book Week Parades: 9:15am Junior Parade 10:15am Senior Parade 12pm 2027 Prep Principal Guided Tour School Opinion Survey Closes

Calendar

Date	Event
Week 7	
24 August	7:45am NRL Stars League Bookfair 2pm Senior Parade - Special Guest Mr Keenan Principal HSHS
25 August	Book Fair Year 6 Transition visit to HSHS
26 August	Year 1 Amaroo 4:30pm P&C meeting
27 August	Sing Out - Empire Theatre Drama Club excursion - CHSHS School of Rock Performance Carbal Hearing onsite
28 August	Playgroup
Week 8	
31st Aug– 2nd Sept	5/6 Camp
31 August	7:45am NRL Stars League 2pm Junior Parade
1 September	HSHS Year 11 Students visit Year 1
2 September	P&C Father's Day Stall
3 September	P&C Father's Day Stall 2027 Prep Enrolment Discussions HSHS Year 11 Students visit Year 1
4 September	Student Free Day
Week 9	
7 September	7:45am NRL Stars League 2pm Senior Parade
8 September	Clontarf visit Special Guest during Auslan lessons today
9 September	9 - 11am Under 8's Day Celebrations Musica Viva Show
10 September	RUOk Day 2027 Prep Enrolment Discussions
Week 10	
14 September	7:45am NRL Stars League 2pm Junior Parade
18 September	Final Day of Term 3

WEEK 3 and 4 PBL FOCUS

In week 3 our focus was around learning from our mistakes.

Our Harristown students show their understanding by:

- Recognising when mistakes are made.
- Taking responsibility for mistakes.
- Using resilience, hard work and sincerity to correct mistakes.
- Moving forward using the knowledge learnt from mistakes.



In week 4 students have focussed on the PBL value of Responsibility and using the High 5. This week focuses on strategies to support us if something is happening that we don't like.

Our Harristown students will show their understanding by:

Identifying each step in the high 5 – Ignore, Talk friendly, walk away, talk firmly (stop, I don't like that) and report to an adult.



Lunches

Foods like baked beans, spaghetti and tuna are great for the lunchbox. If your child is bringing these foods, please ensure that they are removed from the tin and placed into a plastic container. Tin lids can be very sharp and glass containers pose a safety risk if children drop and break them. Thermoses are great for keeping food hot and can be purchased cheaply.

Parent Teacher Discussions

We look forward to seeing you at parent teacher interviews next week! If you have not made an appointment yet, please contact the office to organise a time.

PICK UP POINTS

There are 2 supervised pick-up points after 3pm. The prep gate at Warwick Street and the main gate at South Street are supervised from 3pm to ensure that students are supervised in getting picked up safely.

ATTENDANCE

We love to see your child at school every day! While we aim to have over 90% attendance, we understand that kids get sick or have important commitments at times. When this happens, please give us a call with a reason for absence.

General enquiries: 46 875 333

To report absence: 46 875 360



We are safe at Harristown

To help keep all students safe and ensure our school runs smoothly, please follow the procedures below:

Morning arrival:

The first bell to start the day goes at **8.45am**.

Students may arrive after **8.15am**. Please note there is no supervision before **8.15am**.

Students arriving between **8.15am and 8.30am** must wait in the undercover area under B Block (near the tuckshop).

Students arriving **after 8.30am** may head straight to their playground space with their bags and hats to play. If your child arrives **after 9am**, please walk them to the school office to be signed in late.

Our school zones are busy spaces. Please remind your child to **cross safely** with our crossing supervisors.

This includes walking across once the whistle is blown. (Bikes and scooters need to be walked across)

Afternoon departure:

School finishes at 3pm.

Students departing are supervised from the South Street and Warwick Street gates.

Important Safety Reminders

Parking in the no standing zones is not permitted. (Council mandates this)

If you need to collect your child before 3pm, please go to the school office. Our office staff will organise for your child to meet you at the office.

Our playgrounds are not supervised spaces outside of school hours. Students are redirected to their pickup points after school.

Our playgrounds are built for age appropriateness. If you have children who are not school age we encourage you to keep them off the playground. We value their safety!



Harristown State School



PARENT TEACHER CONVERSATIONS

Meet with your child's teacher to discuss their progress so far.

These conversations are brief touch points to discuss your child's progress. If you would like a longer appointment or require a different date, please contact your child's teacher to arrange this.



How is your child progressing with their learning at school?



Set goals for your child, with their teacher



Ask questions about your child's learning



(07) 4687 5333

BOOKING LINK

<https://eq.sobs.com.au/pt3/parent.php?schoolid=71249>



NRL Before School League Stars – Harristown State School - Term 3, 2026

We are excited to host the NRL After School League Stars program at Harristown State School! The program is open to all primary school students and provides a fun, safe, non-contact and inclusive introduction to rugby league

- ⇒ The program begins on Monday, 17th August 2026 and will run every Monday from 7:45am - 8:45am for 6 weeks, with session 6 being run on Tuesday the 15th September
- ⇒ The program itself is completely FREE for all participants.
- ⇒ An additional cost applies for the optional participant pack.

There are limited spots available in both age groups, and once positions are filled, registrations will close. We encourage families to register early to avoid missing out

⇒ How to Register:

-Go to Play Rugby League - League Stars

<https://www.playrugbyleague.com/league-stars/>

-Enter postcode: 4350

-Find Program Named Harristown State School

OR

-Use the links below



5-8 YEAR OLD PROGRAM: [https://account.nrl.com/u/login/identifier?](https://account.nrl.com/u/login/identifier?state=hKFo2SA0ZVNFd3pXQzVUCjRvLhjS2lQajZOQUVzTWfhTTQ3LaFur3VuaXZlcnNhbc1sb2dpbqN0aWTZIDhwdVJhbWN5VEF4S1JvTEpjWmtKYjl4azJEZ01JYjZPo2NpZNkgS3N4ODFqTUpCbmxczVJnang3S1FhMnNhYIVrN3BldFc)

[state=hKFo2SA0ZVNFd3pXQzVUCjRvLhjS2lQajZOQUVzTWfhTTQ3LaFur3VuaXZlcnNhbc1sb2dpbqN0aWTZIDhwdVJhbWN5VEF4S1JvTEpjWmtKYjl4azJEZ01JYjZPo2NpZNkgS3N4ODFqTUpCbmxczVJnang3S1FhMnNhYIVrN3BldFc](https://account.nrl.com/u/login/identifier?state=hKFo2SA0ZVNFd3pXQzVUCjRvLhjS2lQajZOQUVzTWfhTTQ3LaFur3VuaXZlcnNhbc1sb2dpbqN0aWTZIDhwdVJhbWN5VEF4S1JvTEpjWmtKYjl4azJEZ01JYjZPo2NpZNkgS3N4ODFqTUpCbmxczVJnang3S1FhMnNhYIVrN3BldFc)

9-12 YEAR OLD PROGRAM: [https://account.nrl.com/u/login/identifier?](https://account.nrl.com/u/login/identifier?state=hKFo2SBSbXRCQkljeW1Pa3duUzk5R1FYa3cta2hjc05aUIVXNaFur3VuaXZlcnNhbc1sb2dpbqN0aWTZIDRxdTJVTE9qdmhWbnNiRjdnckFGVFVwc2Y4UnJtR0NZo2NpZNkgS3N4ODFqTUpCbmxczVJnang3S1FhMnNhYIVrN3BldFc)

[state=hKFo2SBSbXRCQkljeW1Pa3duUzk5R1FYa3cta2hjc05aUIVXNaFur3VuaXZlcnNhbc1sb2dpbqN0aWTZIDRxdTJVTE9qdmhWbnNiRjdnckFGVFVwc2Y4UnJtR0NZo2NpZNkgS3N4ODFqTUpCbmxczVJnang3S1FhMnNhYIVrN3BldFc](https://account.nrl.com/u/login/identifier?state=hKFo2SBSbXRCQkljeW1Pa3duUzk5R1FYa3cta2hjc05aUIVXNaFur3VuaXZlcnNhbc1sb2dpbqN0aWTZIDRxdTJVTE9qdmhWbnNiRjdnckFGVFVwc2Y4UnJtR0NZo2NpZNkgS3N4ODFqTUpCbmxczVJnang3S1FhMnNhYIVrN3BldFc)

You are welcome to sell your second-hand uniforms through the Uniform shop and receive a portion of the sales



TUCKSHOP- Orders MUST be in by 9am, please don't be late as your child's order will not get processed in time for lunch. You can order food both **ONLINE and at the tuckshop**. **No phone orders accepted**. Calls to the office after 9am wanting to place orders will **not** be put through to the tuckshop to allow the tuckshop staff uninterrupted time to complete their work.



P&C MEETING – Next meeting: Wednesday 26th August, SSC



School Notices

BREAKFAST CLUB- Open Monday to Friday 8:15 to 8:45.



NURSE PRACTITIONER- Tuesday 9:00 to 3:00pm. All students and their families welcome. **NO COST.**





First pen licences for the year!



From Library- Mrs Brunner

BOOK WEEK DRESS UP DAY - AUGUST 21 - Dress like a popstar, pop group, book character, or whatever dress ups you have at home.

BOOK FAIR AUGUST 20 - 25. Open before (8:15 to 8:45am) and after school strictly (3:00 to 3:30pm)
Students will bring home a 'Wish List' and you are welcome to purchase online, at the school using eftpos or cash.

Every little sale helps our school with purchasing new books.

COLOUR IN COMPETITION

YEARS PREP TO 3 - teachers will give students the colour in sheet. DUE BY AUGUST 14.

BOOK WEEK MUSICAL INSTRUMENT COMP FOR STUDENTS YEARS 3 TO 6 - Create and design a musical instrument using mostly recycled items – to be created at home. Drop off to the library.

Prizes up for grabs. **DUE BY AUGUST 14**



Year 1- Mrs O'Brien, Miss Carlie & Mrs Trost

Year 1's recently were visited by local firefighters from the Drayton station as part of the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services' Fire Ed Program. The aim of the program is to assist students to develop an understanding of the dangers of fire and the appropriate response should they be in a situation where a fire is involved.

In the first visit, students learnt about how to be safe if there was a fire. The firefighters demonstrated the uniforms that they would wear, should they need to enter into a building to check everyone was out safely. The skills and important information that has been delivered to students included:

- Firefighters can help you.
- The difference between good and bad fires.
- What to do if their clothes catch fire - Stop, Drop and Roll.
- How to escape a burning house: Crawl low in smoke, get down low and go, go, go!

Get Out and Stay Out.

On the second visit, students were able to look at the different equipment that is stored in a fire truck.

Most students got to use a hose to spray some water.



From Prep- Mrs Spence, Miss Tina, Miss Jane & Miss Nat

Prep B Dolphins had an amazing time during their excursion to Amaroo, exploring, creating and learning how to care for country.





School Notices

Help parents and carers guide their children safely to explore the digital world

Many parents and carers want to support the development of healthy digital habits but aren't always sure on the best way to do this.

Triple P Online: Children and Screens provides your school community with a trusted resource they can access anytime. It gives practical, evidence-based parenting advice – whether it's how to set limits, talk through problems or guide responsible behaviour around screens.

Triple P Online: Children and Screens helps parents and carers of children under 12 years to:

- Teach healthy digital habits
- Reduce screen time battles and conflict
- Create realistic expectations and limits that children can follow
- Learn how to talk about risks and online safety
- Find the right balance between enjoying life in the real world and the digital world

The program uses positive parenting strategies backed by four decades of ongoing research – and it's free!

Did you know?

Triple P has more free parenting programs, including **Triple P Online** (for parents and carers of children under 12), **Fear-Less Triple P Online** (for parents and carers of children who are often anxious), **Family Transitions Triple P Online** (for families experiencing separation or divorce), **Stepping Stones Triple P Online** (for parents and carers of children with disability, neurodivergence or additional needs) and more. All programs are available at: triplep-parenting.net.au

You can also find us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) where we share tips and chat about topics parents want to know more about.

Homework Centre

Places available for students in all year levels from Year 1 to Year 6

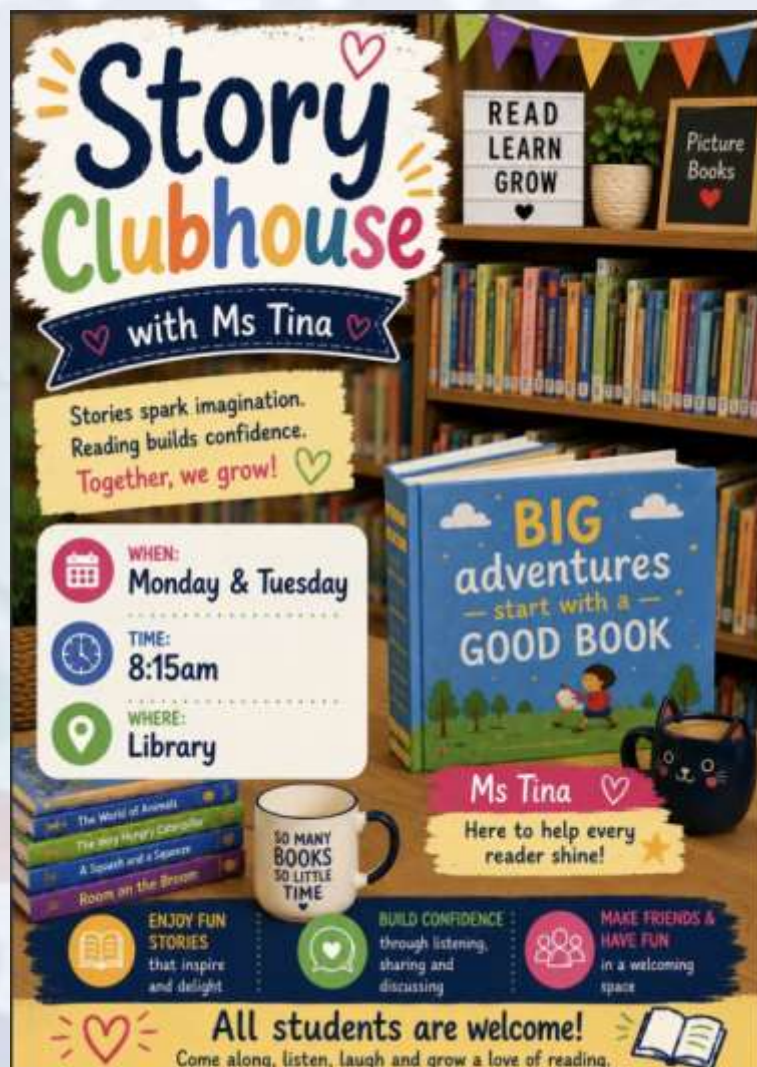
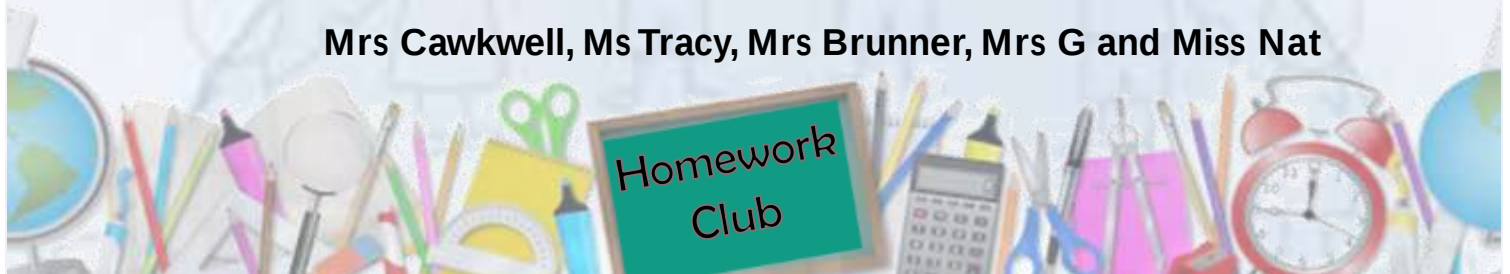
At Harristown we offer homework support three times a week - **Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings from 8:15am - 8:45am.**

Breakfast is available for students who attend homework club from 8am – 8:15am.

Our amazing team give our students the opportunity to work in a quiet environment in the school library.

If you would like your child to complete their homework under supervision of our supportive Homework Centre team, collect a Homework Centre Registration form from the school office.

Mrs Cawkwell, Ms Tracy, Mrs Brunner, Mrs G and Miss Nat





About the program

Play On! Sports Vouchers provide eligible Queensland children and young people aged 5 to 17 with up to \$200 towards sport registration, membership and participation fees.

The program helps reduce the cost of participation for families and supports more children to get involved in local sport.

A key focus of the program is supporting children in regional and country Queensland, as well as children with disability, to access sporting opportunities in their local communities.

Important dates

Voucher applications opened: 27 July 2026

Voucher applications close: 18 December 2026 (unless vouchers are fully allocated earlier)

Vouchers expire: 18 June 2027

The poster features the 'PLAY ON! SPORTS VOUCHERS' logo at the top. Below the logo is a photograph of two children in green and white sports uniforms jumping over a hurdle on a track. The text 'UP TO \$200 TOWARDS JUNIOR SPORT' is prominently displayed in white on a blue background. Below this, a small line of text states: 'Eligible Queensland children aged 5-17 can receive up to \$200 towards sport registration, membership and participation fees.' At the bottom left is a QR code, and at the bottom right is the text 'APPLY NOW qld.gov.au/playon'. The Queensland Government logo is also present in the bottom right corner.



School newsletter and socials content hub

E-scooter and e-bike laws are changing

1 min read

Newsletter:

From 1 July 2026, tougher laws for e-scooters and e-bikes will be rolled out including:

- new police powers to seize and destroy illegal devices
- riders must be aged 16+ and hold a licence from 31 August (some exemptions apply)
- parents can be fined if children under 16 ride illegally
- fines of more than \$500 for offences including not wearing a helmet, doubling and careless riding
- 12km/h speed limits on footpaths and when passing pedestrians on shared paths.

Families are encouraged to check the new rules and talk to their child before they ride:

<https://streetsmarts.initiatives.qld.gov.au/e-bikes-e-scooters/>

Facebook:

E-scooters and e-bikes are a popular way for students to get around, but the rules are changing.



From 1 July 2026, new laws will begin rolling out including changes to rider requirements, fines, speed limits and illegal devices.

Learn what the changes mean for your family: <https://streetsmarts.initiatives.qld.gov.au/e-bikes-e-scooters/>

Instagram:

E-scooter and e-bike laws are changing from 1 July 2026

See link in bio and read up on the latest law changes taking affect 1 July including:

- ✓ new age and licensing requirement
- ✓ higher fines
- ✓ parent fines
- ✓ lower speed limits on footpaths and shared paths.



1080 x 1080 social media graphic