**HAMBLEDON COTTAGE, PARRAMATTA**

**STAGE 1 PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Our Stage 1 education program *Present and Past Family Life* shows the children what it was like to live in the “*olden days”* (200 years ago) and compares with current lifestyles.

The main message is in “*olden days”* there was “No electricity, no water taps in cottage, no technology”.

The program can cater for up to 60 students per session, that is 120 per day.

Each student will have fully interactive involvement in the program.

A brief description of the focus in each of the rooms:

* WITHDRAWING ROOM – Discuss how this room would be used, including piano, sewing box, playing cards, reading, writing - noting shortage of paper, cross-hatched letter, receiver of letter paying postage, and each child uses a Bellows on pretend fire.
* DINING ROOM – Tea-making – seeing actual tea leaves, tea strainer, pendulum clock, and experiencing darkness before electricity was available using candles, also snuffing candles.
* BEDROOM – Discuss Mattresses on bed, lack of toilets – use of chamber pots & Commode, washing, fans, gloves, and each child dresses up in “*olden days*” clothes for photo.
* STUDY – Transportation – discusses horse and river transport.
* KITCHEN – Discuss butter making, storage of eggs, fireplace, oven, mangle, and each child uses an old iron to iron some cloths.
* GALLERY – Writing on slate boards and comparison to current use of paper.
* EXHIBITION – Discuss differences in toys today and in colonial times, play with Thaumatropes, flip books and Jacob’s Ladder, also feel recently shorn sheep wool.
* WELL & DRIPSTONE – Discuss lack of running water (taps) in cottage in colonial times, wells being source of water, how a dripstone cleans water, and each child pretends to pump water from well.
* OUTSIDE – An activity sheet to complete to test their understanding of what they have remembered from the program

The program takes about 90 minutes