Dear Parents and Friends,

Welcome to Week Four! Winter seems to have arrived, thankfully we have had some rain over the weekend. This morning it was great to have so many students receiving acknowledgement for appropriate behaviour. Examples of the types of behaviour acknowledged are as follows; considering others, being honest, sharing equipment, following rules, encouraging others and accepting consequences. Well done to those students – we really value their efforts. Each month we will be awarding a “Green Card Star of the Month”, this is acknowledging those students who have received Green Cards over the month. At the end of the month a card will be drawn out in each classroom and a Green Star of the Month awarded. The more green cards that go into the box, the greater chance you have of being picked. For the month of April the following students have been awarded a Green Star of the Month—Amy May Burgess, Mason Thompson, Alexis Knight and Ty Boyd. Well done to these four students.

In Habits for Harmony for the month of May we are focussing on Speaking Respectfully to others. We are encouraging students to—consider others, listen respectfully, treat others fairly, follow instructions, accept differences, use manners and respect personal space. Thinking about the words we use are important, words can be very hurtful to all of us. We will be encouraging students to think before they speak, some things are better left in our heads! Great to see so many students in the Junior unit reading every night. Daily reading supports developing readers to practice their skills and establish the habit of reading for enjoyment. If you have an older student, encourage them to keep reading. Sometimes it is about finding the right books that they will enjoy. If you are concerned your child is not reading daily, please talk to your classroom teacher and see if we can find some material they will enjoy. The more we read the better reader we become.

Apologies for the lack of communication regarding the Cross Country. My understanding was that it was a student event and that parents were not involved. I will know for next time! On Thursday Junior School Council will be running the Mother’s Day stall, they will be supported by Miss O’ Neill and Ms Balic. If you would like your child to participate can you please send along some coins for them to purchase an item. SRI (Religious Instruction) will commence soon. Please note that these sessions will be held during recess time, not school time. If your child would like to be involved please fill in the permission form, see last page of the newsletter, and return it to school by Friday 6th May. Enjoy your week.

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

Congratulations to the 2016 Heathcote & District Community Bank Tertiary scholarship recipient Callum Jones. The board, staff, shareholders and community wish you all the best in your future studies.
STUDENT ABSENCES

Please ensure that you contact the school if your child is going to be away from school at any time. All student absences must be explained by a note or a phone call from a parent, as required by the Department of Education. See proforma on the back page.

TISSUES NEEDED

As we approach winter with our cold and flu season, we are needing tissues in the classroom. We are therefore asking all students to contribute a box of tissues for the classroom if you haven’t already done so.

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

MOTHERS DAY STALL

Junior School Council will be running our Mother’s Day Stall

The stall will be held during Thursday 5th May and Miss O’Neill and Ms Balic will be helping.

Gifts are available for between $1.00 to $3.00

Siblings will be “shopping” together

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, see last page of newsletter as well as from the school office.

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.

SRI WILL COMMENCE in Term 2

The NetSetGo programme has been designed to:

Provide positive encouragement in a welcoming, fun atmosphere, where children share activities, make friends and develop important social skills, along with netball skills.

Help children build team skills and friendships, something they will benefit from for life.

Give children confidence, not only in their netball skills, but in social interactions, motor skills and life skills.

COORDINATOR: HELEN NAYLOR  PHONE: 0418 509 782
REGISTRATION DATE: WED 4TH MAY
COMMENCEMENT DATE: WED 11TH MAY 2016
TIME: 4PM – 5PM
VENUE: BARRACK RESERVE STADIUM
AGES: 5 – 8
Cost: $60 per child, includes a NetSetGo pack from Netball Victoria.
GREEN CARDS STARS FOR APRIL—CONGRATULATIONS

Foundation - Year 2
Magpies
Mason

Foundation - Year 2
Parrots
Alexis

YEAR 3/4
Ami-May

YEAR 5/6
Ty

GREEN CARDS RECIPIENTS FOR APRIL

TEAMWORK
Summer
Kyle
Kane
Brayden F
James M
Brooke
Tanika
Ruben
Triniti
Harrison
Mason
Emily A

LEARNING
Nicholas
Taylor
Lily
Ellie
Cordell
Triniti
Rhys
Harrison
James D
Ty
Levi
Kane
Zoe
Hannah

RESPECT
Ami-May
Blake
Emily M

RESPONSIBLE
Levi
Alexis
Hannah
Triniti
James D
Cordell
Taylor
Rhys
James P

READING AWARDS

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

25 Nights
Ella E.
Maddie

50 Nights
Ella Mc
Mason
Maddie

75 Nights

READING HELPERS

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
The Book Fair will run for one week from Tuesday 3rd May to and including Monday 9th May.

It will be set up in the School Office.
Children will have an opportunity during class time to have a look and make a wish list.
Parents are welcome to come and have a look and purchase books each day from 9.00 am to 9.30 am and again from 2.30 pm to 3.00 pm.

Books need to be paid for in full before they can be taken home.
Greg Kingsford and Susy Jarman will be in the Office to help. It may get busy at times, please be patient.
Dear parents and students,

**Heathcote Primary School PHOTO DAY IS 11/05/2016**

School photo order envelopes have been distributed to every student and it is important that the order instructions (below) are followed.

**ONLINE ORDERING** Your child’s school photos are now available for secure online purchase, please note if you are ordering online, you do not need to return an envelope to the school.

**4 EASY STEPS TO ONLINE SCHOOL PHOTO ORDERING**

- **Step 1:** Easy Access Link: Click on this link if you are using a supported device: Click Here
- **Step 2:** Enter your student's details
- **Step 3:** Choose the package that best suits your needs (all orders will be returned to the school for collection)
- **Step 4:** Pay for the photos via the shopping cart (upper right corner of the page)

Please Note: Late fees will apply once orders are closed (5 days after photo day)

**FAMILY / SIBLING PHOTOS** No envelope required if ordering online

**4 EASY STEPS TO ONLINE SCHOOL PHOTO ORDERING**

- Go to [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au) before photo day and enter your school code [3EM 1XZ MT8]
- Families/Sibling photo orders online close on 9/05/16
- Orders can be placed by returning an envelope up until photo day with cash or cheque enclosed

**ORDERING USING AN ENVELOPE**

ENVELOPES WILL BE HANDED TO EACH CHILD, PLEASE SEE THE SCHOOL OFFICE IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED ONE

- **Step 1:** Student Details: Complete the student details section on the front of the order envelope.
  
  Please use black or blue pen.
- **Step 2:** Purchase Details: Complete the purchase details on the front of the envelope.
- **Step 3:** Payment Method: Select your payment method.
- **Step 4:** RETURN ENVELOPE TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE

**Credit Card** – Online Only at [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au)

**Cash** – Please enclose correct money – no change is given under any circumstances

**Cheque** – Make payable to Advancedlife Photography with your name & address on the back of cheque

Please allow 60 days for your cheque to be finalised - a $25 fee will apply to any dishonored cheque payments

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**MOTHERS DAY**

The time of year when we celebrate our mothers is fast approaching and this year, Holy Rosary, will again be hosting our annual Mother’s Day Luncheon. The cost of the Luncheon/High Tea is $30.00 per person. This year’s event will be on Friday, May 6th from 12-2pm in the Heathcote RSL Hall.

As always, we will be coming together as a community to enjoy an afternoon of food, music and fun.

There will be a raffle, door prizes and entertainment.
ORDERING
USING AN
ENVELOPE
ENVELOPES
WILL BE
HANDED TO
EACH CHILD,
PLEASE SEE
THE SCHOOL
OFFICE IF
YOU HAVE
NOT RE-
CEIVED ONE

Step 1: Student Details: Complete the student details section on the front of the order envelope. Please use black or blue pen.

Step 2: Purchase Details: Complete the purchase details on the front of the envelope.

Step 3: Payment Method: Select your payment method.

- Credit Card – Online Only at www.advance dlife.com.au
- Cash – Please enclose correct money – no change is given under any circumstances
- Cheque – Make payable to Advancedlife Photography with your name & address on the back of cheque

Please allow 60 days for your cheque to be finalised – a $25 fee will apply to any dishonored cheque payments

Please feel free to contact us via email or phone should you have any queries in regards to your child’s school photo order.

info@advancedlifevic.com.au or 03 9852 1133

Advancedlife Team

This form provides parents the opportunity to indicate whether or not they wish to enrol their child/children in Special Religious Instruction (SRI). Once forms have been returned and assessed by the school the principal will decide whether SRI will be scheduled at the school.

The school has been approached by a Special Religious Instruction volunteer(s) offering SRI in the following religion(s):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Agency/Provider</th>
<th>Further Information on Religious Education and Scheduling</th>
<th>Minuets/Hour (Total/Per Month)</th>
<th>Program Length (School Year)</th>
<th>Required Excursion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christianity</td>
<td>ACCESS Ministries</td>
<td>Coordinator - Heather Zakrzewski</td>
<td>30min/wk</td>
<td>one year</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If details of individual volunteers (their name, accrediting provider and religious organisation) are not available at the time that this form has been issued, they will be provided to parents prior to the commencement of the program either through the school newsletter, information which can be collected from reception or by other appropriate means as designated by the school. On receipt of this information, parents will be able to withdraw their child/children from SRI if they wish. Parents can withdraw their child/children from SRI at any time by notifying the school principal in writing.

I confirm that I have read and understand the Parent Consent Information about SRI on page 2 (please tick)

Do you consent to your child/children to participate in SRI should it be scheduled at the school? YES (please tick one)

If you have indicated yes, please list your child/children’s details:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student’s Family Name</th>
<th>Student’s First Name</th>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Which above offered Religion is SRI participation consented for?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If there may be an associated fee to purchase materials for my child’s use in SRI, and this will be collected once it is determined whether SRI will be scheduled in the school (please tick)

Parent/Guardian’s Name: ________________________________________________________________

Address: .................................................................................................................................

Signature: ............................................................................................................................... Date: ........../........../..........

If you would like your child/children to participate in SRI, tick yes and please return this form by the date specified above. Please note that if you do not return this form you are indicating that you do not consent for your child/children to participate in SRI should it be scheduled by the school.

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Special Religious Instruction Policy can be accessed at:


V5 CFMD141 January 2015
Special Religious Instruction – Parent Consent Information

The provision of Special Religious Instruction (SRI), delivered by churches and other religious groups, in government schools is authorised under section 2.2.11 of the Education and Training Reform Act 2006.

Special Religious Instruction Policy

SRI can only be offered and delivered in accordance with Department policy and Ministerial Direction MD141. SRI can be offered where an accredited and approved volunteer religious instructor(s) has approached a school and where a school has the resources to comply with legal requirements and ensure that duty of care obligations are met to all students during SRI. SRI may be offered for no more than an average of 30 minutes per week.

Schools provide parents with a form if approached by an accredited and approved SRI volunteer. Once this form has been provided to parents, and returned forms compiled, the principal will decide whether there are sufficient resources to enable SRI to be offered at the school.

MD141 and the policy are available online at http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/legislation/Pages/sri.aspx

What is Special Religious Instruction?

SRI is instruction in the specific religious beliefs and tenets of a religion, and is not to be confused with General Religious Education (GGE). GGE is education about religions (which may or may not include using representatives of a particular faith to explain the workings and belief structure of their religion), whereas SRI programs are instruction in a particular religion and may include scriptural studies, and instruction in how to live and behave according to the tenets of the particular faith.

SRI does not provide an overview of all faiths or religions. Each particular SRI offering is instruction in one faith only, provided by a church or other religious group. Given the religious nature of the program, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not endorse program content used to deliver SRI by accredited volunteer instructors.

Who delivers Special Religious Instruction?

Special Religious Instruction is available to schools in a range of faiths including Christianity, Catholicism, Orthodox Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Bahai, and Sikhism. The religions available to schools will vary depending on whether any instructors approach the school. Currently the providers accrediting the volunteer Special Religious Instructors are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Agency/Provider</th>
<th>Provider website or further information</th>
<th>Provider phone number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Catholicism</td>
<td>Catholic Education Office</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ceomelb.catholic.edu.au/">http://www.ceomelb.catholic.edu.au/</a></td>
<td>9267 0228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buddhism</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthodox Christianity</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://religionsforpeaceaustralia.org.au/">http://religionsforpeaceaustralia.org.au/</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahai Faith</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikhism</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hinduism</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Volunteer Instructors are associated with a church or religious organisation. Their role is not that of a teacher. To obtain accreditation, they must have undertaken training through one of the providers listed above, and signed up to a code of conduct which outlines how they are to conduct themselves in a government school. It is a requirement of accreditation that volunteers have a valid Working With Children Check.

Participation in Special Religious Instruction

Participation in Special Religious Instruction is voluntary. Schools cannot place children in SRI unless parental consent is provided for a child to participate (opt-in). SRI materials are generally available online and via the agency delivering SRI for parents to review.

Parents are requested to complete and return this form to the school if they wish their child to participate in SRI, should it be offered at the school. If this form is not returned, the child will not participate in SRI, should it be offered. Students not participating in SRI will be engaged in educationally valuable activities that are outside the core curriculum in a separate classroom or learning space to the students participating in SRI.

You may withdraw your child/children from Special Religious Instruction at any time by notifying the school principal in writing.

Further information

MD141 and Department policy can be accessed at http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/legislation/Pages/sri.aspx


V5 CFMD141 January 2015
HEATHCOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL
ABSENCE NOTE

Name ................................................
Grade: .................................
This student was absent on ..........................
 .............................................
(insert dates)

APPROVED REASONS: (tick one)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Approval 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)

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