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Term 1 Week 11

Principal's Report



I am delighted to provide all parents with an insight into your school photos for 2025. Dorrigo Photography are hoping to have photos ready for all families prior to the end of term. Our photo day aligned with one of the few bright sunny days this term, as such some of our photos feature a sunlit squint.

As Term 1 draws to a close, I have been impressed by our students' motivation and enthusiasm for learning. We are busy preparing for the Armidale Eisteddfod, which will be held on Thursday, 22 May at Lazenby Hall, University of New England. Since commencing our New England Conservatorium of Music (NECOM) music program in 2023, our students have demonstrated amazing growth in their singing abilities and are to be congratulated on their outstanding achievements! Particularly when we are completing our lessons via Zoom, a vastly different platform from face-to-face music lessons. I am very proud of Hernani's singing stars and look forward to our parents and wider community joining us for the Armidale Eisteddfod.

Term 2 will commence for students on Wednesday, 30 April. Our first excursion for Term 2 will be for our PSSA age students (8 Years and above), who will be competing at the Bellinger/Nambucca District

Cross Country Carnival at Urunga on the very first Friday of Term 2. At school, we have attempted to commence fitness training in preparation for this event, however, given recent weather, this has been a challenge. I encourage all families who have students planning to attend the Cross Country to ensure that some time is spent on running a 2 to 3 km race.

I apologise for the changed dates in relation to the Finlayson Sports. I know that parents utilise our School Bytes calendar to plan and juggle both work and school events, however, this week we identified a potential clash between the Eisteddfod and the Finlayson Sports. As soon as this was realised, we contacted Chandler Public School. Finlayson Sports is now on Wednesday, 14 May, and The Armidale Eisteddfod is on Thursday, 22 May.

In Term 2, I will be taking a block of long service leave. I wish to advise our school community that an executive member of staff within the Hernani School team, Mrs Emily Bingle, will be our Relieving Principal during this time, which commences in Week 4, Term 2 (Monday 19 May to Friday 4 July), until the end of Term 2. This ensures continuity of teaching and learning for our students.





NSW Public Schools Student Survey

In Term 2, we are offering our students the opportunity to participate in the NSW Public Schools Student Survey. The survey gives students the chance to share their thoughts and feelings about life at school, including questions about their engagement, learning experiences, and well-being at school.

Hearing directly from our students will help us understand what is working well and where improvements can be made to our school. The survey is confidential, takes around 10 to 15 minutes to complete, and will be conducted online during school hours.

Participation is voluntary. If you prefer your child not to participate, please complete the opt-out consent form, which will be sent home, and return it to the school. Further information about the survey is available at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/npps>.

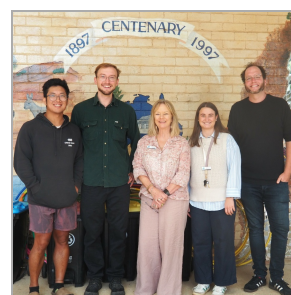
In 2026, the NSW Public Schools Survey will be available for parents and staff.

From one Hernani to Another

Hernani Public School had a wonderful, serendipitous visit today from two travellers, Yusuke and Nico, who were passing through and thrilled to find a town named Hernani on the map. Nico explained to delighted students and staff that Hernani was a town very close to where he grew up and still lives in the Basque region on the Atlantic coast of Spain. He was also very interested to hear about the history of (our) Hernani's naming by Edward Parke, a veteran of the Carlist Wars in Spain in the nineteenth century, who named (our) Hernani for its resemblance to the original Hernani - a resemblance confirmed by Nico.



Never one to miss an opportunity to draw on expertise, Mrs Winkel invited Nico to talk to (our) Hernani students about (his) Hernani, Basque culture, and the unique Basque language. Students were even treated to a traditional Basque song, and were hugely impressed with Nico's talent for whistling! Students and staff were delighted to meet Nico and Yusuke, hope to learn more about Spanish Hernani and Basque culture and language, and keep in touch with our foreign correspondents. To Yusuke and Nico, Hernani Public School says "eskerrik asko!" (thank you in Basque)



Parent/Carer/Visitor Sign-In at school

As part of our compliance with audit requirements, we kindly remind you to sign in at the school office whenever you visit, this will include all Parent/Teacher meetings, P&C meetings, assemblies, combined school days etc, aside from during drop-off and pick-up times. This process is essential for maintaining safety and security within our school community.

To assist our school community concerning sign-in requirements, please review the information below.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Visitor sign-in procedures for schools

All visitors attending a school site must comply with school sign-in arrangements and check in using School Visitor Check-in.

Your School Visitor Check-in QR code replaces your school's sign-in procedure for visitors and contractors.

All visitors (parents/carers, volunteers and contractors including cleaners) must use School Visitor Check-in to comply with school sign-in procedures.

Visitors, contractors and service providers on-site should use the School Visitor Check-in QR code:

- during school hours
- outside of school hours if on-site for school-related reasons (such as P&C meetings, workers such as cleaning and teachers visiting classrooms on weekends).

Visitors to the school who do not have access to electronic devices can:

- use the webform on a school device at front reception
- use the School Visitor Check-in concierge device.

When School Visitor Check-in is not used

Signing in via SVCI is not required for:

- community users of school facilities for non-school-related reasons.
- schools on sites that are not operated by DoE and have existing visitor sign-in processes such as schools in a hospital or Youth Justice Centres.
- anyone on-site outside of school hours for non-school-related reasons including:
 - outside of hours school care (OOHSC)
 - preschools
 - community use of school facilities and leases:
 - playgroups
 - sports clubs
 - markets
 - elections.

Math Moments in Kindergarten

Over the past few weeks, our Kindergarten mathematicians have been busy building their number sense! They have been learning to count to 20 and practicing writing their numbers. They've also been exploring patterns and beginning to combine and separate groups of objects.

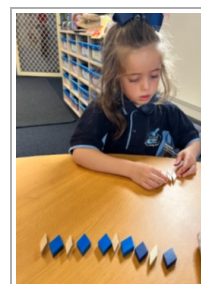
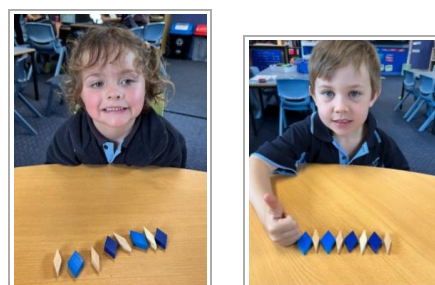
One of the big focuses has been taking away, using our special success criteria:

- ✗ Start with a group – "How many do I have?"
- ✗ Take some away.
- ✗ Count what's left.
- ✗ Say the last number—that's how many are left!

We've also been working on combining small groups, using steps to help us:

- ✗ Count the objects in the first group.
- ✗ Count the objects in the second group.
- ✗ Put them together.
- ✗ Say the last number—that's the total!

The kindergarteners are loving these hands-on activities, and Miss Curr is so proud of how quickly they are picking up new skills!



Stage 1 Mathematicians in Action!

Stage 1 students have been working hard to understand equal groups as a foundation for multiplication. They've been learning that multiplication can be solved by making equal groups. Our success criteria guides them through the process:

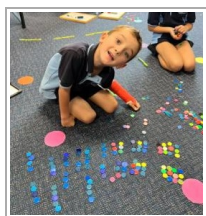
- ✗ First number – How many groups do we need? Make the groups.
- ✗ Second number – How many in each group? Match the groups __ by __.
- ✗ Count to check — Are all groups equal?
- ✗ Write the answer — How many altogether?

Students have been using counters and other materials to visualise these concepts. Check out our photos of their fantastic work!

In addition, we've been investigating polygons by identifying their key features:

- 1☒ Count the sides.
- 2☒ Count the vertices (corners).
- 3☒ Name the polygon!

It has been amazing to see students apply their learning and confidently name different shapes. Keep up the fantastic work stage 1!



ANZAC DAY

ANZAC Day is on Friday 25 April before Term 2 commences. The Dorrigo RSL Sub-Branch have extended the following invitation to our school community to participate in their ANZAC Day Services:

"The Dorrigo RSL Sub-Branch wishes to invite staff and students from your school to march as a School Group in the Dorrigo ANZAC Day March and Wreath Laying Service on Friday 25th April, 2025. The March & Wreath laying Service will commence at 11.00am with the march from the Dorrigo Memorial RSL Club. Assembly is at 10.40am. As with last year the Order of March will have the Dorrigo School contingents near the head of the March, and the Schools will end on the corner of Hickory St and Waterfall Way. The Dawn Service will

commence at 5.30am at the Dorrigo Monument."

Our school has organised a wreath for our students and staff for this important occasion. We request that parents please advise the school of your child's participation in the ANZAC Day March and Wreath Laying Service prior to the end of term via School Bytes consent note.



Share Our Space

Our School is part of the NSW Department of Education Share Our Space Term-Time Trial in Term 1 and Term 2 in 2025.

During the school holidays around 200 public schools are opened so that families, children and young people can use the fields, outdoor courts and play equipment.

The Share Our Space term time trial is assessing if there is a similar demand throughout the year, as well as during the holidays.

Our school has been selected for this trial, and we ask all school families to let their friends and neighbours know of this opportunity.

Our grounds will be available each day after school, Monday to Friday from 3.15pm – 7pm.

For more information and to complete the community survey, visit <http://edu.nsw.link/Share-Our-Space-TTT> The Share Our Space program is returning for the Term 1 school holidays. School grounds will be open to the public from Saturday 12 April to Sunday 27 April 2025.

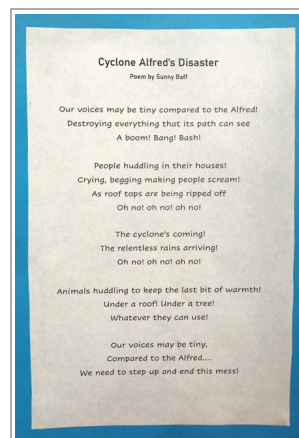
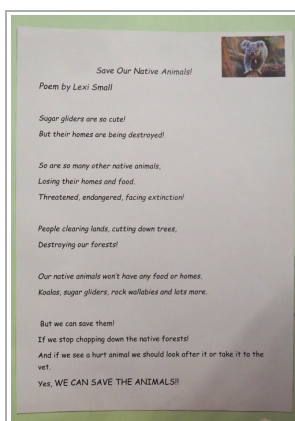


Our school is part of the
NSW Department of Education
Share Our Space Term Time Trial

We're proudly sharing our space with the community



Year 3-6 Poems



PSSA Cross Country

The PSSA Cross Country is just around the corner -
Term 2, Week 1, Friday 2 May.

Who Can Participate?

Students turning 8 years old in 2025 are eligible to compete.

Practise Makes Perfect!

While we had planned to train during school time, the weather hasn't been in our favor this term. To help your child prepare, we encourage them to **practise running the required distance over the holidays.**

Let's get ready for a great race!

Let's Hang It!

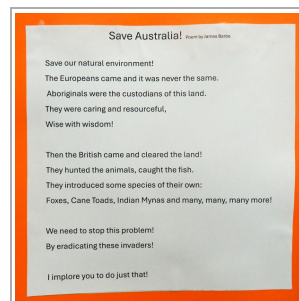
UNESAP Let's Hang It Exhibition – Calling All Young Artists!

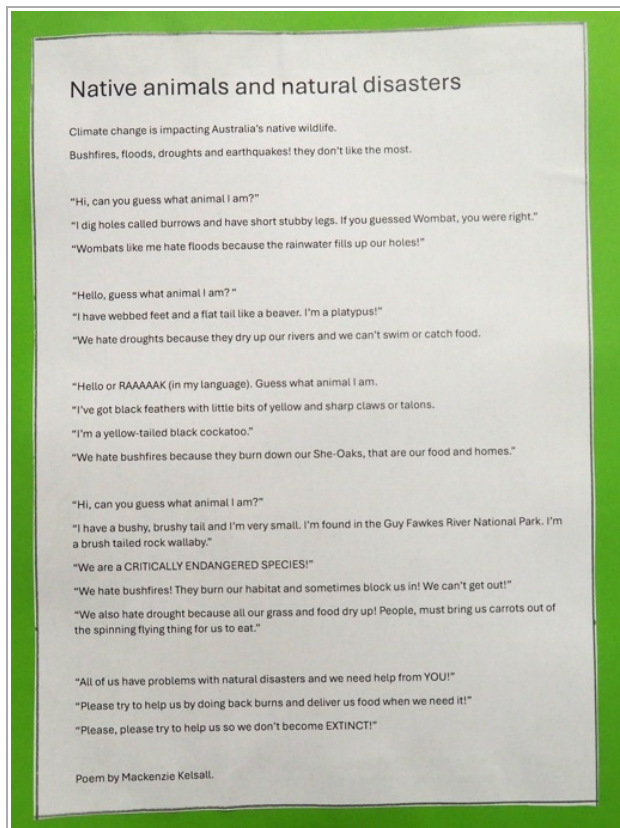
Students from K-6 have been creating some incredible masterpieces for the **UNESAP Let's Hang It** exhibition! Each child will have the opportunity to **choose a favorite artwork** to submit in their category.

Want to Create Over the Holidays?

If your child would like to complete an original artwork at home, they are welcome to bring it in at **the start of Term 2**, and Miss Curr will enter it into the exhibition (depending on quality).

We can't wait to see all the amazing creations!





Upcoming Events

Thursday 10 April - P&C AGM - 3.15pm

Friday 11 April - Easter Hat Parade - See flyer below

Term 2 -

Week 1

Monday 28 and Tuesday 29 April - Staff Development Days

Wednesday 30 April - Students Return to School

Friday 2 May - Bellinger/Nambucca District Cross Country (8yrs and above)

Week 2

Friday 9 May - Bellinger/Nambucca District Cross Country 'back-up date'

Week 3

Wednesday 14 May - Finlayson Sports Day

Week 4 Thursday 22 May - Armidale Eisteddfod

The University of New England School Acquisitive Art Prize (UNESAP) is held annually with the purpose of encouraging talented young artists in regional New South Wales.

neram.com.au/unesap-2025

Divisions/ Age categories

Divisions	Age categories
Infants Division	Kinders, 1 & 2
Primary Division	Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
Junior Secondary	Years 7 & 8, 9
Senior Secondary	Years 10, 11 & 12

Ten students will be awarded prizes, and four (first place) artworks will remain permanently in the University of New England art collection. All other finalist artworks will be exhibited at the New England Regional Art Museum, and returned within three weeks of the close of the exhibition.

Prizes

Divisions	1 st Prize	2 nd Prize
Infants	\$75	\$50
Primary	\$100	\$75
Junior Secondary	\$200	\$150
Senior Secondary	\$300	\$200
People's Choice	\$100	
Director's Choice	\$100	

Please note that a completed one-page entry form must accompany each submission. Works will not be considered unless this form is submitted with the artwork. If you require further copies of these forms, you may photocopy the original posted, or download them from the NERAM website.

neram.com.au/unesap-online-submissions-2025

Submission Dates
28 April - 16 May 2025

ONLINE & GALLERY EXHIBITION
25 July - 10 August 2025

LET'S HANG IT! 2025

University of New England School Acquisitive Art Prize
New England Regional Art Museum, Armidale

Exhibition Dates
FRIDAY 25 JULY -
SUNDAY 10 AUGUST 2025

Divisions

Divisions	1 st Prize	2 nd Prize
Infants	\$75	\$50
Primary	\$100	\$75
Junior Secondary	\$200	\$150
Senior Secondary	\$300	\$200
People's Choice	\$100	
Director's Choice	\$100	

NERAM **UNE** **UNESAP**

All artworks for consideration are to be submitted digitally and online through NERAM's website.

Submission guidelines:

- Artwork to be photographed by student/ family member/teacher - Landscape or portrait orientation to match work (LPEG)
- jpeg files to be named using the following protocol: Year of School, Surname, First Initial, School Name
- Teacher/school to scan completed entry forms as pdf files - Entry forms to be titled the same as the jpeg (PDF)
- Teacher/school to submit entries (image files and forms) online - multiple entries can be submitted at the same time: www.neram.com.au/unesap-online-submissions-2025
- Schools will be notified of selected finalists via email by Thursday 29 May 2025

Selected finalists' work should be delivered to NERAM by Friday 13 June 2025.

UNESAP Entry
NERAM
PO Box 508
ARMIDALE NSW 2350

Let's Hang It! Exhibition Dates
25 July - 10 August 2025
New England Regional Art Museum
Kentucky Street, Armidale

All finalists, their families and friends, teachers and other school representatives are invited to attend the announcement of prizes and the exhibition opening night at the New England Regional Art Museum (NERAM) in Kentucky Street, ARMIDALE from 5pm Friday 25 July 2025.

All Enquiries to:
NERAM
Phone: (02) 6772 5255
Email: education@neram.com.au
(Address all emails with subject line "UNESAP 2025")

- The UNESAP awards are open to all students attending school in following regional catchment areas of NSW:
 - New England,
 - Hunter/Central Coast, and
 - North Coast.
- Please consult the map provided on the NERAM website to ensure you are within the eligible areas for entries, as stated above.
- Students from government and non-government schools as well as home school groups are eligible to enter.
- Students can only enter one artwork into the appropriate division/age category. The teacher/ art teacher should be involved with the final selection of student work.
- A school staff member will need to countersign the entry form to certify it is entered into the correct age group.
- The number of entries from each school will not be limited; however, teachers should not send multiples (more than 2) of the same class art task if they look very similar.

- Each artwork must be a recent unaided, original work created by the student artist.
- The artwork should be two dimensional and could be in the form of: digital art, photography, mixed media, assemblage or collage, painting (acrylic, oil, or watercolour), graphic work, 2D relief sculpture, jewellery, printing, or textile work.
- The UNESAP committee has decided not to limit the subject matter or theme of the artworks.
- The maximum size of artwork should be 60 x 80 cm.
- Artworks will NOT be accepted if they are mounted or framed. Canvases are the exception to this rule as they are mounted on a wooden frame.
- Artworks must be sent flat and work must NOT BE FOLDED OR ROLLED.
- After the exhibition closes, all finalists' work will be posted back to participating schools. Local school representatives may arrange to collect works from NERAM. The four winning works will remain at the University of New England as part of the UNE Art Collection.

NERAM **UNE** **UNESAP**

Happy Easter

From all school staff, Miss Curr and I wish you a safe and relaxing holiday. We look forward to seeing you in Term 2.

