



Heathcote Primary School

News

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Issue No. 27

9th October 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

TERM 4 IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 13th October	Assembly - Guest speaker
Friday 20th October	Book sale - gold coin donation Assembly Year 3-4 presenting
Wednesday 25th October	School Council meeting 5.30pm
Friday October 27th	Whole School Hockey Assembly Mariah's music students presenting
November date tbc	Year 4-5 Bike workshop and ride
Friday 3rd November	Kinder transition morning 9am-10.45am Assembly Year 1-2MG presenting
Monday 6th November	Pupil Free Day - no students on site
Tuesday 7th November	Melbourne Cup holiday - no students on site
Friday 10th November	Assembly - Guest speaker
Friday 17th November	Kinder transition morning 9am - 10.45am Assembly Year 1-2M presenting
Monday 20th November	Alpha Production
Wednesday 22nd November	School Council meeting 5.30pm
Friday 24th November	RACV Safety Day - no assembly
Friday 1st December	Kinder transition morning 9am - 10.45am Assembly - Special guest
Friday 8th December	Crazy hair day - gold coin donation Assembly - F-1 presenting
Tuesday 12th December	Statewide transition day
Thursday 14th December	Year 6 Graduation afternoon tea and ceremony
Friday 15th December	African Drumming workshop and Assembly performances
Wednesday 20th December	Last day of Term 4, early dismissal 1.30pm

Dear Families,

Welcome back to Heathcote Primary School for Term 4. As is always the case in schools, the term ahead looks to be very busy. It is especially significant for our Year 6 students as they further prepare themselves for the very significant transition to secondary School.

Hats On

Hats! Thank you to all students who came to school with their hats this week prepared for our Term 4 Sun Smart Policy. Thank you also to parents for your support of this policy. Please make sure your child's hat is named. We use broad brimmed hats to ensure the best sun protection for our students, please make sure your child has their hat at school every day. As per our Sun Smart Policy, no hat means no play.

New Furniture

This week we have been very excited to receive our new student chairs. These chairs will be located in the Year 3-4, Year 4-5 and Year 5-6 classrooms. They have replaced the heavy older style chairs that were donated to the school several years ago by La Trove University.



Absences

Thank you to the parents/carers who ring, email or log onto SENTRAL to tell us why their child is not at school. All absences are reported to DET by the school each week, being able to explain why students are away is an important part of our attendance management. Thank you for your ongoing support with this process.

Punctuality

While we understand that the first week of a new term and the beginning of daylight saving create some challenges at the start of the day, please support your child's learning by ensuring they arrive at school on time each day. Arriving late can be very unsettling for your child and makes it difficult for them to enjoy a calm and effective start to their school day.

Behaviour Management

Please find attached our School Behaviour Management Plan.

Kindness Award

From next week we will be presenting our new Kindness Award at assembly. Teachers in the junior and in the senior area will select one student who has been genuinely kind during the week, demonstrating some standout acts of kindness. We look forward to celebrating students who demonstrate these attributes.

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

www.heathcotenagambie.community

Community Bank
Heathcote & District

 Bendigo Bank

IN THE CLASSROOM

This week in the F/1 room...

The students returned smoothly to that start of Term 4.

Our focus word in English this week is 'teacher'. The word teacher has three digraphs, 'ea', 'ch' and 'er'. 'er' is our new focus digraph for this week. Our reading and writing will be focussed around the word 'teacher'. We will also be focussing on story elements this term; our first focus will be characters. Can you identify the characters in any books you read or shows you watch at home?

In Maths our first focus this week is division/sharing. Students will revise how to share equally and will take part in multiple hands-on activities that practise this skill. They will also learn about numbers that can not be shared equally. Then we will be learning about number words. Students will practise reading and identifying numbers written in their word format. They will engage in many activities that allow them to practise connecting number names, numerals and quantities.

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

This week in 1/2MG we will be revisiting monitoring and self-correcting in Reading. We will practise listening to ourselves as we read and recognising when we have made a mistake. In our literacy block we will be focusing on the graph 'a' as in swan, as part of our SMART Spelling.

In Writing we will be learning about lists and the different ways we are able to write them.

In Maths we will have a focus of multiplication and money. We will be learning about the different ways we can solve multiplication problems including grouping and arrays and we will be counting collections of notes and coins to come up with a total.

This week in the 3/4 room...

This week 3/4 will be writing a description of our favourite place in Heathcote/Bendigo! Have a chat with your family and discuss what you enjoy most.

In Reading, we are focusing on predicting what will happen next in the story - reading 'The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane' by Kate DiCamillo. The students will use their knowledge they already know from the text and real-life scenarios to predict what will happen next. They're doing a great job with this!

In Maths, we are focusing on number and algebra, as well as 3-D Shapes.

We are beginning our new Inquiry topic of Natural Disasters - researching and creating a presentation during Kitchen.

This week in the 4/5 room...

Term 4 is off to a great start in the 4/5 room! In Week 2, we will be working on our writing pieces to enter into the Heathcote Show. The theme for this year is "Pets are an important part of the family". We will also begin working on our class collage for the Show. "Things that make our school cool!", is the theme on this occasion.

In Maths, we will be learning about 'Patterns & Algebra', as well as 'Angles & Lines'. We also look forward to our first Kitchen and Garden sessions for the term.

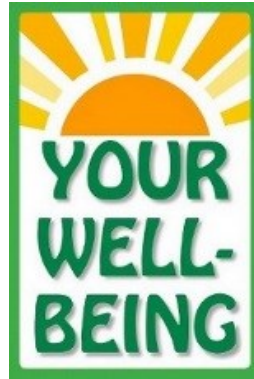
This week in the 5/6 room...

In English subjects this week, we are learning about the essential elements of a procedure. Students will finish writing their invented sport game and present their work to the class in PowerPoint format. Our Maths sessions will focus on students becoming more automatic with multiplication and division facts. We will also continue to work in small groups to classify polygon shapes based on their essential attributes.

In Art lessons, we are practising watercolour techniques and completing online tutorials of animals for inspiration. We also have lots of sporting opportunities to practise softball, with our newly donated equipment.

Groceries available!

There are groceries available for families in need. Please speak to Megan (wellbeing worker) or ask at the office. We have lots of pasta and bolognese sauce jars for an easy and filling meal! A local community group donate these items and hope to help families with the cost of living.



Thank You!

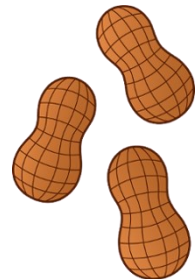
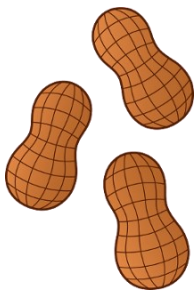
Thank you to all the families who have helped with our school maintenance. Thank you for helping with cleaning, whipper snipping, weeding, library and the School Kitchen Program. Your help is much appreciated



Junior School Council Book Sale

We are very pleased to announce that the Junior School Council will be hosting a second-hand book sale at school on **Friday October 20th**. Students will have an opportunity to purchase books through the day, one class at a time, and families are welcome to come and purchase books before assembly on that day, between 2pm and 2.25pm. Books will be very reasonably priced (**for example, 3 books for \$2**), and all money raised will be donated to The Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation (ALNF), a national charity assisting people in our most marginalised communities to gain vital language, literacy and communication skills.

We thank families who have donated books to our fundraiser, your support is very much appreciated. Please direct any enquiries about this fundraiser to Ms Sergi.



Nate McNally

Mason Connolly

Hunter Connolly

Siobhan Patten



READING AWARDS

25 Nights

Neleyah Guichard

125 Nights

Jayden Dillon

Liam Houldsworth

150 Nights

Jackson Callander

Pippa Anderson

75 Nights

Reynald Villamor

Aldane Nickels

Ana Shreeve

175 Nights

Savannah Thompson

Lachlan Swansborough

100 Nights

Nathan Colbert

Ace Casey

Ashley Brown

Hunter Gwin

Zara Hagan

200 Nights

Jax Buccella

Jackson Andrews

Imogen Jennings



CIVICS AND CITIZENSHIP AWARDS

<u>TEAM-WORK</u>	<u>RESPECT</u>	<u>RESPONSIBILITY</u>	<u>LEARNING</u>
Liam Grigg Will Jordan Bryce Kilner Alexandra Connolly	Jett Thompson Eli Cook	Layla Perl	Wesley Knight Freddie McFadzean Lachlan Swansborough Ana Shreeve Jayden Dillon
<u>BRONZE LEVEL</u>			
Siobhan Patten	Jett Thompson	Siobhan Patten Mandy Young Ava Thompson Tauri Barrett	Tauri Barrett

Behaviour Management



Orange and Red Card System



<i>1st orange</i>	<i>1x reflection</i>
<i>2nd orange card</i>	<i>2x Reflection seat time</i> <i>Same day</i>
<i>3rd orange card</i>	<i>2x Reflection seat time</i> <i>Same day</i>
<i>4th orange card</i>	<i>Red card</i>
<i>1st red card</i>	<i>1x DT & 1x Reflection</i>
<i>2nd red card</i>	<i>1x DT & 1x Loss of preferred subject</i>
<i>3rd red card</i>	<i>Before or after school detention</i>
<i>4th red card</i>	<i>Suspension</i>

Be an Attendance HERO



Total number of students who had 100% attendance this week	85 Students
Total number of students who were unexplained absences this week	48 Students
Number of times students arrived late to school this week	13 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.

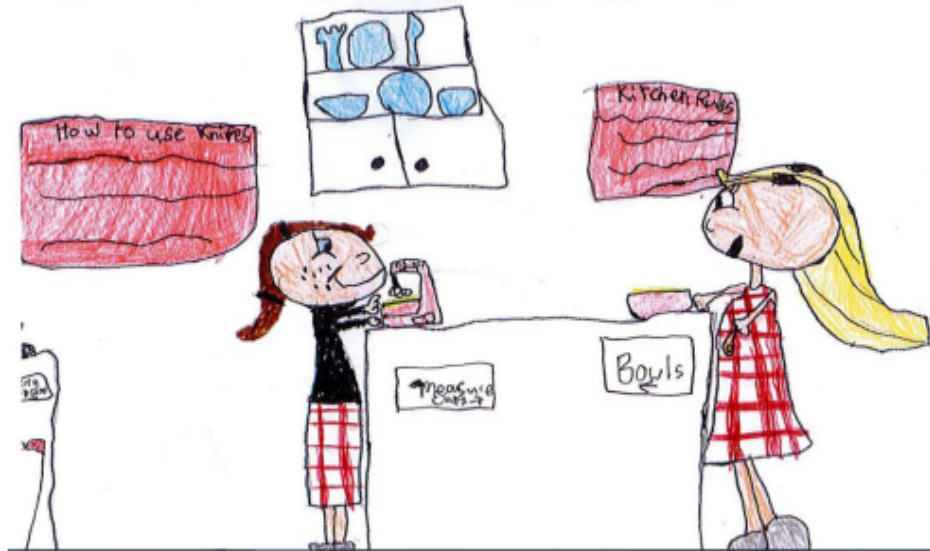
Our child safety and wellbeing policies located on our website, based on DET policies, outline the measures and strategies in place to support, promote and maintain the safety and wellbeing of our students in the following areas: Bullying Prevention, Child Safety and Wellbeing, Child Safety Code of Conduct, 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.

R U Ok day



Foundation transition dates



Heathcote Primary School – Foundation 2024

Dear 2024 Foundation Families,

Along with state wide processes, Foundation transition is scheduled to commence in Term Four. It is important for students to enjoy their Kindergarten year, however in Term 4 it is great to get an introduction to school to allow students to feel comfortable when starting in 2024. We are always excited to welcome prospective new students and their families into our school community.

Our transition dates this year provide an opportunity for your child to come along and have some fun in our Foundation classroom. Our 2023 Transition dates are –

Friday 3rd November

Friday 17th November

Friday 1st December

children will be in attendance on these dates between 9.00 and 10.30am.

On arrival for your first transition, please come to the Office and we will take you over to the Foundation room. After your first session, you are welcome to go straight over to the classroom. Children will need to bring a piece of fruit, a broad brimmed hat and a water bottle for their time at school. Children can be picked up from the classroom at the end of the session.

The state-wide transition morning is on the 12th December between 9.00 and 11.45am, this session provides students with an opportunity to have a play in the playground with other students. At the conclusion of this session, 11.45am, we will have an informal information session for families whilst their children play.

If you have any questions, please call the school on 5433 3090.

Newsletter article: Schools in Category 3 on the Bushfire At-Risk Register and the Category 4 list.

This article has been developed for you to publish in your newsletter or on your website. Please feel free to edit the content as required. You can also repurpose this content to assist in communications to your school community.

This information has been developed to answer frequently asked questions regarding the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) and Category 4 list and your school's closure on a Catastrophic fire danger day in your fire weather district.

There are some sections in the text below where you can contextualise this for your school's unique circumstances, the red text indicates where you will need to add your own information.

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 cleanup 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 **Northern Country 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 **Northern Country 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, 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

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

At this time of the year schools are required to revisit their emergency management practises and routines. These generally take the form of an evacuation of all staff and students to a designated spot eg. our school oval, or in the form of a school lockdown where students and staff will remain inside classrooms and doors locked. The safety and welfare of our students and staff are our highest priority at Heathcote Primary School. We practise safety drills throughout the year to help our students know what to do in an emergency. The goals of the training drill are to improve our ability to protect students, save lives, and reduce injuries. These practice drills allow us to evaluate our emergency operation plans and improve our response skills. Last week we practised our lockdown drill.

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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Program includes:

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- 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

DRINK BOTTLE



**Remember
WATER**

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

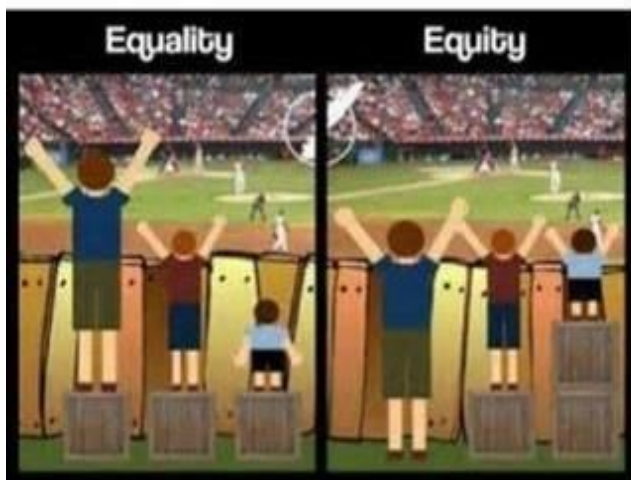


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for Parents

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GET IT ON
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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:

