

Dear Parents,

I hope this newsletter finds you well? We have enjoyed a lovely week here at Hornbill School – your children have been delighted to share their adventures with us and clearly enjoyed the two week holiday. They have returned confident and ready to learn as we embark on our final term this year.



**Purple Up Day - Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April from 1200 hours.**

The Month of the Military Child is observed and celebrated in April each year to recognize and honour the sacrifice and resilience of children who grow up in military families. To celebrate our fantastic children, we believe that a **family picnic** would be a lovely way to celebrate!

Parents and carers are warmly invited to our school site from midday to collect their child from the classroom and then have a picnic within our lovely school grounds. We would ask that the picnic is shared within school as this is a community event (rather than taking them off site to eat).

If you would like to pack some lunch to share, along with a picnic blanket or chairs, we would love to see you! If you are able to attend, your child will not need to bring a separate lunch with them – they can join you for the picnic as their lunch that day. When you collect your child or children, you will be asked if you would like to take your child home with you following the picnic or if your child will return to class with their teacher at the end of the picnic.

All of our children will take part in the picnic – so please don't worry if you are unable to attend – they will enjoy their packed lunch as part of the picnic with members of our staff team and their friends.

We would like to encourage everyone attending to wear purple (as this combines the various colours associated with different branches of the military) or, yellow, the colour for a dandelion, the official flower of the military child, acknowledging the facts that Dandelions can take root and flourish practically anywhere the wind blows them. Children are permitted to attend school for the day in these clothes, instead of their school uniform, if they would like to.



As always, if your child usually travels home by bus but will not require it on the day of the picnic, please remember to inform the bus supervisor in advance. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

The Purple Up Day Picnic to celebrate the Month of the Military Child will be held on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April from 1200 hrs.





### **Forever Treasure Island - Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April and Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April**

We are very excited for the upcoming drama performances of Forever Treasure Island, taking place tonight (Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April) and tomorrow (Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April) at 1830hrs in the Main School Hall (Gill Theatre). We still have some tickets available if you would like to join us to celebrate the children's hard work. Our performers are an incredibly talented group and you will be in for a real treat! Tickets cost \$5 each. All money raised through ticket sales will be used to purchase costumes and resources for both this and future productions. Please contact the school office if you would like to purchase any tickets.

**Key Dates for This Term** – Following yesterday's BFB Community Quarterly Meeting to support date setting across the Garrison and prevent clashes, I am delighted to share some key dates for this term at the end of this newsletter. We are currently finalising arrangements for Leaving Assemblies for each Year Group in June and July, along with our FS2 and Year 6 Graduation Ceremonies, to ensure that these important events do not clash with other events across our community during a very busy period. We will share these with you as soon as they are confirmed.

**Leavers** – Currently, we have only received official confirmation from parents of 34 pupils leaving Hornbill School this year (between now and September). As shared previously, it is essential that the school is informed formally of any child leaving Brunei. If you and your family are leaving between now and September 2025, please complete the attached form as a matter of urgency – even if you are unable, at this time, to complete all of the requested information on the form.



By making us aware, we can properly support and prepare both the children leaving Brunei and the children who will be remaining. Informing us is also essential for safeguarding purposes and helps to ensure that the school has sufficient staff in post at all times. Thank you!

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Caroline Neal".

Caroline Neal

Headteacher, Hornbill School

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> and Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 1830hrs – Forever Treasure Island drama performances**

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April - Purple Up Day Family Picnic**

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April – BJSI Yr 4-6 Swimming Gala**

**Week Beginning 28<sup>th</sup> April – Clubs Begin** (please note, Morning Netball begins on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April)

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May – School Discos – More information to follow!**

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May – Yr 5 trip to Tasek Merimbun Heritage Park** - Information about this school trip will be shared with Year 5 parents presently.

**Week Beginning 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – Year 6 SATs week** - SATs, or Standard Assessment Tests, are national standardized tests taken by primary school pupils in England to assess their progress in English and Maths.

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May – Yr 1 trip to PCMF** - Information about this school trip will be shared with Year 1 parents presently.

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025 – Year 1 to Year 3 Sports Day** from 0800 – 0930hrs at the Garrison Sports Pitch and Complex, more details to follow...

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Year 4 – 6 Sports Day** from 0800 – 0930hrs at the Garrison Sports Pitch and Complex, more details to follow...

**Week beginning Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May until Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Half Term**

**Fortnight beginning Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Yr 4 Multiplication Check** - The Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) is a statutory online assessment in England designed to determine if Year 4 pupils can fluently recall their multiplication tables up to 12 x 12. The MTC is administered in June each year and involves 25 questions, with 6 seconds to answer each and a 3-second pause between questions.

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June – Pyjamarama Day** - Information about this fundraising event, where children may wear their pyjamas to school, will be shared with parents closer to the time

**Week beginning Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June – Yr 1 Phonics Screening Check** The Phonics Screening Check is a test for Year 1 children in the UK designed to assess their ability to decode words using their knowledge of phonics. It's not a formal exam, but a way to determine if children are progressing sufficiently with their phonics skills and if they need extra support.

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June - BJSI - Netball and Rugby Tournament** (Interested pupils from Year 4,5,6)  
Information about this event will be shared with parents of children in Years 4 to 6 closer to the time.

**Week beginning Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June – Anticipated date for Years 4 – 6 School Swimming Galas**

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July – Last day of term. School closes at 1200 hrs.**

