



Heathcote Primary School

News

Telephone: (03) 5433 3090

heathcote.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Issue No. 29

23rd 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

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,

Second Hand Book Sale

Our second hand book sale was a great success. Students enjoyed picking up some bargains as the JSC raised money for the Australian Literacy and Numeracy Foundation. Total funds raised were \$150

Hockey

The senior unit enjoyed their first hockey session today. It was the first time majority of our students had experienced hockey so there were lots of new skills to be learnt. They have two more upcoming sessions, Friday Oct 27th and Friday November 3rd. A big thank you to Mrs Skipper for organising this experience for our senior students.

DASH Tennis

We have had 6 students express interest in the DASH tennis clinics that are being offered for free after school on Friday's from 3.15-4.15pm. The sessions will be running for 6 consecutive weeks commencing this coming Friday the 27th of October. We have space for 4 more Year 3-6 students to join in on these sessions. For students to participate parents are required to collect their child from school, deliver their child to the tennis courts and remain at the courts until the end of the session. We have spare permission forms in the office. If you would like your child to participate please return your completed form as soon as possible. Due to the limit of 10 students, students selected will be determined by who returns their forms first as well as the students recent ability to demonstrate our school values of Respect, Responsibility, Teamwork and Learning.

Warmer Weather

With the warmer weather upon us it is important that we stay hydrated. Please ensure your child is bringing a drink bottle full of water to school each day.



**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...

In Week 4 in the F/1 room we'll be exploring wheels and the vehicles that use them. We will be studying clocks faces and calendars in Maths. We will reinforce what learnt last week about grouping objects equally. We'll continue our study of dinosaurs (both big and small) and most importantly, keep topping up our kindness jar!

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

This week in 1/2M we are focusing on the 'ss' sound as in 'dress'. Students will be bringing home their spelling words, please remind your child to practise these each night. In writing we are beginning to look at information reports, so we will be using the iPad's to conduct our own 'investigations'. In maths we are continuing to look at multiplication (including equal groups and arrays), and we are also going back to time!

This week in the 4/5 room...

Week 4 will be another busy one in the 4/5 class. In Maths, we will be completing a series of Essential Assessments, and some problem solving activities. In Writing, we will complete, publish, and present our Information Reports. We will be looking at news articles in Reading as we continue to learn about the features of non-fiction texts. We also look forward to completing our collage for the Heathcote show.

This week in the 5/6 room...

In Mathematics we will be assessing our knowledge across Number & Algebra, Measurement & Geometry and Statistics & Probability.

In Reading we will be learning to identify and define the audience, purpose and key features of biographical writing. In Writing will be learning to identify and evaluate sources of information on a topic and organise information using brief notes in order to write a biography.

Breaky Club!

It was great to see big numbers at Tuesdays Breaky Club this week. A friendly reminder to all families that Breakfast Club is on **Tuesday** and **Friday** mornings from 8.30-8.55am. Children can have a range of yummy breakfast foods, including cereal, fruit salad and toast. It is a great way to start the day and meet some other students for a chat.

Groceries available:

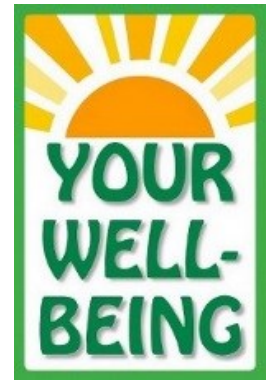
Groceries are available for our school families. There is plenty of pasta and sauces for a quick and easy meal! Please see the office or Megan – Wellbeing worker to collect. Also, could empty grocery bags please be returned to the office so that we can keep using them.

Dealing with distressing online content

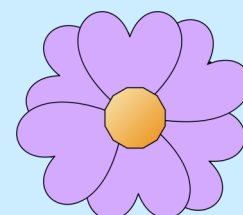
Children can be exposed to distressing content online, particularly through apps and websites such as YouTube and TikTok. With the tragic and distressing events unfolding in the Middle East, Australia's independent regulator for online safety, **eSafety**, has issued guidance to help parents and carers support their children in dealing with distressing content that may be released online to these types of platforms. The **eSafety** website has resources for parents and carers about online safety. These include information on extra precautions you can take to protect your children from seeing disturbing content online.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/>

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-topics/illegal-restricted-content/distressing-content>

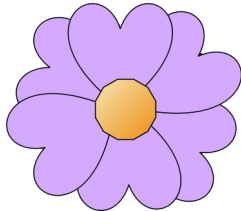


Our First Kindness
Ambassadors



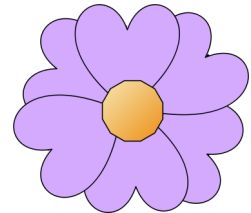
Kindness Ambassador Award

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



Tarkyn Langdon

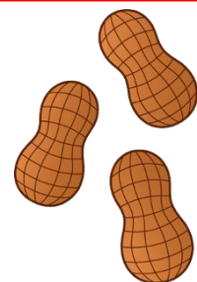
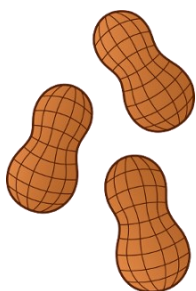
Jett Thompson



Lewis Primmer

Liam Burton

Jackson Callander



READING AWARDS

25 Nights

75 Nights

100 Nights

Angelo Gallagher

Reynald Villamor

125 Nights

Taj Barrett

175 Nights

150 Nights

Alex Callander

Cooper Pavey

200 Nights



CIVICS AND CITIZENSHIP AWARDS



TEAM-WORK

Luke Anderson

RESPECT

Matteo Horgan
Savannah Thompson
Nathan Colbert

RESPONSIBILITY

Ava Thompson

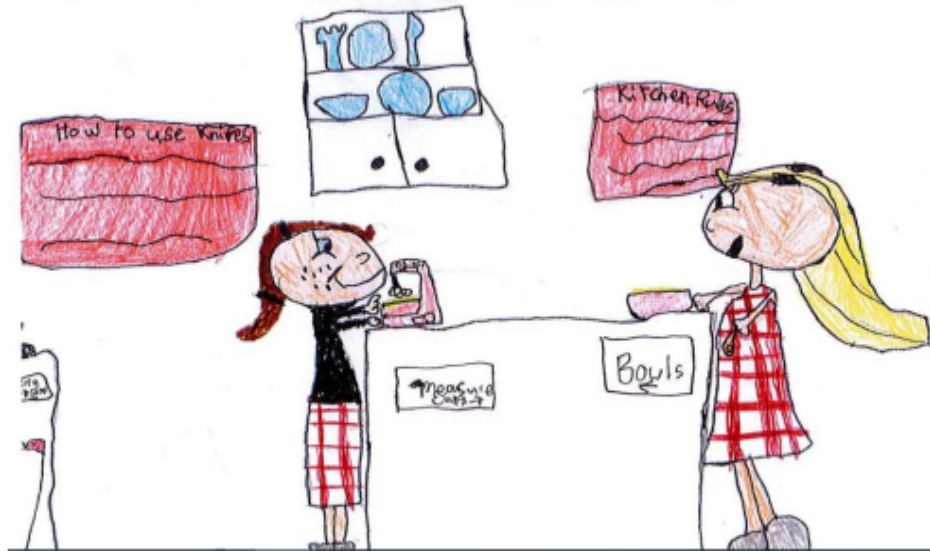
LEARNING

Timoci Tagiwasa
Charli Jennings
Mandy Young
Koen Davidson
Ellana Miller
Ace Casey
Lachlan Swansborough

BRONZE LEVEL

Kaylee Davey

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.

Still Time to Register for Workshops to Strengthen Local Leadership Capacity

Advance Heathcote Inc is running two Workshops to start a conversation with the Heathcote community about their experiences in local groups/clubs. We want to hear from people who have lived here a long time, recently moved to the area, currently active in community groups/clubs or thinking about joining a local group.

