



Heathcote Primary School Newsletter

Telephone: (03) 5433 3090

heathcote.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Issue No. 27

4th September 2026 (Term 3, Week 8)

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 9	Monday 7th September	Hats are back! All students are required to wear a broadbrimmed hat when outside as part of our sun protection policy.
	Thursday 10th September	Junior Unit excursion (notes sent home 14/8/26) RUOK? Day (Grades 3—6 students invited to wear yellow)
Week 10	Thursday 17th September	Library visits (3/4HP, 3/4N, 5/6F, 5/6MG) Pyjamas & Plushies Day (gold coin donation, details p2)
	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	Junior Unit Excursion permission notes
11th September	Junior Swimming Program (permission note and swimming level form)
16th September	Alpha productions payment (if not already paid through parent payment)

THURSDAY 17th SEPTEMBER
(second last day of Term 3)
JUNIOR SCHOOL COUNCIL
NEWS
PJs & SOFT TOY DAY

Junior School Council is organising a Pjs and Soft Toy Day. Wear your favourite pjs and bring along your most adored soft toy. We are raising money for St. Vincent De Paul, Heathcote. They provide all the yummy fruit students eat every day at school.

St Vincent de Paul also offers a variety of services aimed at helping individuals and families in need. The fundraiser will be Thursday 17th September, 2026. If you would like to take part in this fun day then please bring along a gold coin donation.

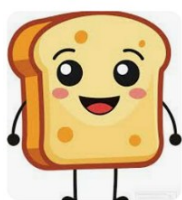
On behalf of Junior School Council,

Georgia, Evelyn N and Jessica



What's Happening in Term 4, 2026?

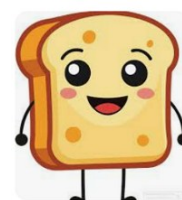
Term 4	Monday 5th October	Start of Term 4
Week 1	Thursday 8th October	Alpha Production (performance)
Week 3	Friday 23rd October	Division cricket (Gr 5/6 cricket team)
Week 4	Mon 26th—Fri 30th Oct.	Swimming lessons—Foundation, 1/2JS & 1/2M
	Wednesday 28th October	Parent Information Session @ 2pm (details on page 12) Focus: Neurodiversity, Autism and ADHD
Week 7	Tues. 17th—Thurs. 19th Nov	Energy Breakthrough Camp (pushcarts)
Week 8	Mon. 23rd—Wed. 25th Nov.	Grade 5/6 Camp (details to come)
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 arrive on time

	Student	Reason
F	Iris	For consistently arriving on time to class and being ready to learn! Well done, Iris!
1/2JS	Casper	Always being on time and ready to make the most of your learning.
1/2M	Fatat	For demonstrating growing responsibility by being at the line and ready to return to class after break times. Great job, Fatat!
3/4HP	Alex	For always arriving on time, calm and ready to learn. Well done, Alex!
3/4N	Matilda	For consistently arriving on time, settled and ready to learn. Your positive start to each lesson helps you make the most of every learning opportunity. Well done, Matilda!
5/6F	Kaylee	For consistently arriving to the classroom on time after breaks and patiently waiting for instructions. Well done, Kaylee!
5/6MG	Reynald	For consistently arriving to class on time after breaks and for entering the classroom ready to learn. Great effort, Reynald!

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	Salwa	For representing the Junior Unit as a Kindness Ambassador, spreading kindness & positivity through thoughtful words and actions each day! Well done, Salwa!
Middle Unit	Pippa	Thank you, Pippa, for being so kind, you always show care and respect towards others. Well Done, Pippa!
Senior Unit	Emily T	For consistently showing kindness, care and respect towards others. You help to create a positive learning environment. Well done, Emily!

Congratulations to our award winners!

These awards were presented at our assembly on Friday 4th September 2026

READING AWARDS

Foundation	1/2JS	1/2M	3/4HP	3/4N	5/6MG	5/6F
<u>150 Nights</u> Charlie M Iris Olivia Oscar	<u>150 Nights</u> Jack R	<u>150 Nights</u> Tayte		<u>100 Nights</u> Jayden <u>150 Nights</u>		<u>100 Nights</u>
<u>200 Nights</u> Jaxon Saskia	<u>200 Nights</u> Xavier Heidi	<u>200 Nights</u> Emma	<u>200 Nights</u> Jaimee		<u>200 Nights</u> Hailee	<u>200 Nights</u>

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

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



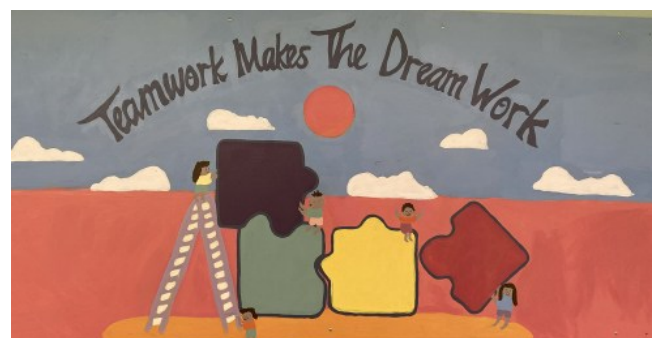
Jackson

Jett J



*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
award recipients!*



Father's Day & Special Person's Breakfast



A Message from our HPS Chickens



We're the school chickens and while everyone else will be off enjoying the upcoming holidays, we're staying right here at school. We're searching for people who can help keep us happy and healthy during the holiday break.

Our holiday wish list is pretty simple:

- Fill up our food
- Give us fresh water
- Check that everything is safe and secure
- Help us keep our coop clean
- Collect our eggs
- Spend a little time making sure we're happy and healthy



Could you be one of our holiday heroes?

If you can help, please register your interest

[HERE](#) by 11/9/26

Community Reminders



Heathcote Primary School
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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.

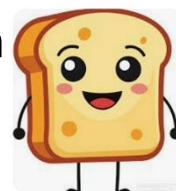
Breakfast Club

Tuesday & Thursday

8:40am—8:55am

HPS Kitchen

Toast, cereal, milk, fruit available





Heathcote Primary School Foundation 2027 Transition Program

Inviting all 2027 Foundation
students to join us for a series of
transition visits as part of preparing
for future school life.

Friday 16th October, 9:15am – 10:15am

Thursday 29th October, 9:15am – 10:15am

Friday 12th November, 9am – 10:30am

Wednesday 25th November, 9am – 11am

Tuesday 8th December, 9am – 12pm*

Please bring a fruit snack, drink bottle
(with water) and broad brimmed hat.

*Lunch required for the longer day



Heathcote Primary School
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Phone: (03) 5433 3090

Email: heathcote.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Community Happenings



Heathcote Primary School
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ALL GIRLS GROUPS AVAILABLE

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS SORTED

PLAY.AFL/HOLIDAYPROGRAMS

BENDIGO AFL SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

TUESDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER | 9AM-3PM
BACKHAUS OVAL, BENDIGO
BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 4-12
\$55 PER PERSON - FOOTY TO KEEP!



Free Parent Information Session

Wednesday 28th October 2026
2pm in the Kitchen

Neurodiversity, Autism and ADHD explained

Brought to you by the Loddon Child Health and Wellbeing Local
Parent Program Coordinator
Annette Clemment

The term neurodiversity is used now for several conditions like autism, ADHD, dyslexia, dysgraphia, tourette's and so on. The most commonly diagnosed, are autism and ADHD.

This session focuses on these two conditions and how you can help someone cope in a world that is not build for neurodiversity.

Come along to explore this topic and ask questions to help you support your child.

HEATHCOTE PANTHERS SUMMER SEASON
TERM 4 2026 & TERM 1 2027

NOW SEEKING EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR OUR JUNIOR BASKETBALL SUMMER SEASON

UNDER 12 BOYS BORN 2016-2017	UNDER 14 BOYS BORN 2014-2015	UNDER 16 BOYS 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!
INTERESTED?	ALAN BUTLER	0418 589 020
PLEASE CONTACT:	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



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TERM 3 SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMPS



SCAN ME

REGISTER NOW!



WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED THESE HOLIDAYS



JOIN US FOR TWO DAYS OF
JAM-PACKED ACTION - REGISTER NOW!

- Tuesday 29th Sept - Thursday 1st Oct
- 8:30am - 4pm
- Bendigo Sports Centre
- SPORT & ACTIVITIES
- QUALIFIED STAFF
- ACCREDITED PROGRAM



SCAN ME



*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



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FREE ONE HOUR SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES TERM THREE 2026

The Local is offering one-hour sessions on topics for building skills in relationships and wellbeing during the September school holidays. And they are Free and open to children 4-11.

The sessions are fun, educational and a safe space to explore the topics listed below. You will gain skills to apply at home to help build confidence with these topics.

Staff from the Child Health and Wellbeing local will run the sessions and answer questions throughout.

Groups are small: five children with one parent per child attending.

TOPICS and DATES

21st Sept, Mon Bendigo, **Magnificent Me**, at the Local 10.30am **4-6 year olds**; learn to celebrate your unique qualities and build your self-esteem.

30th Sept Wed Bendigo, **Managing Feelings**, at the Local 10.30am **4-6 year olds**; 1.30pm **7-11 year olds**. Learning about what happens in your body when you have big feelings, what you can do to help yourself cope.

2nd Oct Fri Bendigo, **Building Social Skills** 10.30am **4-6 year olds**, 1.30pm **7-11 year olds**. Learn about friendships, what is helpful and when boundaries might be needed.

Bookings are essential:

Please call Annette or admin on 1800 433 977 or email us which sessions you want to attend, your child's name and age, your name and contact details including telephone number and email address, icfhlocals@bchs.com.au.

We will be in touch prior to the session to confirm details including how to access the venue.



In partnership with Bendigo Health, Bendigo and District Aboriginal Cooperative, Njernda Aboriginal Corporation, Echuca Regional Health, North Central LLEN Maryborough District Health, Dhehkaya Health and Omnia Community Health

The Children's Health and Wellbeing Local is jointly funded by the Victorian Government and the Australian Government through the Medicare Mental Health Kids Hub initiative.

OFFICIAL

Community Happenings



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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



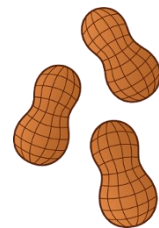
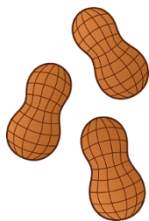
Updated February 2025

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.](#)

