



Heathcote Primary School Newsletter

Telephone: (03) 5433 3090

heathcote.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Issue No. 22

31st July 2026 (Term 3, Week 3)

At Heathcote PS we value... Respect Learning Teamwork Responsibility

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of the Taungurung people and we pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

What's Happening in Term 3?

Weeks 2—10	Fridays, weekly sessions	Grade 5/6 Bendigo Children's Health friendship program
Week 4	Wednesday 5th August	School Council meeting @ 5:30pm
	Thursday 6th August	Junior Unit incursion—Wonderful Water Library visits—3/4HP, 3/4N, 5/6F, 5/6MG
Week 5	Wednesday 12th August	Real Schools Parent Information Session (after school)
	Thursday 13th August	Wanyarra Incursion (rescheduled)
Week 6	Thursday 20th August	Library visits—Foundation, 1/2JS, 1/2M
Week 7	Mon 24th—Fri 28th Aug.	Book Week
		Activities in House Groups 2pm—3pm (M, Tu, Th, F) Book Week Dress Up Day & Parade (Wed)
Week 8	Wednesday 2nd September	Professional Practice Day—no students required
Week 9	Thursday 10th September	Junior Unit excursion (notes coming)
Week 10	Friday 18th September	End of Term 3 (early dismissal @ 2pm)

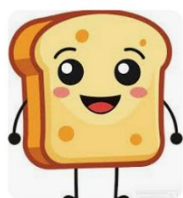
New dates included in this newsletter for the first time are highlighted in yellow for convenience

2026 - What's Due?

OVERDUE	2027 Foundation enrolment forms
Tuesday 11th August	Year 7 (2027) placement acceptance forms

What's Happening in Term 4, 2026?

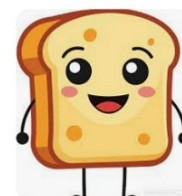
Term 4		
Week 1	Monday 5th October	Start of Term 4
Week 3	Friday 23rd October	Division cricket (Gr 5/6 cricket team)
Week 4	Mon 26th—Fri 30th Oct.	Swimming lessons—Foundation, 1/2JS & 1/2M
Week 7	Tues. 17th—Thurs. 19th Nov	Energy Breakthrough Camp (pushcarts)
Week 8	Mon. 23rd—Wed. 25th Nov.	Grade 5/6 Camp
Week 9	Wednesday 2nd December	Grade 6 End of Year Excursion (details to come)
Week 10	Tuesday 8th December	Statewide Transition Day
	Thursday 10th December	Grade 6 Graduation
Week 11	Friday 18th December	End of Term 4 (early dismissal @ 1:30pm)



Breakfast Club in the Kitchen

Tuesday & Thursday, 8:40am—8:55am

Toast, cereal, milk, fruit available



Whole School Assembly

Fridays, 9:05am—9:25am, astroturf area

Please join us to celebrate achievements and milestones from the 'week that was'
In the event of inclement weather, assembly will be online (meeting link will be sent)

Please note that more dates will be added to the above list throughout the year.

New dates included in this newsletter for the first time are highlighted in yellow for convenience.



Heathcote Primary School

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VALUES AWARDS

SWPBS Focus: We look after school property

	Student	Reason
F	Alexia	For trying her best to use the equipment the correct way and tidying up the space ready for the next person to use that space. Well done Alexia.
1/2JS	Xavier	For showing respect by taking great care of our school property and learning spaces
1/2M	Lina	For showing consistent responsibility by caring for school property. Great job, Lina!
3/4HP	Charlotte D	For consistently demonstrating our SWPBS expectation of 'We look after our school property'. Thank you for showing respect for our school environment.
3/4N	Ally D	For showing responsibility by taking care of the school environment and resources. Well done, Ally!
5/6F	Riley	For showing responsibility by taking care of school property and respecting the spaces and resources we use.
5/6MG	Neleyah	For being responsible when using school equipment and taking care of our learning environment. Great work, Neleyah!

KINDNESS AWARDS

Students who consistently demonstrate acts of kindness, compassion and empathy towards others, promoting a positive and inclusive school environment.

	Student	Reason
Junior Unit	Emma	For representing the Junior Unit as a Kindness Ambassador, spreading kindness and positivity through thoughtful words and actions each day. It is amazing to see the way you spread kindness through your thoughtful actions and support of others. Awesome job, Emma!
Middle Unit	Anthony	For consistently showing kindness towards his peers and staff. He creates such a positive and friendly environment for everyone. Well done, Anthony!
Senior Unit	George	For showing kindness and respect to your peers and staff, fostering a safe and happy school environment. Awesome work, George!

Congratulations to our award winners!

These awards were presented at our assembly on Friday 31st July 2026

READING AWARDS

Foundation	1/2JS	1/2M	3/4HP	3/4N	5/6MG	5/6F
<u>100 Nights</u> Zayne	<u>100 Nights</u> Luna Ben Ernie Amelia	<u>100 Nights</u> Jack Fatat	<u>100 Nights</u> Pippa	<u>50 Nights</u>	<u>50 Nights</u> Lilah	<u>100 Nights</u> Riley
<u>150 Nights</u> Jaxon Saskia	George Georgia <u>150 Nights</u> Heidi	<u>150 Nights</u> Emma	<u>150 Nights</u> Jaimee	<u>100 Nights</u>	<u>150 Nights</u> Hailee Angelo	<u>150 Nights</u> Jess

The more that you read, the more things you will know.

The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.

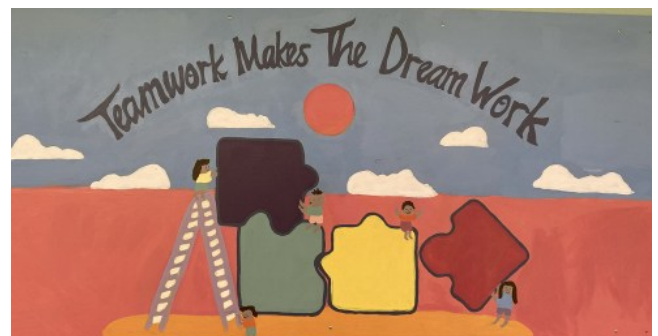


**Sophia, Jack R,
Luna, Em-Rose,
Lusianna, Iris,
Logan, Cierra**



*Students have the option of wearing casual clothes to school on their birthday
(or the closest school day to their birthday if their birthday falls on the weekend
or in the school holidays)*

*Congratulations to this week's and last week's
award recipients!*



Principal's Report



Heathcote Primary School
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Time flies when you're having fun and the term is zipping by far too quickly. This week, we proudly celebrated a very special milestone for our **Foundation students** – their first 100 days of school! Reaching 100 days is a wonderful achievement and an opportunity to reflect on how much our youngest learners have grown since beginning their school journey. Over the past 100 days, they have embraced school life with gusto and enjoyed their '100 Days Brighter!' activities. The celebration was filled with excitement as students participated in a range of activities, some with their families and Grade 6 buddies. The day highlighted the enthusiasm and curiosity that our Foundation students bring to school each day. My thanks go to Miss H for her care, commitment and dedication ensuring our Foundation students have the best possible start to their primary school lives. Also, to our Foundation ES team for the support they provide our littlest learners every day and to our families for your ongoing partnership.



While our Foundation students celebrated their first 100 days, the occasion also marked a significant milestone for our **Grade 6 students**—the beginning of their final 100 days of primary school. It is a bittersweet reminder of how quickly the year is passing. We look forward to making these last 100 days memorable, celebrating their achievements and creating lasting memories together whilst we also help them prepare for secondary school life.

We are celebrating the release of strong results in the Department of Education's annual **Attitudes to School Survey**. This survey is completed by students in Grades 4—6 annually. The results show **strong growth** in the percentage of positive responses in 19 of the 21 framework factors. For the two factors that did not show growth, one stayed the same and one decreased by 1%.

Particular **highlights** include:

Respect for diversity +19%	Motivation and interest +19%	Effective classroom behaviour +15%
Managing bullying +15%	Differentiated learning challenge +12%	Self regulation and goal setting +12%
Advocate at school +11%	School connectedness +11%	High expectations for success +10%

Our continued work through the **School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS)** framework and our partnership with **Real Schools** have strengthened our focus on building positive relationships, fostering a strong sense of belonging and teaching respectful, responsible behaviours. These results indicate that our continued focus on these areas is making a meaningful difference for our students. Improvements across a number of key areas demonstrate that students feel increasingly connected to their learning, supported and valued as members of our school community. We are committed to ongoing and continuous improvement and excited to see what we achieve next!



Hello families,

We are entering the last month of winter, which is both a time to look forward to the coming warmer months and to reflect on the things that winter brings us; a time to slow down, spend time with our loved ones and take the opportunity to rest and regenerate for the season of growth ahead.

This week I am highlighting two services that specialise in supporting people who have been impacted by violence, and the people who support them. The first is [CASA Central Victoria](#), a not-for-profit, government funded organisation that provides trauma informed counselling, advocacy and support for people who have experienced a recent or historical sexual assault. The service is also available for family and community members who have felt impacted. CASA also offers specialized advocacy, secondary consultation, community education and professional training within the community and across the sector.

The second is [Centre for Non-Violence](#), an inclusive service that welcomes and supports people of all backgrounds, ethnicities, cultures, ages, gender identities, sexual orientations, and abilities. CNV provides support and advocacy for survivors of violence and for people using violence, and does significant work in prevention and advocacy. Support is tailored to individual needs as much as possible, including the needs of accompanying children and young people. CNV programs and services for victim survivors are free of charge and voluntary. You can engage with them at any time throughout your personal journey and you can exit the service at any time.

You might know someone who could benefit from these services - if so, I hope these resources help you to help them.

If you would like more information or if you have any questions please feel free to get in touch with me; 5433 3090 or concetta.sergi2@education.vic.gov.au

Concetta Sergi

Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader

In Term 3, we welcome Mawa and Fizah to our school wellbeing team as [provisional psychologists](#) as part of a partnership with FedCare. Mawa and Fizah will each spend one day a week at Heathcote PS working with students (and their families).

The School Outreach Program is a partnership between Victorian primary and secondary schools and FedCare Psychology Services. It aims to increase access to psychological services by placing provisionally registered psychologists in schools to provide targeted, short-term psychological assessment and intervention. Provisional psychologists are enrolled in Master of Psychology programs at Federation University and completing a placement at FedCare Psychology Services. All provisionally registered psychologists participating in the program are in their fifth or sixth year of training and practising under the supervision of an experienced psychologist(s).

Community Reminders



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Annual Privacy Reminder for our School Community

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' privacy policy](#) and the [Schools' privacy collection notice](#).

Our [Photographing, Filming and Recording Students policy](#) describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn.

We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use [\[Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education\]](#) safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information. If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using [Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education], please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: [Schools' privacy policy: information for parents](#). This information is also available in eleven community languages:

Amharic
Arabic
Chinese
Dari
Gujarati
Mandarin
Somali
Sudanese
Turkish
Urdu
Vietnamese

Late Arrivals & Early Departures

If students arrive after 9am or need to leave before 3pm, they need to sign in or sign out at the office. This is done using the Compass portal. 5/6MG visited the office to practise the process.



Mobile Phone Policy (student use)

Department policy requires that students who choose to bring mobile phones to school must have them switched off and securely stored during school hours, including break times.

All schools are required to have a local school policy on mobile phones that reflects this requirement and which provides details for the implementation of the policy at their school.

Our school's mobile phone policy (student use) is available on the school website [HERE](#).

In a nutshell, mobile phones and smart watches with mobile phone capabilities are to be:

- switched off during school hours
- dropped off at the office for secure storage upon arrival. Eg. Not kept in school bags.
- collected at the end of the school day.



Community Reminders



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Yard Supervision

The school yard is supervised from 8:45am until 9am. There is an announcement at 8:45am to signal classroom doors are open. Students are able to put their bags in their room, complete any before school routines and monitor jobs before heading back outside to play. The hospital end of the oval and playground are out of bounds before school.

After school, staff are on bus and crossing duty (which includes carpark duty in the main carpark). The main yard is not supervised. Any students who have not been collected by 3:15pm are taken to the office.

After school care is available through Trinity Academy. A bus from Heathcote PS drops after school care passengers at Trinity. For bookings, please contact Trinity Academy on [\(03\) 4411 6803](tel:0344116803)

Main Car Park

The pick up/drop off zone is not a parking space. Please keep the engine running, drop off or collect your passenger/s and continue on your way so the traffic keeps flowing (and does not bank up onto the road).

When parking in the other section of the car park, please pull all the way into the car park spaces – as close as you safely can to the bollard marking the front of the car park.

Please travel slowly through the car park and check for students crossing between the sections/bays.



Personal Accident & Property Insurance

The Department (which includes our school) does not have personal accident insurance for students.

If a student is injured at school or while participating in a school activity (including offsite) and requires medical treatment, parents/carers are responsible for all of their child's medical expenses. This includes transport costs such as ambulance costs (which may include an air ambulance if considered necessary)

The Department (which includes our school) does not have personal property insurance for staff and/or students.

Items of personal property that are lost, stolen or damaged at school or during school excursions are not the responsibility of Heathcote Primary School or the Department. Staff and students are reminded not to bring items of value to school or on school excursions.

Heathcote Primary School encourages parents/carers to consider obtaining their own accident insurance for students and property of value that may be brought to school.

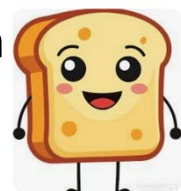
Breakfast Club

Tuesday & Thursday

8:40am—8:55am

HPS Kitchen

Toast, cereal, milk, fruit available



Community Happenings



Heathcote Primary School
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AFL CARD TRADING

SWAP! TRADE! CONNECT!
AT THE PLAYGROUND!

near Barrack Reserve

MONDAY 20TH JULY 4.30PM

THURSDAY 6TH AUGUST 4.30PM

BE KIND TRADE FAIRLY HAVE FUN!

BRING YOUR CARDS AND JOIN THE FUN!

HEATHCOTE PANTHERS WINTER SEASON

Term 2 & Term 3 2026

We are now seeking expressions of interest for our Junior Basketball Winter Season

- Under 10 Boys born 2017-2018
- Under 12 Boys born 2015-2016
- Under 14 Boys born 2013-2014
- Under 16 Boys born 2011-2012

TRAINING SCHEDULE:

- Under 10 & Under 12 - Monday 4pm - 5pm
- Under 14 - Monday 5pm - 6pm
- Under 16 - Monday 5:30pm - 6:30pm

**Training times may vary depending on participant numbers ++

- All welcome. Training is free of charge.
- Competition games are played at Red Energy Arena, Bendigo.

Please contact Alan 0418 589 020 or Kristyn 0418 852 339

www.facebook.com/HeathcotePanthersBasketball

LOCATION: Barrack Reserve Stadium, Heathcote.

HEATHCOTE PANTHERS SUMMER SEASON

TERM 4 2026 & TERM 1 2027

NOW SEEKING EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR OUR JUNIOR BASKETBALL SUMMER SEASON

UNDER 12 BOYS	UNDER 14 BOYS	UNDER 16 BOYS
BORN 2016-2017	BORN 2014-2015	BORN 2012-2013

TRAINING SCHEDULE:

UNDER 10 & UNDER 12	MONDAY 4PM - 5PM
UNDER 14	MONDAY 5PM - 6PM
UNDER 16	MONDAY 5:30PM - 6:30PM

TRAINING TIMES MAY VARY DEPENDING ON PARTICIPANT NUMBERS**

COMPETITION GAMES ARE PLAYED AT RED ENERGY ARENA, BENDIGO.	DEVELOP SKILLS, MAKE FRIENDS & BE PART OF A GREAT CLUB COMMUNITY!	FUN, RESPECT, TEAMWORK & A LOVE FOR THE GAME!
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INTERESTED? PLEASE CONTACT:

ALAN BUTLER	0418 589 020
KRISTYN CAMPBELL	0418 852 339

LOCATION: BARRACK RESERVE STADIUM, HEATHCOTE.

FOLLOW US! facebook.com/HeathcotePanthersBasketball

FREE PLAY GROUP

10am-12pm
Every Wednesday
165 High Street Bunbunarik

St John's Anglican Church Heathcote

TRINITY ACADEMY

Community Happenings



Heathcote Primary School
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Immune Deficiencies Foundation Australia proudly presents

2026 CIRCUS QUIRKUS

Circus Quirkus is a one-hour, animal-free, contemporary take on your favourite, traditional circuses of ages past, with an eclectic and entertaining mix of Circus acts from all over the world.

Enjoy a relaxed theatre experience with a casual attitude toward audience noise and movement in an accessible, inclusive environment where everyone is welcome and free to be themselves without restriction or judgement.

One hour show. Suitable for all ages and accessible for people...

- with diverse abilities and backgrounds (wheelchair accessible)
- who might require a more flexible and inclusive environment when attending the theatre (sensory and neurodiverse friendly).
- who are facing hardship.
- who are without access or opportunity to attend live theatre.

*Featuring moving and flashing lights, and upbeat, sometimes dramatic music.

ALL TICKETS ARE COMPLIMENTARY, including parent, sibling and carer tickets. Thanks to sponsorship from local businesses.

*Bookings from schools, organisations, carers and families are all welcome.



Scan the QR Code to visit the shows website and watch highlights from previous shows...



BENDIGO STADIUM (RED ENERGY ARENA)

91 Inglis Street, West Bendigo, VIC

SHOW DATE	SHOWTIME
SATURDAY, 8 TH AUGUST 2026	11.00 AM to 12.00 PM

To book your complimentary tickets, please email your name and the number of tickets required to...

meredithnewman@showintent.com.au

or call / text 0404-367-782



Heathcote Carers Brunch

Overview

Carers Victoria invites you to connect over coffee and cake.

Looking after someone else can be a full-time job, so why not take a little time out for yourself?

Enjoy some great food and connect with fellow carers.

About this event

Join us at Fodder Café for a relaxed gathering with other carers.

Enjoy complimentary coffee and cake, connect with local supports, share a conversation (or simply listen), and spend time with people who understand the caring journey.

This event is FREE for carers but you do need to register to attend.

events@carersvictoria.org.au

1800 514 845

www.carersvictoria.org.au/events

HEATHCOTE

Wednesday 29 July
10:00AM to 11:30PM

Fodder Cafe
74 High Street
Heathcote VIC 3523

*If you have any accessibility requirements, please advise us at time of registration.

Spaces are limited, register now! This event is designed for carers who live in Heathcote and surrounding areas.

Scan to register



<https://carersvictoria.org.au/events>

Mariah's Musicians

facebook.com/mariahsmusicians

MUSIC LESSONS AVAILABLE WITH MARIAH MCCARTHY

Guitar, piano, ukulele and voice lessons
Private & shared available

Enquire now -
mariahsmccarthy@gmail.com

Community Happenings



Heathcote Primary School
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LIGHTS ON! EXERCISE UNDER LIGHTS AT BARRACK RESERVE.

Get active after dark with the 'Lights On' outdoor fitness sessions at Barrack Reserve.

Join us for a six-week outdoor fitness program for all fitness levels. Sessions will include a mix of cardio, strength and mobility exercises.

When:

From August 3 - September 6.

Where:

Barrack Reserve Netball Court, Heathcote

Time

5.30pm - 6.15pm

Cost:

The City has partnered with Heathcote Health to offer this program for **free**.

Please note that there will be no toilets available on site

Limited spaces are available, so don't wait to book! Scan the QR code to secure your spot



How to access support

For support in your area:

- Call: 1800 433 977
- Email: icfhlocals@bchs.com.au
- loddonchwl.com.au

Contact us to find out how we can help.

Referrals

We are currently accepting referrals from target and partner health services. See our website for details.

Fees and cost

This is a fully-funded service, there is no cost.

Interpreters and translators

Let us know what type of interpreter you need when you make your appointment.

Connecting you with others

Our support network is wide-reaching. If our services aren't the right ones for your child, we can connect you to those that will better meet their needs.

If you need help in a crisis

We are not a crisis service. In an emergency where there is immediate risk of harm to anyone, call Triple Zero (000).

For 24-hour crisis support, call Lifeline on 13 11 14.

Our partners

The Loddon Children's Health and Wellbeing Local is run by Bendigo Community Health Services.

We bring together and coordinate services with the following partners:

- Bendigo Health
- Bendigo & District Aboriginal Co-operative
- Dhelkaya Health
- Echuca Regional Health
- Maryborough District Health Service
- Njernda Aboriginal Corporation
- North Central LLEN
- Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health

Options for access

Select services are available in a range of community settings in association with our partners.

We know getting to appointments isn't always easy. Where practical, we offer telephone, online and in-person options.



The Children's Health and Wellbeing Local is jointly funded by the Victorian Government and the Australian Government through the Head to Health Kids Initiative.



Supporting the healthy development and emotional wellbeing of children aged 0-11

Get to know the Loddon Children's Health and Wellbeing Local

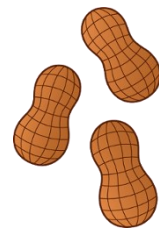
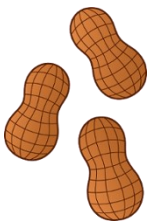


School Bank Details

Account Name: Heathcote Primary School Official Account

BSB: 083 001

ACCOUNT: 71 938 5618



School and Department policies
are available on the
[school website.](#)

The Scholastic logo, featuring a red book icon and the word 'SCHOLASTIC' in white on a red background.

Book Club LOOP

for Parents

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.
To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:
www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP

A black button with the text 'GET IT ON Google play' and the Google Play logo.

A black button with the text 'Download on the App Store' and the Apple logo.