



LEADING WITH LEARNING

*Excellence, Innovation & Success
at Harrisdale Primary School*

28th August 2025 ~ Every Student Successful



A Principal's blog sharing insights, direction, research, achievements and future-focused learning to ensure every student successful within our connected school community.

Community: Decision-making, Partnership and Collaboration

Ms Cleo Jenkins

Principal



We are well into the season of Dgilba and I bet you have all been feeling the cold?! Over the past six months, I have been thrilled to see more parents, carers, and families coming onto our school site—whether it's kicking a soccer ball in the morning, walking your child to class, reading together at the KDRA, chatting with a friend while supervising play, or joining a group of neighbours for the walk to school. We view Harrisdale Primary School as a hub for our community from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm (with staff on duty at 8:10 am), and we warmly encourage you to join us onsite whenever you can.

But why? Research shows that the most successful schools engage students, families, carers, and the wider community as genuine partners in supporting student learning and wellbeing. Strong evidence links family and school engagement with significant improvements in student achievement across all ages, as well as improved outcomes such as early literacy acquisition, school readiness, attendance, motivation, self-regulation, social skills, retention, and graduation.

Congratulations to our new School Board parent representatives, Laura, Johanan, and Sandeep who were successfully elected to the Harrisdale PS School Board, with over 400 community members casting their vote. Thank you for taking the time to contribute to this important decision. Your engagement makes a real difference, and I'm sure all of our nominees feel valued. Our new representatives will bring fresh perspectives and experiences that will strengthen the future direction of the school. On 20th August, the Harrisdale PS School Board and the Harrisdale SHS School Board came together for the first time. It was inspiring to be in a room of people so dedicated to our community and young people, as we introduced ourselves, tested our governance knowledge, shared tea, and enjoyed a little banter.

Community is much more than belonging to something: it's about doing something together that makes belonging matter. This partnership will help us secure the very best outcomes for our children from K-12.

You may have seen growing concerns in the media about the health of Australians. Much of this comes down to lifestyle and activity levels. Health is fundamental to our livelihood, and as a community we have a shared responsibility to model active living and healthy eating for our children. In building community spirit Harrisdale-style, we want you to please partner with us! Million Moves is a national community campaign led by





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AUSactive (the peak body for the fitness industry) and runs from 1–21 September 2025 across WA, QLD, NSW (Wollongong), and VIC (Ballarat). Participants commit to completing 75 simple daily moves for 21 days, symbolising the 75% of Australians who are currently inactive. Register as a part of the Harrisdale Primary School team via millionmoves.org.au/signup

At Harrisdale PS, our Executive Team and Middle Leadership volunteers will lead energising morning sessions from 8:05–8:20 am at Block 5 (in front of the new build), every day from Week 7 – Week 9. Expect music, movement, and loads of fun! Parents, students, and staff are all encouraged to join in. Schools with the largest teams are eligible for amazing prizes, including up to \$25,000! Even if you can't join the morning sessions, signing up still counts, so please spread the word to family and friends: Join the Harrisdale PS Million Moves Team. Let's get the entire community of Harrisdale coming together, moving and hopefully collect some amazing prizes along the way.

If we don't catch you completing your 75 daily moves over the next three weeks, please keep an eye out for upcoming community collaborations, including our Yarning Group, Fathering Project, Parent Engagement Workshop, and our Athletics Carnival. Staff and students are busy preparing for Eduganza, our annual showcase of learning and celebration of achievement. We are honoured to welcome Neville Collard, who will start the evening with the Welcome to Country. Eduganza is a wonderful opportunity to see your children's learning in action and to celebrate success as a community. Expect vibrant performances, food trucks, and plenty of opportunities to connect with families.

Safety is a common denominator across all aspects of life. It is not a matter for industry; it is a matter for humanity. Please be patient, mindful and slow down when driving around the school. Driving at 40 saves lives, and these lives are incredibly precious to us all. On behalf of the HPS staff, thank you for your ongoing support.

Ms Cleo Jenkins

Principal

