Dear Parents and Friends,

We had a disappointing start to last week when the wood we were planning on using for a fundraiser was discovered missing. Out of this negative has come an extremely positive response from the Heathcote community with donations of wood and money coming in to the school. We have greatly appreciated the offers of wood and donations of money, this will mean our fundraiser will go ahead and we will be able to conduct more than one. Tammy highlighted our situation and the community has rallied due to her initiative — a big thank you to Tammy.

Greg and Susy have been contacting families regarding absences. Thank you to those families who are ringing to let us know of their child’s absence, this is greatly appreciated by staff. It is a legal requirement for students to attend school. We know at times there are family events or illness which impact on attendance, if this is the case, please call us so we can mark the absence as explained. Evidence shows that daily school attendance is important for young people to succeed in education and to ensure they don’t fall behind both socially, academically and developmentally. We want the very best for your child and appreciate your support.

Heathcote PS is entering a team in the 2016 Tournament of Minds program to be held at LaTrobe University Bendigo later in August. Tournament of Minds is a problem solving program for teams of students from both primary and secondary years. They are required to solve demanding, open-ended challenges from one of the following disciplines: Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics. Mr Clayton, Mrs King and David Close will be supporting our entrants this year. We wish them well.

Advance notice of a couple of dates for our school. We will be having a pupil free day on Friday August 12th, please put this date in your diary. Athletics will also be held later this term, Holy Rosary will be hosting and organising the event in 2016.

Have a great week.

Ms Kate Ballantyne

ballantyne.kathryn.j@edumail.vic.gov.au
READING AWARDS

Brodi K. — For being polite and well mannered to other people.

Responsibility

Ivy H. — For demonstrating responsible behavior.

Respect

Brodi-Lee K. — For being polite and well mannered to other people.

Teamwork

Sienna M. — For being polite and well mannered to other people.

Learning

Chase P.W. — For staying focused on learning.

Kody J. — For being willing to learn from mistakes.

Sienna M. — For being polite and well mannered to other people.

TEAMWORK

Brooke M. - For considering other people’s feelings
Ella Mc - For looking out for others.
Tanika C. - For contributing well to group activities

LEARNING

Sienna M. — For being polite and well mannered to other people.
Chase P.W. — For staying focused on learning

Kody J. — For being willing to learn from mistakes.

RESPONSIBILITY

Ivy H. — For demonstrating responsible behavior.

RESPECT

Brodi-Lee K. — For being polite and well mannered to other people.

CIVICS AND CITIZENSHIP AWARDS—Presented at Assembly today

Brooke M. — For considering other people’s feelings
Ella Mc — For looking out for others.
Tanika C. — For contributing well to group activities

JUNIOR UNIT P.E. day on Mondays’

On Monday afternoons, the Junior Unit will be having their Physical Education lesson. The students will be training for the Athletics Sports day in week 9.

Students are encouraged to wear runners on a Monday for sport activities.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE JUNIOR UNIT

Water Bottles.
It is important that children drink plenty of water and have access to drink bottles in the classroom. In Winter, it is just as important for the children to be hydrated as it is in summer.

All children in the Junior Unit require a water bottle at school.

The Junior Unit have a tub for water bottles in the classroom. These water bottles are in addition to the water bottle kept in their schoolbag.

Brain Food and Lunches.
Please remember to pack a piece of fruit or fruit, preferably cut into pieces, for brain food. Cheese, dried fruit and cabana are also healthy choices.

The children have snacks at:
10:00 am Brain Food
10:55 Snack prior to first break.
11:30 Main lunch after first break, during story time.
1:20 Snack prior to second break.
2:50 Afternoon assembly, children may finish off food in their lunch box prior to going home.

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

READING AWARDS

Congratulations to the our students who have read to their family members and been signed off for:

50 Nights
Chase P.W.
Adam C.

75 Nights
Ella Mc

100 Nights
Daniel C.
Mason T.
Elise P.
Madison J.
Henry T.P

125 Nights
Henry T.P.
Emily A.

150 Nights
Brodie K.
Conroy M.
Abby O

175 Nights
Abby O
Recently Bendigo Health’s Community Dental Service visited Heathcote Primary School to provide dental checks for 17 students. The dental team were very happy to see so many students and would like to thank those that participated in the program.

Brushing teeth twice a day and a healthy diet play a key role in oral health, and developing good oral health habits from an early age helps to prevent problems as an adult.

Regular dental visits are also important to address any issues before they become problematic. Up to half of primary school children can have tooth decay and gum disease, which can develop without any pain. Having a dental examination before issues arise can help children have a positive experience, and there are many preventative treatments available to help maintain your child’s oral health.

Currently all children 12 years and under are eligible to access Bendigo Health’s Community Dental Service free of charge. If you don’t have a family dentist please contact the friendly dental team to make an appointment.

Bendigo Health Community Dental Service is made up of fully qualified oral health therapists, dentists and dental assistants. They are experienced in working with children and aim to make a child’s visit a positive experience while providing quality dental care.

To make an appointment please call 5454 7994, or visit www.bendigohealth.org.au to register your child/children.

Looking after your teeth and gums

**EAT WELL** - Sweet foods can cause tooth decay. Food and drinks high in sugar (particularly added sugar) should be limited, especially between meals.

Dairy products like cheese and plain milk can help prevent tooth decay.

**DRINK WELL** - Encourage children to drink plenty of tap water. Plain milk is a better option than flavoured milk. Limit soft drinks, fruit juice, cordials, sports drinks, energy drinks and yoghurt drinks as they are high in sugar, which is linked to tooth decay.

Did you know that a can of lemonade or cola contains the equivalent of 8 teaspoons of sugar, and a bottle of sport drink has the equivalent of 7 teaspoons of sugar!

**CLEAN WELL** - Everyone should brush their teeth twice a day; after breakfast and before bed. Help your children brush their teeth until they are seven; most children are not able to use a toothbrush properly before then. Baby teeth are very important to help children talk, eat and smile.

Everyone should have regular dental checks.

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**SCHOOL CROSSINGS ON HIGH STREET**

The crossing supervisors have reported to our school that many students are crossing unsupervised between the two Council supplied supervised school crossings on High Street. Considering the amount of traffic on the road this is very dangerous.

*Can parents please discuss the importance of crossing roads at the supervised crossings.*
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

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.

To Brayden W. and his mum Lucy for baking some cakes and sharing them with our Teachers and Support Staff. Just what we needed on a Monday morning! Thank you

Tournament of Minds “WOOD FUNDRAISER” and Parent Survey

Please return your sold tickets by the Wednesday 3rd August. Winner will be notified on Friday 5th August. Funds will support the Tournament of Minds activity.
All Parent Opinion Surveys returned to the Office will receive 5 free tickets for the “WOOD FUNDRAISER”.

SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUBS

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.

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Megan Haddon
School Chaplain
The Hunchback of Notre Dame.

The Junior Unit went to the RSL Hall to see the Hunchback on Monday. 
In the middle of the play, Quasimodo and Captain Phoebus had a sword fight. 
Quasimodo married Esmeralda. 

*By Chase.*

The Hunchback of Notre Dame. 

Today, the Tooborac and Holy Rosary PS, also us, went to the RSL Hall. 
We watched Hunchback of Notre Dame. 
The music was really loud music. 
There was a smoke machine and lots of lights. 
The characters were Mother Frollo, Hunchback, Crocodile, Esmeralda and Goat Djali. 
There was a sword fight. The swords were real. 

*By Ivy.*

The Hunchback of Notre Dame. 

I went to the RSL Hall to watch the Hunchback. 
The goat was funny. For the characters there was Quasi, the mother, the goat, Frollo, the crocodile, the king, the ghost and the girl. 
Frollo yelled at the crocodile. He wanted to rule the world. 
Quasi liked the girl but Frollo liked her too. 
Quasi could stand tall. Quasi was happy. 

*By Nitika.*

The Hunchback of Notre Dame. 

Today the Junior Unit saw the Hunchback at the RSL Hall. 
Tooborac came too. It was at Heathcote. 
There was a lot of singing. I liked the show. 
At the end we all asked some questions. The bad man was called King Frollo. 
The girl's name was Esmeralda. 

*By Maddie.*

The Hunchback of Notre Dame. 

The School went to the Hunchback of Notre Dame. 
My favourite character is the Hunchback. 
He actually is not the Hunchback. He dressed up as the Hunchback. 

*By Daniel.*
For this term, biology will be the major theme for junior unit STEM. This week the junior unit set up a mushroom kit to grow edible mushrooms. They will be monitoring the growth of the mushrooms over the next couple of weeks. The students also examined wild mushroom samples and looked at the differences between regular plants and fungi.

SENIOR STEM—Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths
This week we continued our investigation into light (which relates to robot eyesight). Last week the students investigated the properties of light. This week we applied the physics of light to engineer a solution to the following scenario:

“You are a group of adventurers who are exploring the dark depths of a new cave.
You need to design and create a device which lights up the cave but is hands free – ie, your hands are free to help climb”

Using a basic electrical circuit with a LED (Light Emitting Diode) and common building materials, the students were really creative and created some fantastic solutions to the problem. Each team then presented their paper designs and built solutions to the class.