There is still time to register to attend Workshops and tell us about your ideas on how to keep our groups and clubs strong into the future.

WORKSHOP ONE

Thursday, 26th October

12.30pm - 2.30pm

Lunch provided

Barrack Stadium - Oval Room

WORKSHOP TWO

Thursday, 26th October

5.30pm - 7.30pm

Meal provided

Barrack Stadium - Oval Room

Workshop Invitation attached: choose a time that suits.

We look forward to your contribution!

Click onto the link below to **RSVP by MONDAY, 23rd October** to the Workshops on **Thursday, 26th October 2023** (indicate preference for attending during the day or early evening).

RSVP: info@advanceheathcote.com



FUNLOONG
FREE FUN DAY!

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT
Saturday October 28
11am to 2pm
Hargreaves Mall and
Williamson Street

Join us to celebrate Children's Week with a range of FREE fun activities and live entertainment for children and families to enjoy! Scan the QR code to follow this inclusive event on Facebook.

This event is proudly sponsored by:

2024

DATES

Malmsbury Camp: Monday 8th - Friday 12th January

City Camp - Monday 15th - Friday 19th January

MALMSBURY

Located in an idyllic bush setting in Central Victoria

- ✓ High Ropes Activities
- ✓ Canoeing & Swimming
- ✓ Archery & Orienteering
- ✓ Night Walk, Movie Night, Trivia

CITY

Located in the heart of the Melbourne CBD

- ✓ Big Bash & Aus Open
- ✓ Pool & Beach
- ✓ Melbourne Zoo & Museum
- ✓ Eureka Skydeck, Movie Night, Trivia



TRANSPORT

Malmsbury: Doxa facilitated bus transport provided from Melbourne & Bendigo

City: Doxa facilitated bus transport provided from Traralgon / Pakenham & Bendigo

COST

Our holiday camps are FREE.

Holiday camps are funded by our amazing donors and philanthropic ventures.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Email: info@doxa.org.au

Phone: (03) 9046 8200

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

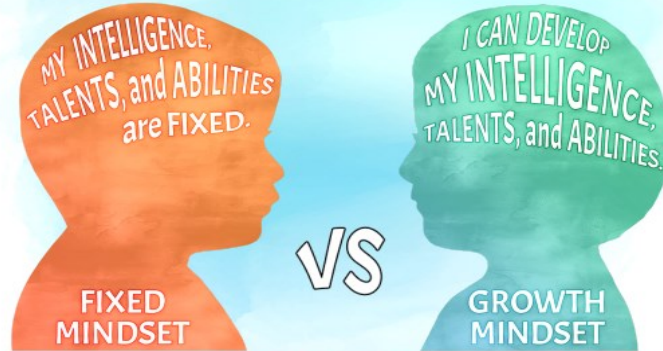
NOT FOR

- 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?"

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

DRINK BOTTLE



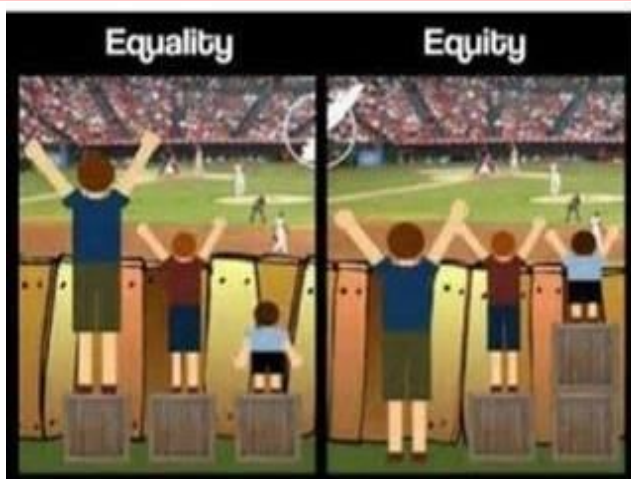
**Remember
WATER
only in your drink
bottle at school.**

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:

