Welcome to another week of news from Heathcote PS!

Dear Parents and Friends,

Education Week has come and gone. It was lovely to see parents, friends and some prospective parents visit our school yesterday. A big thank you to the Year 5-6 students for cooking a wonderful morning tea for our visitors – everyone enjoyed their Sushi, Sausage Rolls and Muffins. The Year 3-4 students showed off their waiting skills by providing table service – all very professional! A big thank you to Michele for co-ordinating the cooking and serving of morning tea – we appreciate her enthusiastic support.

There are a number of children who are out of school uniform at the moment. We know that a couple of parents are waiting on uniform orders to arrive and those students are excused. It would be appreciated if you could make sure your child leaves home with their school uniform on each morning. Thanks for your support.

We still have an outbreak of Head Lice in the school. It is important to check your child regularly and treat when necessary. It has been very frustrating for a number of parents who are following up with treatment at home only to have their child come home again with Head Lice. If we all work together in dealing with this issue it would be greatly appreciated. The Department of Education and Training require us to record all student absences and explain the reason for a student being absent. If your child is ill or is going to be away from school can you please call the office and let us know of their absence and the reason why by 9.00am. This will make our job of recording this data much easier.

We have noticed a few students arriving at school very early. The playground is unsupervised until 8.45am, this has meant some students are in the yard for 45 minutes prior to school supervision. We understand that things come up for families and they may have trips out of town, if this is the case, please make alternative arrangements for your child to be transported to school by friends or other family members. It is important for the safety of your child that they are in the yard when supervision is provided.

**Our school working bee is next Saturday 28th May.** It would be great to have as many parents, carers and friends as possible come along to help out. Starting time is 9.00am and finishing up around 11.30. Even if you can’t come for the whole time, an hour would be appreciated. **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!
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

* 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

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.

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.

Medical including Asthma Plans, and Permission forms need to be returned completed as quickly as possible.

Kind Regards,
Michele Ballantyne
ballantyne.kathryn.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

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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.

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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

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GOB STOPPER AWARD presented to
George—For not engaging with students when provoked.
CIVICS AND CITIZENSHIP AWARDS—Presented today at Assembly

TEAMWORK
Ivy—Contributing well to group activities

LEARNING
Brooke—Staying focused on learning
Zoe—Being prepared to have a go.

RESPONSIBILITY
James M.—Responsible when working with others.
Mason—Responsibility when asked to complete a task

RESPECT
Adam—Treating others with respect.
Lily—Consistently using appropriate & respectful language.
James P—Waiting respectfully until your turn to speak.

Year 3/4 students playing the “Gold Rush Themed” board-games that Year 5/6 students have created, in preparation for their forthcoming experiences during the Senior Unit Camp to Pioneer Settlement in Swan Hill late in Term 2.
In celebration of the magnificent weather this autumn, three of our students headed out for a camping experience.

After navigating their way with the use of a compass and coordinates through an orienteering course, they successfully discovered base camp where their new task was to set up the tent, set out the roll mats and crawl into their sleeping bags.

STEM: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING and MATHS

This week in STEM, the senior students were asked to design and build a prototype for a lunar landing module. Using a choice of materials, students created a suspension system to allow the lunar module to land safely. The measure of success was whether the module kept the astronaut (the marshmallow) contained in the capsule after landing. Tragically, some astronauts went missing mysteriously.

The junior unit were asked to build as tall a structure as they possibly could using pieces of apple and toothpicks. Different students tried different arrangements for stability and some even mounted a flag on top. Ingeniously, some structures were streamlined by little nibbles in the apples.
EDUCATION WEEK - MORNING TEA, PREPARED BY THE YEAR 3/4
Nicholas, Brooke, Josh, Erica, Matilda and Kyle & Michelle Witham.

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

25 Nights
Chase

50 Nights
Reid

75 Nights
Emily A
Henry
James C
Elise
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—one 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: ..............................................................

Here in the Office we will maintain a register of Helpful Parents and the things you are interested in, so as these activities come up we can call for your help.  
Thanking you in anticipation