Dear Parents and Friends,

This week schools in Victoria celebrate Education Week. Heathcote PS are having an open morning on Thursday between 9.30 -10.30. Current parents are welcome to come along and join in with classroom activities. We would also like to invite pre-school parents along to see the school in action. If you have any friends or neighbours who may have pre-school children please pass on an invitation to them or bring them along! The Year 3-4 students will be serving morning tea for visitors in the kitchen between 10.30 and 11.00.

We will be having a working bee on Saturday 28th May. This date may not suit everyone, however, there is a list of jobs in this week’s newsletter. Michele has highlighted weeding as a high priority! If you have half an hour after pickup or at the end of the day to do some weeding in the garden it would be greatly appreciated.

A big thank you to Michele and Leigh for packaging up food items to be sent home last week to our families. It is a big job and we appreciated their support. It would be great if we could get some more helpers to bag up food items on the day it arrives. Foodbank comes once a month, if you could help out between 1.30 and 3.00 it would be appreciated. A form is attached to this newsletter for you to fill in and return to indicate your interest in helping. Many hands would be appreciated, so less time required to complete the bagging. We will let people know the date they would be needed.

Last Tuesday a small group of Year 4 and 6 students went to the Heathcote Football/Netball Club rooms for an announcement from the State Minister for Sport, John Eren. The club has received funds to continue upgrading its facilities. The students were very well behaved and represented our school well. They also enjoyed the party pies and sandwiches at the end of many speeches!

Nearly half way through the term – it is going very quickly! Enjoy the last sunny autumn days, winter is on its way.

Enjoy the week ahead.

Ms Kate Ballantyne
ballantyne.kathryn.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

Congratulations to all that completed the first O’Keefe Rail Trail Marathon!
SPECIAL RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION (SRI)

This year SRI will be run each Thursday at first break (11am to 11.30am).
Children need to have a 2016 signed SRI permission form to be allowed to attend.
Once given parental permission, children have the option to participate in the program.
If you require a Permission Form, these are available from the school office.

SRI WILL COMMENCE in Term 2

The program is FREE for students due to the generous donations made by the local churches of Heathcote. We look forward to being back at the school and a great 2016 with the students.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to the following students who are celebrating a birthday in May:
James M
Miguel
Taylor
Kayla
Leah

School garden working bee, Saturday 28th May, 9.00 – 11.30 – save the date!

Michele’s list of jobs to be completed on or before the 28th May.

* Repair some of the wooden garden beds
* Weeding
* Widen brick pathway
* Mark out reflection garden

Did I mention Weeding……..

If you can’t make it on the 28th May, you can still have the opportunity to help out when it best fits your family. Choose something from the list above and telephone the Office so we can help with any set ups.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

ENCyclopedia SETS NEEDING A NEW HOME

Our School Library has 3 sets of Encyclopedia that need a new home. This gives us more space for new books. If you would like to take a set home for your family, please come and see us in the Office.

SKATEBOARDS AND SCOOTERS

For the safety of students, parents and staff, skateboards and scooters are not to be ridden in the school ground at any time.
If scooters and bicycles are a form of transport to school, then they are wheeled in the school grounds and stored appropriately for the day.

On Tuesday the tenth of May the grade 3/6 started their football clinic and Kearon showed all of us how to handball, kick and bounce the football we played kick to kick. We set up cones like football goals and we kicked the footy in-between the cones like they were goals.
Heathcote Primary School
FoodShare Program

Thanks to some wonderful support from Bendigo FoodShare we have been able to introduce a food sharing program at Heathcote PS. approx. once a month, excess food will be sent home with our families. If you cannot use this food, please pass it on to other family members or friends.

(Note: Some products have been frozen.)

A big thank you to Michele and Leigh for packaging up food items to be sent home last week. It would be great if we could get some more helpers to bag up food items on the day it arrives.

Foodbank comes once a month, if you could help out between 1.30 and 3.00 it would be appreciated. A form is attached to this newsletter for you to fill in and return to indicate your interest in helping.

Many hands would be appreciated, so less time required to complete the bagging. We will let people know the date you would be needed.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR GREEN SHOPPING BAG TO THE OFFICE SO THAT IT IS READY FOR OUR NEXT FOOD-SHARE OPPORTUNITY.

Reading Helpers: Please advise either Marg Parry or Alison O’Neill of the best day to help with reading so a Roster can be made for Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings 9:00—9:30. There is no reading on Wednesday morning due to Indonesian / Library classes.

Library Classes—ALL children need a Library Bag to keep the books clean and dry—Library Bags are available from the Office for $5.00

SCHOOL TIMES

School begins promptly at 9.00am. It is important that all children are at school by 8.50am to greet friends and organise school bags, lockers etc. Children arriving after 9.00am miss important work and disturb others.

Please note teachers are on duty from 8.45am and children are not expected to be at school prior to this time.

Teachers use this time to prepare lessons. Dismissal time is 3.00pm
Engagement Project

Levi and Triniti have been designing a door for the chicken house which will be made entirely from sticks. Levi and Triniti are being helped by Harrison to collect and cut the sticks to size.

As we were packing up, we met Dolly and Reba, two dogs on their way to the hostel who were more than delighted to chase some pine cones.

Heathcote Primary School
Education Week – Open Morning
WHEN: Thursday 19th May
TIME: 9.30 – 10.30

Morning tea will be prepared and served by the students at 10.30 – 11.00 in the kitchen
Pre school parents are particularly welcome to come along and see our school.
Please register your interest by ringing 5433 3090
We look forward to seeing you!

SCHOOL CAMP REMINDER

This year our Year 3 - 6 students will be given the opportunity to attend the Pioneer Settlement in Swan Hill. The price for the Camp will be $200.00 per child, which includes all accommodation, meals, travel and activities. This price was based on a minimum number of 30 students attending the camp.

It will be imperative that all students are fully paid up prior to heading off to camp to ensure the costs are met.

To assist you in budgeting for the cost of the camp over May and June, we have put together a payment plan. You may send the full amount in one payment or make four progressive payments.

Second payment is due Friday 13th May
Third payment is due Friday 27th May
Full payment will need to be made Friday 10th June.
If you would like to use CSEF funding please let us know in the Office.

Kind Regards,
Ms Kate Ballantyne
ballantyne.kathryn.j@edumail.vic.gov.au
Community Dental Services at Bendigo Health is sending a team to your school to conduct Oral Health screening for students.

The screening team is made up of a fully qualified Oral Health Therapist, who works for Bendigo Health, and a fully qualified Dental Assistant. All members of the team have “Working with Children” checks.

We will be providing this service free of charge.

**Why are we doing Oral Health Screens?**
We will be looking for any signs of tooth decay or gum disease.

Up to half of kids can have tooth decay and gum disease. It can develop without any pain. If we catch tooth decay and gum disease early, we can avoid losing teeth.

**What will happen in the Oral Health Screen?**
During the screen visit, your child will sit in a chair, and the Oral Health clinician will look in their mouth with a sterile mouth mirror and light.

They will be looking for any signs of tooth decay or gum disease. It will take about 5 minutes. We hope it will be a bright and cheerful experience for all children.

We will send a brief report home with each child, telling parents what we have found. The report is completely confidential, and the details will be kept at Bendigo Health.

If further treatment is needed, it is available free of charge for eligible children, at Bendigo Health.

The oral health screening visit does not replace a full examination at a dental surgery, but it is a good way to check for any early signs of dental disease.

**Fluoride treatment for teeth at risk**
Fluoride varnish is used for teeth at risk of tooth decay. The varnish is applied using a brush and painted onto teeth of concern. The procedure takes approximately 2 minutes. If you do not wish for your child to receive this treatment please indicate on the allocated section of the consent form.
## Consent to Oral Health Screening

### YOUR CHILD’S INFORMATION

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<th>Child’s Name</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
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<th>Gender</th>
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<td>Male</td>
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<tr>
<th>Is your child Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?</th>
<th>δ Yes</th>
<th>δ No</th>
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<th>Is your child Refugee or Asylum?</th>
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<th>Was your child born in Australia?</th>
<th>δ Yes</th>
<th>δ No</th>
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### YOUR CHILD’S MEDICAL HISTORY

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<th>Are there any significant medical history we should know?</th>
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If Yes, please provide detail?

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Does your child have any allergies?

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If Yes, please provide detail?

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Do you have any concerns about your child’s mouth?

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### CONSENT TO ORAL HEALTH SCREENING

I agree for my child to receive a oral health screening visit at school from Bendigo Health.

I understand that the screening may not identify all dental disease, and does not replace a full examination performed at a dental surgery.

I understand that my child’s information is private and will be stored securely at Bendigo Health. It cannot be seen by staff at the school.

I understand that I may be contacted by Bendigo Health regarding my child’s oral health.

I understand that I will receive a written copy of the oral health screening report.

I **DO NOT** want my child to receive fluoride treatment.
Breakfast Club News

Breakfast Club is on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8.20am to 8.45am. The 5/6 helpers plus some volunteer student helpers have been doing a great job helping prepare the breakfast and clean up afterwards. To give the helpers time to clean up and the remaining students time to finish what they are eating and get ready for class the kitchen doors are closed at around 8.45am, but allowing for the few students coming off the bus time to have something too.

If any parents wish to volunteer to help in the kitchen please put your name down at the front office so that we can make a roster and share around the load. We are calling for donations to keep this program sustainable, we can’t get all the supplies we need from food bank and bread is generously donated by Gaffney’s bakery. The students are really keen on seeing honey back on the menu! A ‘Donation Box’ is located at the front office – spare change welcome!

Megan Haddon
School Chaplain
Headlice continues to pose a huge problem for just a few of our families, just enough to keep Head Lice as a continuing problem at school and home.

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.

Treating head lice is very time consuming and expensive, but it is the only way to ensure proper elimination.

A couple of our families have highly recommended the V-Comb, which is a chemical free head lice solution.

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**PARENT HELPERS RETURN SLIP**

There are many ways Parents can help in our School, and we all have our favourite and not so favourite things we like to do.

Here are many suggestions of ways you may like to help out our school, hopefully there is something that you would enjoy.

Please circle any areas that are of interest to you.

* Classroom Reading * Working Bees
* Fundraisers * Raffles
* Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program (Kitchen and / or Garden)
* Special Activities such as Bookweek * Gardening—weeding, watering, etc
* Footy Colours Day * Sports Days
* Excursions * Market stalls
* Library - cover, repair books, tidy shelves * FOODBANK—once a month bagging of foods

Other: ...........................................................................................................

Please remember that if you will be working with the children, you will need a Working With Children’s Check (WWCC). See the office for further details.

Name: ............................. Day:...................... Times:......................

Phone: ...................... Email: ..........................................................