



Heathcote Primary School

News

Telephone: (03) 5433 3090

heathcote.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Issue No. 25

4th September 2023

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

Thursday 7th September	Year 6 Passions and Pathways excursion
Friday 15th September	Footy Colours/Casual clothes Last day of Term - early dismissal 2.00pm
Monday 2nd October	First day of Term 4

Dear Families,

Last week at assembly we were very excited to be provided with a \$1,200 cheque from the Heathcote Lions Club. This money will be put towards purchasing some new Softball equipment and a Volleyball net for our new Volleyball poles! Thanks to Greg and Lorraine for coming along to present us with the cheque, it was greatly appreciated. Each year the Heathcote Lions Club provide scholarships for two Year 6 students to support them in their transition to secondary school. We appreciate and thank them for their ongoing support of our school community.

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

www.heathcotenagambie.community

Community Bank
Heathcote & District



Passions and Pathways – Year 6

Our Year 6 students are off on their last P&P excursion for the year! They will be participating in the P&P Expo at the Bendigo Library on Thursday, a number of other schools will be attending and presenting their projects alongside our students. We hope they have a great time and enjoy learning about the variety of other projects students across schools worked on in 2023. Hopefully the weather will be lovely and they will be able to eat lunch in the park before returning to school.

School Review – last day this week!

All the information gathered over the previous two review days will now be used to help the panel write up our new four year School Strategic Plan. Staff have used current data, surveys and an understanding of our school community to come up with draft Key Improvement Strategies for the panel to include in their considerations. We look forward to the day being very productive!

Staffing update

Next year Miss Mountjoy will be taking 12 months leave to travel! We are very excited for her but will greatly miss having her around our school and as part of our teaching team. We are currently in the recruitment process to fill this 12 month position and will have someone in place ready to start next year. Mr Clayton has requested another 12 months leave to continue working at Eaglehawk North PS. We are happy to support his ongoing professional development in a bigger school. We miss having Mr Clayton with us, we catch up with him regularly and support this opportunity to continue developing his skills in a bigger school setting.

Hats!

With only two 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 'king'. The 'ng' in the word king is a digraph. Can you think of any words with the 'ng' digraph? As well as the digraph 'ng', we will be learning about the -ing suffix. This suffix is often found on the end of verbs. Verbs are action/doing words such as jumping, talking, thinking, running. Can you think of any more verbs?

In Maths this week we will be focusing on counting backwards. We are aiming to be able to fluently count backwards from 20. Some students will be working on counting backwards from numbers higher than 20.

We will be revisiting our learning on length, last time we learnt how to compare and order length. This time we will be learning how to measure length using informal units, e.g., foot steps, teddy counters, etc.

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

This week in 1/2M we are continuing to work on procedural texts, this includes both following and writing different procedural texts. Our spelling focus for the week are words with the 'oo' (as in 'moon' sound). Feel free to ask your child what their spelling words for the week are, hopefully they will be able to tell you!

In Maths this week we are continuing to explore the link between addition and subtraction in our junior unit rotations. We are beginning to look at measurement, more specifically perimeter and area. We are coming to the end of the term, please make sure you are still listening to your child read. It is really important that we are continuing to work on developing reading skills and enjoying books!

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

This week in 1/2MG we will continue our 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 'oo' as part of our SMART Spelling and then we will finish learning how to write a procedure.

In Maths we will be begin our new focus of subtraction where we will solve a range of problems before looking at perimeter and length.

This week in the 3/4 room...

In Week 9, we will be moving onto writing letters. The students will assess, plan and write their own informal letters based on a book we will be reading as a class.

In reading, we will be focusing on summarising what has happened in the story. The students will find important parts of the text and try to summarise into a few sentences.

In Maths, we will continue to learn about multiplication and division, and then move onto Volume & Capacity – learning how to read intervals. We are also looking forward to another week of Kitchen and Garden!

IN THE CLASSROOM

This week in the 4/5 room...

It's hard to believe it's Week 9 already! This week we will be looking at inferencing in Reading. Our Writing topic will be Letter Writing.

In Maths, we will be learning about Integers, as well as Volume & Capacity. In Inquiry we will be learning about voting and elections. We also look forward to our final 'Friendship' session with Megan for Term 3. We will be sharing the compliments we have written for each other over the course of the term.

This week in the 5/6 room...

In Mathematics we will be learning how to measure Volume & Capacity.

In Reading we will be learning to identify and analyse visual cues to make inferences about a character's thoughts, feelings and actions portrayed in an image.

In Writing we will be learning how to structure a letter.

The Year 6 students will be presenting their Passions & Pathways Project at the Expo at Bendigo Library.

STEM...

This term in STEM, students have been researching the possible challenges for humans to live on Mars. In the Foundation/1 class, students experimented with straws to test which 3D shape would make the strongest building. This is important because Mars experiences strong winds and dust storms.

Junior School Council

Junior School Council are having a Footy colours day / casual clothes day on the 15th 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 our breaks if they need a buddy to play with, other students will see them and invite them to play.

Kind regards,

Junior School Council

READING AWARDS

50 Nights

Lilah Moore
Noah Barrett

125 Nights

Lola Anderson
Willow Anderson

175 Nights

Malachi Macleod



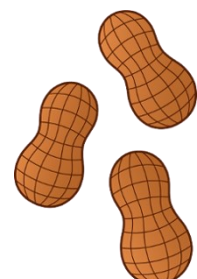
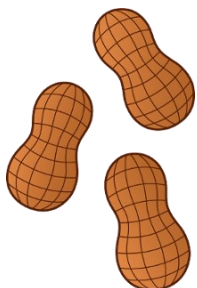
200 Nights

Lucy Merrall



CIVICS AND CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

<u>TEAM-WORK</u>	<u>RESPECT</u>	<u>RESPONSIBILITY</u>	<u>LEARNING</u>
Jessica Wheeler Aldane Nickels	Tauri Barrett April Muscovich Jackson Andrews	Liam Grigg Corey Fortunato Teddy Thomson	Caitlyn Liverton-Kirk Kenzie Merritt Lucy Merrall Malachi Macleod Pippa Anderson
<u>BRONZE LEVEL</u>			
			Willow Anderson Alexandra Connolly



Be an Attendance HERO



Total number of students who had 100% attendance this week	89 Students
Total number of students who were unexplained absences this week	19 Students
Number of times students arrived late to school this week	21 Students
Number of times students left early this week	8 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 1st 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.

Wanted Tall boy/ clothes dresser



**A Tallboy / clothes dresser is needed for one of our school families who recently had a house fire. If you have one that is in good condition and are happy to donate it to a family in need, please get in contact with:
Nicole – 0409 274 753**

Annual Heathcote Community Smiles Day

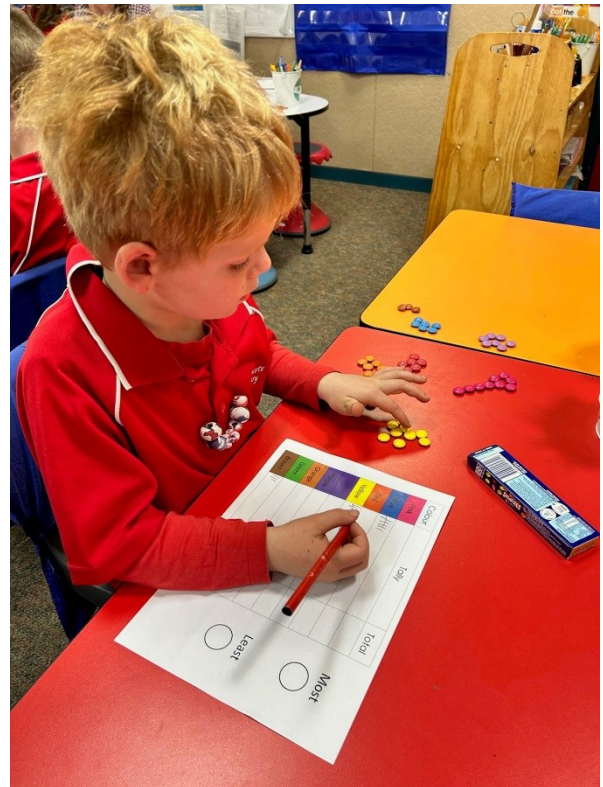
The 2023 Annual Heathcote Community Smiles Day is scheduled to be held on Saturday 25th November 2023 from 11:00am to 2:00pm. After some feedback from last year's event we have changed the venue to the Barrack Reserve grassed area (in front of the oval, where the monthly Lions Bush Market is held), High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



Data collecting and graphing



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



FAILURES AND MISTAKES = LEARNING

VS

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?"

PRINTABLES BY BIG LIFE JOURNAL - BIGLIFEJOURNAL.COM



Saver Plus

Program includes:

- Matched dollar for dollar savings up to \$500
- Money Minded workshops - Financial Education
- Coaching on budgeting and savings



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.**

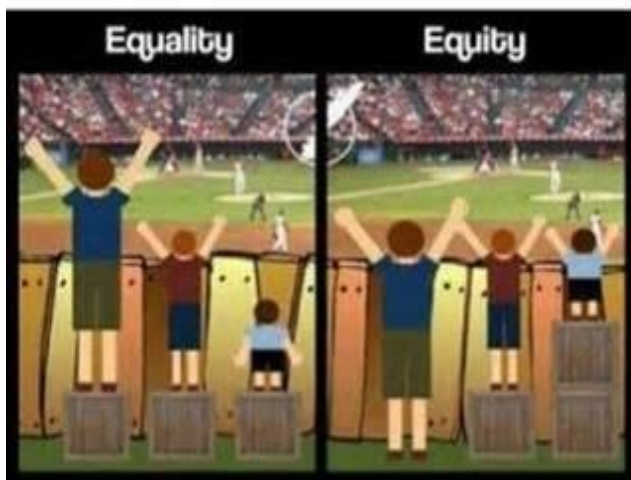


SCHOLASTIC
Book Club LOOP
for Parents

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

GET IT ON
Google play

Download on the
App Store



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:

