Dear Parents and Friends,

Welcome to another week of news from Heathcote PS!

SAD NEWS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

As I am sure you would all be aware by now, on Friday last week we were deeply saddened to hear of the death of Georgia Edsall – French who was involved in a car accident on Friday, while on holiday in Queensland.

Our school community extends its heartfelt sympathy to Kym, Terry and their children Matilda, Lily, Grace and Tayla, their extended families, relatives and friends.

On Monday morning in each classroom we reminisced about Georgia and the time she spent at our school. She was such a positive role model and a good friend to many of us. Some of our students have prepared cards and letters to pass on to Georgia’s family to show them how much we care.

Reactions of students to Georgia’s death will vary, and may include crying, not wanting to talk (or wanting to talk), wanting to be alone or needing company, anger, loud or excessively physical behaviour, lack of concentration, sleeping or eating problems. It is generally acknowledged that, at a time of loss, it is important to listen...reassure...allow (but not force) expression of feelings...validate feelings (avoid making judgements).

This afternoon our school community demonstrated its support for the Edsall-French family by decorating our fenceline with purple balloons, in memory of Georgia.

To further support the family, we are have purple ribbons on sale at the Office for $5.00. Proceeds from the sale of the ribbons will go directly to the Edsall-French family to help them meet the costs they have incurred as a result of this tragedy.

PARENT OPINION SURVEYS

Each year the school conducts an opinion survey of 15% of the school community. Parents are randomly selected to participate and we use the information to inform and direct our future planning and improvement.

The survey is designed to take no more than 20 minutes to complete and your feedback and opinions play an important role in making our school the best it possibly can be.

If your child was given a parent opinion survey earlier this week, please make sure you complete it and return it to school by Monday, 3rd August.

2016 FOUNDATION ENROLMENTS

We are currently taking enrolments for next year’s Foundation students. If you haven’t already received an Enrolment pack, please collect one from the school office.

We would like to have enrolment forms returned to the office within the next few weeks to enable us to complete the DET Enrolment Census which needs to be submitted in early August. This census is used by the education department to allocate funding for the start of the school year, so it is important that we make an accurate estimation of the number of students we are likely to have next year.

Kind regards,

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

Congratulations to our Civics and Citizenship Award winners from the last term:

Miss O'Neill's Grade
- Kyle B
- Henry T-P

Mrs. Parry's Grade
- Elise P
- Shanae C

Miss Somerville's Grade
- James M
- Willow B

Mr. Clayton's Grade
- Jorgia F
- Lachlan R

SCHOOL FAIR

The Heathcote Primary School Fair will be held on Saturday, 12 September at the school.

If you would like to help out or book a stall please contact the school office or Kathy Byrne or Kate Duncan.

HEADLICE CHECKS

Headlice continues to pose a huge problem for many of our families. All parents need to check their children's hair on a daily basis and ensure that if there are any signs of either live headlice or eggs that the proper treatment occurs before the student returns to school.

After using a recognised treatment solution, it is extremely important that you also use a specially designed headlice comb to remove all eggs and dead lice. Many students are returning to school without having had their hair thoroughly combed through and this often results in re-infestation.

I realise this is time consuming and expensive, but it is the only way to ensure proper treatment. We will try to organise a whole school headlice check soon to assist all our families in getting on top of this problem.

PUPIL FREE DAY – tomorrow

Tomorrow, Friday, 31st July staff will continue working with Maths consultant, Michael Ymer. All classroom staff will be involved in this Professional Development day and therefore there will be no school for students tomorrow.

NED Wellbeing and Social Skills Program

On Tuesday we had a visit from Ryan who explained the NED program and showed the students some incredible Yo-yo tricks.

The NED message is:

- Never give up
- Encourage others
- Do your best

Yo-yos, holsters and extra strings will be available for sale at 11am each day until next Wednesday.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

The School photographers have available for sale copies of the 'Whole School Photo' and the 'Junior Unit Photo'. Samples are available to view at the front office. If you would like to order a copy, please fill in an order form and return to the office by next Friday, 7th August.
Heathcote Primary School—HOME LEARNING BOX

We are very interested in having some other new items for our Home Learning Box which is a space in the front office dedicated to families being able to share their home learning experiences.

We would love to display some of the activities that your families engage in at home. It is so interesting and fun learning about what other families do outside of school and may even give us some ideas for after school, weekend and school holiday activities.

Some examples include instructions on cooking a particular meal, a display about a camping trip or time away, gardening work or information on, family heritage/culture.

You can contact Ash Whicher with your ideas.

Ashlea Whicher
Email: ashnsum@hotmail.com
AXEDALE TAVERN
Tuesday Nights $5.00 Kid's Meals
(Ordered from the Kids Menu)

For every $5.00 meal purchased, the AXEDALE TAVERN will donate $5.00 to our school!

Organise a fun night out with a group or simply enjoy a family dinner.
Please tell them the school you are nominating for a donation when ordering your meals.
Offer valid May through to Tuesday 15th September 2015.

SWITCH AND SAVE

Sent home today with the newsletter is information on the Bendigo Bank Switch and Save program.
When you register your participation in the program to replace your old down lights, our school will receive $1 for every down light replaced.

The Woolworths Earn and Learn program is on again this year. Simply shop at Woolworths and you will receive one Woolworths sticker for every $10 spent.

Stick the stickers onto the sheet and place in the box in the school foyer.
Stickers are available from now until 8 September.

Each $10 spent earns one sticker. Stickers are then redeemed for educational resources for our school.