PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Dear Parents and Friends,

Welcome to another week of news from Heathcote PS!

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

If you are interested in the overall operation of our school and would like to have some input in the present and future direction of the school, perhaps you would like to be nominated for membership of School Council.

School Council meets once a month on the fourth Wednesday of the month, with meetings usually lasting for just over one hour.

Retiring members this year are Jodie Doyle, Kym Edsall, Michelle Kurrle, Glenn Wilson and Michelle Edwards. Continuing members are Jim Jowett, Alan Butler, and Mary Beedle.

Retiring members are able to re-nominate for a further two years if they wish to do so.

There are currently five parent vacancies on School Council, so please think about nominating for one of these important positions.

An information sheet has been sent home with this newsletter outlining the timeline for the Election process and providing you with information regarding the role of a School Councillor. If you would like any further information, please call the Office.

The School Council AGM will be held on Wednesday 27th March at 5.00pm.

STUDENT LEARNING INTERVIEWS

On Tuesday 5th and Thursday 7th March, we will be conducting our Student Learning Interviews for Term 1. If you have not returned your Interview Time Request Slip, please do so as soon as possible so that suitable times can be set for each family.

As our interviews will focus on goal setting for the year, we strongly recommend that your children attend the Student Learning Interviews with you.

As per School Council Policy, any adult who comes into the School to work with students must have a Working with Children Check. The only cost involved with these checks for volunteers in the cost of having the photo taken. Please ask at the office for further details.

CAR PARKING

Please note that cars are not to park in the Bus Parking Area at the start and end of the school day. This area has been specially designed to ensure a safe pick up and drop off area for our bus travellers.

When cars are parked in this area it decreases student safety and it also makes it difficult for the buses to turn.

Kind Regards,

Cindi Bruechert
bruechert.cindi.l@edumail.vic.gov.au
CIVICS AND CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

Congratulations to our Civics and Citizenship Award winners for this week:

Miss O'Neill’s Grade
- Bradyn Ferguson
- Alynta Ribbons

Mrs. Parry’s Grade
- Payton Guy
- Niklas Hansson

Mr. Morris’ Grade
- Kowen Ribbons
- Elizabeth Butler

Mr. Clayton’s Grade
- Shaylee Reddin-Jowett
- Josh Moule

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to Mr. Morris’ grade who were the winners of our Attendance Champions trophy this week.

ABSENT NOTES

It is important that all student absences are explained. Parents can phone the school office on 5433 3090, send an email to heathcote.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au or send a note to the school.

To assist parents with this process we have included an Absent Note proforma on the back page of this newsletter. Just fill out the details and send along to school with a sibling on the day of the absence or with the child the day of return. If your child is away more than the one day please contact the school office. See last page of this newsletter.

BOOK CLUB ORDERS

Issue No: 1 Order is due back by Monday 25th February

Please make any cheques payable to Heathcote Primary School.

SWIMMING PROGRAM

Our swimming program has nearly come to an end for 2013. The weather has remained very warm. Our students have enjoyed their swimming groups and have made very good progress with their confidence in the water and their swimming skills. Many positive comments have been made by both students and parents. Thank you to all families for your support during the swimming program.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT

At Heathcote PS we work hard to assist our students in making positive behavioural choices. We have processes in place to help our students manage their own behaviour which include the following:
- Encouraging students to make positive choices, using positive framing
- Using the Success Ladder
- Highlighting inappropriate choices with individual students where necessary
- Recording inappropriate behaviours on an Incident Form; contacting parents if needed
- Sending home a Behaviour Note if inappropriate behaviour continues

It is school policy that students receiving one or more behaviour notes per term will not be allowed to participate in end of term celebrations / excursions.

Students receiving three or more behaviour notes across the year will not be allowed to attend camp.

DRINK BOTTLES

All children are required to bring a drink bottle to school. During the warmer months, children should be taking in extra fluids, especially water. All drink bottles should be clearly labelled. Water bottles can be kept in the classroom at all times and refilled as needed.
During 2013 the following students are participating as Heathcote Primary School’s, *Junior School Council*.

Their first meeting was held yesterday, with support from Mr Morris and Wendy Cahill.

Watch this space for more information on events and activities being organised by the *Junior School Council*.

Liam Wallwork, Mr. Morris, Angus Warrington, Bradyn Ferguson, Ellie Close, Brock Kurrle, Monique Scoble, Jaymee Doolan and Grace Edsall-French.
**HEATHCOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**ABSENCE NOTE**

Name …………………………………………….

Grade:  ………………………

This student was absent on …………………….

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(insert dates)

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Other (comment below)

Additional comment:  (if required)

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