



# Heathcote Primary School

## News

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*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.*

### IMPORTANT DATES

<b>Monday 28th August</b>	<b>Professional Practice Day—no students on site</b>
<b>Friday 1st September</b>	<b>“Busking for change” Casual clothes day</b>
<b>Thursday 7th September</b>	<b>Year 6 Passions and Pathways excursion</b>
<b>Friday 15th September</b>	<b>Footy Colours/Casual clothes</b> <b>Last day of Term—early dismissal 2.00pm</b>
<b>Monday 2nd October</b>	<b>First day of Term 4</b>

**We've returned over \$1.5 million to the  
Heathcote & District community!**

[www.heathcotenagambie.community](http://www.heathcotenagambie.community)

Community Bank  
Heathcote & District

 **Bendigo Bank**

Dear Families,

A wonderful collection of book characters descended on our school last Friday! Well done to the great majority of our students who took time to come up with a costume for our Book Week parade and activity day. There were some very creative costumes! Thank you to families for supporting their child/ren in getting organised for the day. Students were split into multi age groups for the day and completed a range of activities related to the short listed books for 2023. A big thank you to staff for their support and participation on the day. Lots of fun for everyone!



### **School Review – first two days**

Last week we completed the first two days of our three day school review. The review panel consists of a DET appointed reviewer, two DET representatives from our region, a Principal, our School Council President and myself. The first two days has seen the panel in classrooms talking with students, watching lessons in action, exploring teacher planning and understandings via one on one interviews, talking with our Education Support Team, with Junior School Council, a cross age selection of students and our School Leaders. A comprehensive gathering of information! The feedback has been very positive about what our school has achieved in the past four years. Well done to staff for their hard work, we have discussed future directions and look forward to developing our new four year School Strategic Plan (SSP) on the last day of our review in another week.

### **Hats!**

With only three weeks left of term, a timely reminder that hats will be back from the start of Term 4. It's time to find your child's broad brimmed hat at home, please make sure hats have a name on them and send them back to school. We use broad brimmed hats at our school to ensure the best sun protection for our students, please make sure your child has their hat ready to go. As per our Sun Smart Policy, no hat means no play!



**Have a great week.**

**Kate**

# IN THE CLASSROOM

## **This week in the F/1 room...**

This week our focus word is 'tray'. The 'ay' in the word tray is a 'digraph'. Can you think of any words with the 'ay' digraph? We will be writing about a mystery item on a tray and will be reading and writing other words with the 'ay' digraph.

In Maths this week we will continue our learning about addition, we will be focussing on the mental strategies of 'Partners to 10', e.g. 6 and 4 are partners to 10. Can you think of anymore?

We will also be learning about Capacity. Capacity is the measurement of how much something can contain (e.g., how much liquid can an object hold inside it). Can you find any objects in your house that have a capacity bigger than xx or smaller than xx?

## **This week in the 1/2M room...**

This week in 1/2M we are beginning to look at procedural texts, this will involve following and creating procedures. In Maths this week we are continuing to look at addition and different strategies we can use doing addition. We are continuing to look at data and graphing and will begin collecting our own data! Just a reminder to please listen to your child read each night, along with a friendly reminder for them to bring their reading journal in daily to get checked. We have some students who are dropping off with their reading ability due to not practicing daily at home. We do want them to get to benchmark by the end of the year. Your child needs your support to do this, please keep listening to them and asking questions about the book.

## **This week in the 1/2MG room...**

This week in 1/2MG we will beginning our new focus of inferring. We will practice thinking about what the author means, but doesn't write. In our literacy block we will be focusing on the digraph 'ay' as part of our SMART Spelling, we will then be learning about how to write a procedure. In Maths we will be learning about addition and statistics.

## **This week in the 4/5 room...**

In Week 8, we will be exploring Narratives in both Reading and Writing. The students produced some incredible descriptive pieces in Week 7. Including descriptive detail in narrative writing will be a focus this week. In Maths, we will conclude our study of BODMAS and continue with Volume & Capacity and Problem Solving. We will be practising our "Busking for Change" song, "Words Make the World Go Around", and keenly look forward to another week of Kitchen and Garden.

## **This week in the 5/6 room...**

In Mathematics we will be learning how to apply formal written methods to solve vertical multiplication equations. We will be learning how to collect data and present the findings in a Pie Graph.

In Reading and Writing we will be learning how to use our inferencing skills and how to write a well-crafted Narrative.

Year 6 students will continue working on the presentation of their Passions & Pathways project in preparation for Expo day in Week 9.

## Junior School Council

The Junior School council were alerted to an excellent fundraising opportunity for the Indigenous Literacy Foundation (ILF) by Ms Somerville this week and have decided to help run it in our school. It is called Busking for Change and is a new annual fundraising activity developed by ILF Ambassador Josh Pyke to engage primary students in a joyful multi-literacy activity incorporating song, music, movement and language. Simply put, schools learn a song and raise funds for the ILF. The ILF works in over 400 remote Communities to provide them with new, culturally relevant books, develop familiarity and engagement with books for children under five, and support Communities to write, illustrate and publish books in languages they speak at home.

Here's how it works:

- Students commit to learning to play, sing, or dance to a song
- Students gather support/donations from their friends and family
- Once students master the song, they 'busk' or perform their rendition collectively or individually to their friends, family, school, or post a video online.

Our students will be performing their rendition at our school assembly on September 1st. Students will be able to wear casual clothes on that day too. HPS's Busking For Change fundraising page can be found at

<https://buskingforchange.ilf.org.au/o/heathcote-primary-school>

All donations will be very gratefully received.

## Junior School Council

Junior School Council are having a Footy colours day / casual clothes day on the 15<sup>th</sup> September. The last day of Term 3. A gold coin donation would be greatly appreciated. All contributions will go towards our "Buddy Chair."

Our "Buddy Chair " is a chair where children can sit during the break when they need a buddy to play with and other students will invite them to play.

Kind regards,

Junior School Council

# READING AWARDS

## 25 Nights

Harry Dellar

## 100 Nights

Ava Thompson  
Jayden Dillon

## 175 Nights

Jax Buccella

## 50 Nights

Reynald Villamor

## 125 Nights

Fox Provost  
Jackson Callander  
Freddie McFadzean  
Nate Moore

## 200 Nights

Jessica Wheeler  
Griffin Scardetta  
Finley Jennings  
Teddy Thomson

## 75 Nights

Xavier Macumber  
Blair Hagan

## 150 Nights

Savannah Thompson  
Riley Hawkins



# CIVICS AND CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

## TEAM-WORK

Cooper Pavey  
Lola Anderson

## RESPECT

Ava Thompson  
Elena Yeomans

## RESPONSIBILITY

Ana Shreeve

## LEARNING

Evelyn Organ  
Matteo Horgan  
Zavier Rowe  
Jessica Toifl  
Shalena Rowe  
Bryce Kilner  
William Powers

## BRONZE LEVEL

Liam Houldsworth  
Hunter Gwin  
Aldane Nickels

# Be an Attendance HERO



Total number of students who had 100% attendance this week	104 Students
Total number of students who were unexplained absences this week	<b>19 Students</b>
Number of times students arrived late to school this week	<b>26 Students</b>
Number of times students left early this week	12 Students
School absence rate target for 2023	10 days per student

## Child Safe Standards

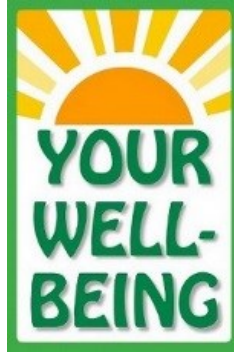
All Victorian schools follow DET guidelines and policy around the provision of a Child Safe environment. All of the Child Safe policies were updated across Victoria from the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022. Heathcote PS and their school community are committed to providing a child safe and friendly environment, where students are safe and feel safe.

Our child safety and wellbeing policies located on our website, based on DET policies, outline the measures and strategies in place to support, promote and maintain the safety and wellbeing of our students in the following areas: Bullying Prevention, Child Safety and Wellbeing, Child Safety Code of Conduct, Child Safety Responding and Reporting Obligations Policy and Procedure, Complaints, Digital Learning, Student Wellbeing and Engagement, Volunteers and Visitors Policy

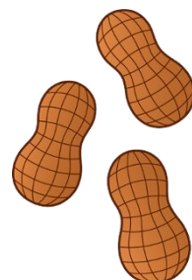
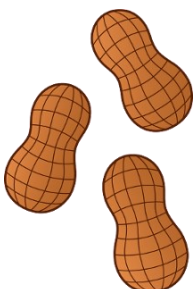
As part of our school community, parents/carers have a role in promoting and maintaining child safety and wellbeing at Heathcote PS, we welcome and encourage your feedback. If you have any comments or questions in relation to our child safe policies and practices, please contact the Office.

## Groceries available!

The school receives donated non-perishable grocery items for our school community. Food is a significant cost to any household budget and we hope that these groceries can ease some financial pressure. If you feel your family could use some of these items, please take a bag of groceries from the office, they are in a tub near the front door.



**Jackson Andrews**



# Book Week Parade



# Book Week Parade



# Book Week Parade



# Year 5-6 Sunflower Descriptions

In the astonishing breeze of the wind, the gleaming sun laid a glow behind the remarkable mustard, ashen, creamy petals. The extensive foliage sage stem steering curly towards the clouds up above. Buzzing up and low, bees congregate around the centre of this countless flower.

Gemma

In the golden fields along the extraordinary skyline, the buzzing of bees can be heard from miles away. The great warm breeze races through my silky caramel hair, the feeling of spongy petals scraping the dense layer of clothes on my arm. The smell of pollen makes my eyes flicker and tear. Several leaves wander into my mouth as my legs carry me through the tall stems of green and gold pillars!

Jai

The fading remnants of moonlight welcome the rising beauty of the day. Sunlight seeps over the land, these exquisitely striking fragmented pieces of sunlight bloom once again. The rising splendours with a sharp elegance and classiness, optimistic for another day, open their petals. Bees investigate and a boundless countryside meadow of lime jade and gold, fathomless opportunities for more nectar. Lacy amber petals adorn stems that create an elegant forest of diverse colours and silhouettes. A tantalizing sweetness of honey drifts through the air, while pollen confronts the sensitive noses of foreign intruders.

Jessica

I step outside and open my eyes to a beautiful field of golden eyes with deep blackened corneas, the halcyon oculus watching me take a petal from one of them. It has a waxy quality, before long it crumbles and tears in my hand, leaving a tantalising sweet aroma that brings to mind honey. Soon the twilight darkens the sky to dusk, a chill in the air. Their dazzling gazes closed for the night. As I fall asleep in my warm bed, I think of the glimpse I got of mother nature.

Conroy

A bright shining golden flower dances in the sweet, lemony breeze. The jade-coloured leaves crumbled under my feet. The warmth of the shiny golden flower was equivalent to the warmth of the raging sun surrounded by a light lapis blue sky with soft fluffy off-white clouds.

Mandy

As I stepped forward, the beaming sunbeam shot into my eyes. It was shining so bright I could not see, I was blinded. It went cloudy, the clouds looked so soft, like marshmallows. As I walked forward I could taste the warmth on my tongue. Then there was a gradient with the clouds and the sun. I smelled pollen in the air and saw blooms dancing in the distance. A gust of wind swung by a calm lanky valley of soft petals, a rough stem with fuzzy leaves. There was this one... it had fully bloomed right in front of me.

Charli

A vibrant flower stood out against the rest, as they were common and gold, the amber flower had the most tropical vibe ever as it danced and swayed in the ongoing breeze. The emerald green leaves beneath makes one's mouth water. As one sees the most luscious jade, green fern underneath those leaves, it makes you think of a delicious of fruit salad. Let alone the fluffiest arctic white clouds you've ever seen, standing out against the baby blue sky that attracted the left-over dew drops trickling down the slim oval shaped leaves of the blooming beauty.

Siobhan

The field of blossoming flowers swaying and dancing in the wind, leaves waving in the breeze. The glowing ball of flaming gas which we call a star, sinking below the horizon, casting a golden glow to contrast the sapphire sky. White tufts of cotton clouds drift away on the cobalt ocean up above as the light of day fades away. The emerald stems of these stunning specimens glow, along with the face circled by a ring of petals opening up to you. The sound of the breeze running through hundreds upon thousands of leaves. Running through the field, flowers brushing upon you, the warm light of the end of the day hugging you as the wind whips through and around you.

Harry

As the night draws to an end, the warm sun rises to begin the day. Rays of sunshine blast through the clouds and onto the field. I can feel the warmth of the golden amber sky. The greenery growing in the field is hit with the warm sun. The aforementioned field is full of beautiful plants, with a golden almost butter-like hue. Its petals are a golden shade. The plants stand tall in silence, not even a breeze can be heard, just beautiful silence. The plants stand tall, with their leaves sticking out below their heads. The flowers dance in the fresh air as a slight breeze begins to blow throughout the golden field of majestic flowers.

Liam

# Office Art Display



## Annual Heathcote Community Smiles Day

The 2023 Annual Heathcote Community Smiles Day is scheduled to be held on Saturday 25th November 2023 from 11:00am to 2:00pm. After some feedback from last year's event we have changed the venue to the Barrack Reserve grassed area (in front of the oval, where the monthly Lions Bush Market is held), High Street, Heathcote – this will provide more opportunity for shade and public toilet facilities.

This date is important for a few reasons; it is the first day of '16 Days of Activism', the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and one month before Christmas Day. We will once again be giving away 18 bikes and safety equipment; donated by Dr Adel Asaid (Heathcote Primary Health/ St Anthony Family Medical Practice) and Heathcote Health to children from Heathcote & surrounding areas – plus other gifts organised by Heathcote Community House.

We will be celebrating in a colourful fashion, using the 'Five Ways to Wellbeing' as our theme.



# PARENT'S GUIDE TO A GROWTH MINDSET

*Your brain is like a muscle. When you learn, your brain grows.  
The feeling of it being hard is the feeling of your brain growing!*



## PRAISE



### FOR

- EFFORT
- STRATEGIES
- PROGRESS
- HARD WORK
- PERSISTENCE
- RISING TO A CHALLENGE
- LEARNING FROM A MISTAKE

### NOT FOR

- TALENT
- BEING SMART
- BORN GIFTED
- FIXED ABILITIES
- NOT MAKING MISTAKES

## THE POWER OF "YET" SAY

- "YOU CAN'T DO IT YET."
- "YOU DON'T KNOW IT YET."
- "IF YOU LEARN AND PRACTICE, YOU WILL!"

# BRAINS can GROW



VS

**FAILURES AND MISTAKES = LEARNING**

SAY

- "MISTAKES HELP YOU IMPROVE."
- "YOU CAN LEARN FROM YOUR MISTAKES."
- "LET'S SEE WHAT OTHER STRATEGIES YOU CAN TRY."

## RECOGNIZE YOUR OWN MINDSET

BE MINDFUL OF YOUR OWN THINKING AND THE MESSAGES YOU SEND WITH YOUR WORDS AND ACTIONS.



## ASK

- "WHAT DID YOU DO TODAY THAT MADE YOU THINK HARD?"
- "WHAT NEW STRATEGIES DID YOU TRY?"
- "WHAT MISTAKE DID YOU MAKE THAT TAUGHT YOU SOMETHING?"
- "WHAT DID YOU TRY THAT WAS HARD TODAY?"

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### Saver Plus

#### Program includes:

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SCAN ME

#### Eligibility Criteria

- Must be a health/concession card holder;
- Be in receipt of a Centrelink Payment
- Be studying or have a child in school
- Have some regular income from work
- Be 18+ years old



### State Schools' Relief

Provides school uniforms and shoes to those that are unable to afford them.



SCAN ME

#### Eligibility Criteria

- Situations include but not limited to:
- Unemployment
  - Health issues/illness
  - Financial difficulties
  - Independent living and/or homelessness
  - Natural disasters
  - Bereavement
  - Domestic and family violence



### Camps, Sports and Education Fund

#### Funding to attend activities like:

- school camps or trips
- swimming and school-organised sports programs
- outdoor education programs
- excursions and incursions

\$125 per year for eligible primary school students  
\$225 per year for eligible secondary school students.



SCAN ME

#### Eligibility Criteria

- Parent must be a health/concession card holder;
- Or families on protection/bridging visas, or seeking asylum;
- Or children in out of home care



### Computerbank

Low cost refurbished computers that include various programs including word processing, Google Chrome and PDF Maker



SCAN ME

#### Eligibility Criteria

- Concession/Health Care Card holders
- Students
- Asylum seekers

## Schools in Category 3 on the Bushfire At-Risk Register and the Category 4 list.

### School preparations for the bushfire season

Each year, to prepare for bushfires and grassfires, schools and early childhood services complete a range of activities.

The Department of Education runs an annual fire risk assessment of schools and early childhood services. They are allocated a category of risk (categories 0 to 4) and are published on the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR).



All schools and early childhood services listed on the BARR and Category 4 list will also close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district.

When the Bureau of Meteorology provides public fire danger rating forecasts or fire weather warnings, they use fire weather district areas. In Victoria, there are 9 fire weather districts, which are based on Local Government Area boundaries. Our school is in the **Northern Country fire weather district**.

As part of preparing our school for the fire season, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan and complete a bushfire clean up in Term 4 each year to prepare for the threat of fire.

### *What does this mean for our school?*

**Our school has been identified as being at risk of bushfire or grassfire and is a Category 3 school.**

Our school will **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating in the Northern fire district**.

### *What is the department's policy?*

The department's [Bushfire and Grassfire Preparedness Policy](#) requires all schools and early childhood services on the BARR and the Category 4 list to close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district. All school bus routes which travel in or through a district with Catastrophic fire danger must also be cancelled.

### *When will our school be closed due to Catastrophic fire danger?*

Our school will **close** on a day forecasted as **Catastrophic fire danger rating in the Northern fire district**.

Closure of the school due to a forecast Catastrophic day will be confirmed on the day prior and we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day. Any information regarding potential or confirmed Catastrophic fire danger days will be communicated to you by email.

**Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, even if the weather forecast changes.**

This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. It is also important to be aware that:

- No one will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic day.
- All bus routes that travel through the Catastrophic area will be cancelled.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast for fire weather district in which the camp is located, or if the travel involves passing through areas that have Catastrophic fire danger.

Families are encouraged to action their Bushfire Survival Plan on Catastrophic fire danger rating days. **On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Catastrophic days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day.

***What can families and the school community do to help us prepare?***

- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers.
- Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters and emails, by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed due to elevated fire danger or closed due to a Catastrophic fire danger. Further information can be found on the [CFA's website](#).
- Action your family's bushfire survival plan if your own triggers are met. Our school community may be spread out across many areas and some families may be at higher risk than others. Your family's safety is critical, so please let us know if you are actioning your bushfire survival plan and if your children will be absent on these days.
- If your child is old enough, talk to [them about bushfires](#) and your family's bushfire survival plan.

You can find more information on emergencies, warnings and preparedness actions here:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
- Website <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>
- Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)
- Twitter (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters

# DRINK BOTTLE



**Remember  
WATER**

**only in your drink  
bottle at school.**

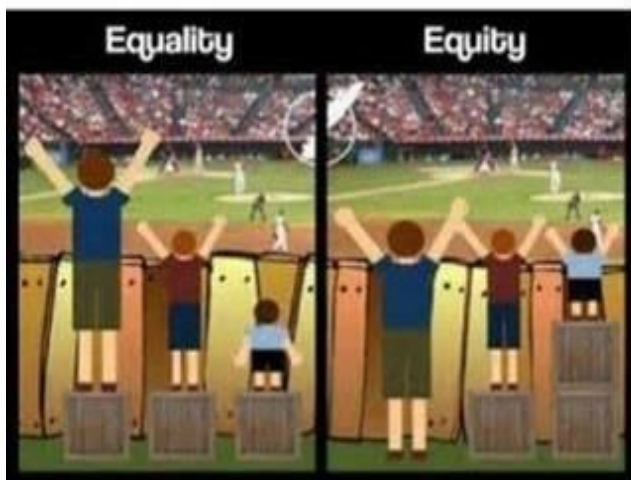


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## PROTECT

Everyone has the right to be safe and be protected from abuse.

No one should behave in a way that makes you feel unsafe or afraid, including anyone in your family, anyone at school or anywhere else in the community.

Tell a teacher or any adult at your school if you feel unsafe.



**Please check your child's hair.**



REMEMBER  
ONCE A WEEK,  
TAKE A PEEK

### FOUR STEPS TO LICE-FREE LIFE:

