Dear Parents and Friends,

This morning we headed off to the RSL Hall to see ‘The Hunchback of Notre Dame’. We are lucky to have productions to attend locally, thank you to Marg Parry for organising this event. Due to our attendance at the hall we did not have assembly this morning and due to our Kinder transition program tomorrow we will not be having assembly this week. A double up of awards for next week! Thank you to those parents who come along to assembly each week, your children enjoy you coming and we like to see you there as part of our school community.

This term we will be having a focus on attendance. ‘Every Day Counts’ is a Department of Education and Training (DET) initiative and was identified in our schools Annual Implementation Plan earlier this year as a priority for our Heathcote PS community. We need your help to support your child getting to school every day. If a student misses 10 minutes a day, over a week that equals 50 minutes, over a year it is 1.5 weeks and over 13 years of schooling it is nearly half a year!

We know things occasionally come up for families and adjustments need to be made however our school identified earlier this year that attendance has been an ongoing issue. Our records show there have been students missing days of schooling with no contact being made to the office to explain absences. Please refer to Page 7 and 8 of this newsletter. Keep it on the fridge as a supply of blank absence notes.

Parents and carers are required to ensure their child attends school every day, if a student is absent it is also a requirement that parents/carers notify the school to explain the absence. We appreciate the support given by many families in advance of known absences and the phone calls made prior to the school day to inform us of their child’s absence. To assist us in carrying out our legal responsibilities, starting tomorrow, Susy or Greg will be contacting all families each day if contact, either written or phone, has not been made prior to the school day starting. We look forward to your help and support with this ongoing issue.

Coming soon – every family will receive a copy of the 2016 Parent Opinion Survey, these are to be filled in and returned by each family. Also there will be a Wood Raffle occurring soon.

Have a great week.

Ms Kate Ballantyne

ballantyne.kathryn.j@edumail.vic.gov.au
CIVICS AND CITIZENSHIP AWARDS—Presented at Assembly next week due to today’s performance

TEAMWORK
Rosh S.—For working positively with others.

LEARNING
Dakota D.—For always trying her best.
Charlotte A.—For being willing to take on new challenges.

RESPONSIBILITY
James M.—For being responsible when working with others.
Brayden W—For showing responsibility when asked to complete a task.
Tanika C.—For being a trustworthy person.
Ellie C.—For being a trustworthy person.

RESPECT
Alexis K.—Being polite and well mannered to other people.

GREEN CARDS STARS FOR JUNE — CONGRATULATIONS

Foundation - Year 2
Magpies
Conroy

Foundation - Year 2
Parrots
Damon

YEAR 3/4
Kyle Bird

YEAR 5/6
Taylor Maiden

FOUNDATION STUDENTS TRANSITION FOR 2017

During Term 3 and 4 we will be running a number of transition sessions for our 2017 Foundation students. We hope you will be able to come along and spend time with us to help your child get used to our school routines. You are most welcome to make a time to visit the school and have a tour at a time convenient to you. We have a lot of extra programs operating at the school and would love to be able to show these off to you.

Please call, 5433 3090 to arrange a time with our Principal, Ms Kate Ballantyne.

We look forward to meeting with you soon.

Term 3
Tuesday 19th July, 9.00 – 10.30
Tuesday 9th August, 9.00 – 10.30
Tuesday 30th August, 9.00 – 10.30

Term 4
Tuesday 4th October, 9.00 – 10.30
Tuesday 8th November, 9.00 – 10.30
Orientation Day — Tuesday 6th December, 9.00 – 12.30

An information evening for 2017 Foundation students will be held on the 15th November from 5.00pm – 6.00pm. Childcare will be provided. Please put it in your diary and confirm closer to the date you are attending. This will help us with childcare arrangements.

If you have a Foundation child commencing in 2017, or you know someone who does, call or phone the Office to obtain an enrolment pack.

Heathcote Primary School Writers Festival

This term Heathcote Primary School will be holding a Writers Festival as a part of its Literacy and Numeracy Week celebrations in Week 8.

In the lead up to the Writers Festival celebration the students will be developing narratives in their classrooms with their teachers, and then publishing them for the event.

Stories are grouped into aged groupings and read by a group of judges. Shortlisted stories are picked, and these stories will then be read at our Writers Festival celebration.

The best shortlisted stories win a small prize. All stories are displayed at the Writers Festival celebration and are available to be read by the school community.

This is a fantastic event and we highly encourage you to take the time to come along and be a part of our celebrations in Week 8.
Show Us Your Talent

OP Heathcote Primary School's Got Talent Show!

Tuesday 29th of August
9am to 10am
In the Gallery

Parents welcome
Gold Coin Donation to Junior School Council
Fundraiser for headphones

Rehearsals in the Gallery Thursdays 2nd Recess starting term 3

Register your act by end of week 3, term 3
Be quick as limited to 10 Acts, no changes after then!
See Tinjilt or Lily at rehearsals to register.

Participation Awards for all entrants
Prizes for 'Best Talent', 'Most Entertaining', & 'Awesomeness'.

Connecting With Kids (using Emotional Intelligence)
Heathcote

Emotional intelligence is the ability to identify your emotions, understand them and be in control of the way we express them.
• Do you often wonder why children do what they do?
• Would you like to learn how to help children manage feelings such as worry, frustration and anger?

Term 3, 2016
When: Thursday 21st July 2016
Time: Arrival and registration 9.45am
Session 10.00am - 12.30pm (30 min morning tea break at 11am)
Where: Heathcote Primary School, 31 Hermit Street, Heathcote 3523
Cost: Free
Facilitator: Jo Rodriguez
Childcare: Provided

For bookings and enquiries phone Megan Haddon on 5433 3090
Groups are subject to minimum and maximum numbers determined seven working days prior to the commencement date. Early registration is encouraged.

Tuning in to Teens
Bendigo

Tuning in to Teens shows you how to help your teen develop Emotional Intelligence

Join our six session parenting program for parents and carers of teens.
Would you like to learn how to:
• Be better at talking with your teen?
• Be better at understanding your teen?
• Help your teen learn to manage their emotions?
• Help to prevent behaviour problems in your teen?

Term 3, 2016
When: Thursday 28th July - 1st September 2016
Time: Arrival and registration 12.45pm
Sessions 1.00pm - 3.00pm
Where: CatholicCare Sandhurst Noel Daly Room, 176-178 McCrae St, Bendigo
Cost: $40 for the whole course or $20 concession
Child Care: Sorry, child care is not provided
Facilitators: Jo and Kate
Parking: No on-site parking available - please park in surrounding streets

For bookings and enquiries phone Ky Gregg on 5438 1300
Groups are subject to minimum and maximum numbers determined seven working days prior to the commencement date. Early registration is encouraged.

Tuning in to Kids
Bendigo

Want to learn how to help your child manage feelings and emotions (emotional intelligence)?

In this program you’ll find out how to help your child understand and manage feelings such as worry, frustration and anger.

Term 3, 2016
When: Wednesday 3rd August - 7th September 2016
Time: Arrival and registration 12.45pm
Sessions 1.00pm - 3.00pm
Where: CatholicCare Sandhurst Noel Daly Room, 176 McCrae St Bendigo
Cost: $40 - $20 concession
Child Care: Sorry, child care is not provided
Facilitators: Megan Simpson and Ky Gregg
Parking: No parking available - please park in surrounding streets

For bookings and enquiries phone Ky Gregg on 5438 1300
Groups are subject to minimum and maximum numbers determined seven working days prior to the commencement date. Early registration is encouraged.
“Hunchback of Notre Dame” Performance
Today at the RSL Hall.

Enjoyable performance, with student thoughts to come next week.
We made cookies.  
Adam.

Michelle made biscuits.  
Manny.

Michelle is a good cook.  
Reid.

We folded the pasta.  
Cody.

Michelle is a good cook.  
Tayton.

The Fun, Fun, Fun Kitchen!  
By Alexis.

Today we went to the kitchen for our first time. We cooked jam biscuits and it looked so, so, so yummy. I ate some dough. To make it you need vanilla essence, butter, milk and castor sugar. After that we had spaghetti bolognaise and then the bell rang. I ate it so fast and then I went outside.

By Emily M.
We cooked in the kitchen. We made pasta and biscuits with jam on them. We got to eat the pasta. Michelle taught us to cook.

By Abbey M.
Today Michelle came to my class and took us to the kitchen. We had fun. We made pasta and biscuits. It was fun. I did not want to stop.

By Ruben
In the kitchen we made pasta and biscuits. It was fun. We made pasta with a machine. And we ate the pasta.

By Damon.
In the Kitchen.
Today we cooked pasta and biscuits. We ate some pasta. I had meat sauce and cheese on top.

The Fantastic Cooking Day.  
By Ivy.
We went with Michelle to cook. First we cooked pasta then some biscuits. I will tell you how to make it. First I will tell you what you need: a bowl, a tub of sugar and flour. This is how you make it. Now about folding the dough a little bit, then make a hole for the jam. Can you do the same?

By Rosh.
Pancake. Cook the Pasta and tastes good and cheese and syrup.

By Elise
The Very Fun Kitchen.
Today the Junior Unit went to the kitchen. We made jam biscuits.
You will need: flour, castor sugar, milk and dough. Roll the biscuits.

The Exciting Cook.  
By Jayde.

First we put flour on the dough. We made it longer. Then we cut it. Then we cooked it. Then we ate it. Michelle is a very good cook – the best in the whole wide world.
JUNIOR STEM - Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths
The junior unit worked with paper to test the strength of 3D shapes. Creating a cylinder, a rectangular prism and a triangular prism, the students tested how many books could be stacked on each structure. Although we ran a little short of time, I am reliably informed by one of our students that about 14 books were stacked. The cylinders are the strongest of the three shapes.

SENIOR STEM—Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths
For this term, the theme will be robotics. For two weeks at a time we will investigate a different area of science and engineering which relate to the various functions of a robot. This week we started with sight by investigating the properties of light and testing different materials to see if they are opaque, translucent, transparent, refractive or reflective.
Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child’s education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

Why it’s important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It’s vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they’re ill. It’s vital that they’re only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

It’s vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided.

“Day off” – Think twice before letting your child have a “day off” as they could fail behind their classmates – every day counts.

Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent’s permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don’t fall behind:

- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child’s school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit: www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
# HEATHCOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL
## ABSENCE NOTE

Name .................................

Grade: ..............................

This student was absent on  ..............

(insert dates)

### APPROVED REASONS: (tick one)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>Medical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201</td>
<td>Illness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>205</td>
<td>Medical appointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>209</td>
<td>Dental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>211</td>
<td>Funeral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>806</td>
<td>Unauthorised Parent Choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>807</td>
<td>Authorised Parent choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>804</td>
<td>Extended Family Holiday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional comment: (if required)

(Parent/Guardian signature)..............................

Date: ..............................

---

# HEATHCOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL
## ABSENCE NOTE

Name .................................

Grade: ..............................

This student was absent on  ..............

(insert dates)

### APPROVED REASONS: (tick one)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>Medical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201</td>
<td>Illness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>205</td>
<td>Medical appointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>209</td>
<td>Dental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>211</td>
<td>Funeral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>806</td>
<td>Unauthorised Parent Choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>807</td>
<td>Authorised Parent choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>804</td>
<td>Extended Family Holiday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional comment: (if required)

(Parent/Guardian signature)..............................

Date: ..............................

---

# HEATHCOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL
## ABSENCE NOTE

Name .................................

Grade: ..............................

This student was absent on  ..............

(insert dates)

### APPROVED REASONS: (tick one)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>Medical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201</td>
<td>Illness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>205</td>
<td>Medical appointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>209</td>
<td>Dental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>211</td>
<td>Funeral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>806</td>
<td>Unauthorised Parent Choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>807</td>
<td>Authorised Parent choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>804</td>
<td>Extended Family Holiday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional comment: (if required)

(Parent/Guardian signature)..............................

Date: ..............................

---

# HEATHCOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL
## ABSENCE NOTE

Name .................................

Grade: ..............................

This student was absent on  ..............

(insert dates)

### APPROVED REASONS: (tick one)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>Medical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201</td>
<td>Illness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>205</td>
<td>Medical appointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>209</td>
<td>Dental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>211</td>
<td>Funeral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>806</td>
<td>Unauthorised Parent Choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>807</td>
<td>Authorised Parent choice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>804</td>
<td>Extended Family Holiday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional comment: (if required)

(Parent/Guardian signature)..............................

Date: ..............................