



# Heathcote Primary School

## News

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Issue No. 30

30th 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

November date tbc	Year 4-5 Bike workshop and ride
Friday 3rd November	Kinder transition morning 9am-10.30am 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 - 10.30am 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 - 10.30am 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

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,

### World Teacher's Day

Last Friday the 27th of October was World Teachers Day. We are very lucky to have an amazing team of teaching staff at our school. They are passionate about teaching and care about the education and wellbeing of all of our students. Happy World Teacher's day to our teachers and all the teachers out there! We appreciate you all and want to say a big thank you to you for everything that you do!



### Collecting Students

A reminder that when you are coming up to the school grounds to collect your child at the end of the school day, they must be collected from the area in front of the classrooms. If you are collecting your child from school early, please visit the office to sign your child out. The staff in the office will organise for your child to come and meet you at the office. This is the procedure we follow as part of our child safe policy.

### Pupil Free Day & Melbourne Cup

Next week our students will have an extended weekend due to a Pupil Free Day on Monday November 6th followed by Melbourne Cup Day on Tuesday November 7th.

### Heathcote Show Entries

Good luck to any of our students who have entered pieces in the Heathcote Show competitions. Great work and a big thank you to all of the students and staff who helped to create our school art piece. It looks amazing!



# IN THE CLASSROOM

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

In Week 5, the F/1 students will taste life as a royal as they familiarise themselves with words beginning with 'qu'. They will continue grouping objects, skip counting collections and become familiar with how to refer to specific days. They will keep learning how clocks and calendars work. Their interest in dinosaurs, dragons and their appetites will also be explored! You'll also find a new soft toy in the classroom... a quokka of course!

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

This week in 1/2M we are continuing to work on time. We will be looking at o'clock and half-past times, and will be extending to look at quarter-to and quarter-past. In Writing we are continuing to look at information reports. Please don't forget to keep reading with your child each night, and encouraging them to complete their homework (spelling words).

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

This week in 1/2MG we will be working on summarising the important information from a text we have read for Reading. In our literacy block we will be focusing on the digraph 'th' as in feather, as part of our SMART Spelling and in Writing we will be learning how to write an information report. In Maths we will continue our focus of time, where we will practice reading o'clock, half past and quarter to/past times on both analogue and digital clocks.

## **This week in the 3/4 room...**

This week 3/4 will be publishing their information report on Cyclones! They have used their technology skills to find, analyse and use information. They have taken this information and began to sort it under subheadings. In reading, the children are focusing on clarifying the meaning of words. We will make sure to use clues around the page to help us find the meaning. In Maths, the children are applying their knowledge of the four operations through problem solving questions. We will also focus on chance. In Kitchen inquiry, the children are researching famous people and creating PowerPoint presentations to present to the class.

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

During Week 5, we will be learning about prime, square and triangular numbers in Maths. We will also be exploring Chance, Data and Graphing. In Writing, we will be working on Speech Writing in preparation for our leadership speeches. During Reading lessons, we will explore a variety of texts relating to speeches. After completing a fabulous collage for the Heathcote Show, we look forward to returning to our Natural Disasters unit in Inquiry. This week we will study volcanoes.

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

In Mathematics we will be learning about ways to represent a fraction. We will also be learning about Volume & Capacity.

In Reading will be practising our skills in summarising information reports and in Writing we will be revising our skills in Narrative writing.

Our Wellbeing session will focus on 'Kindness'.

## A Word on Wellbeing:

Parenting can be difficult across all ages and stages. Bendigo CatholicCare often have useful and practical workshops that support Parents and Caregivers. Most of their workshops are via Zoom, so you do not need to travel. Bookings are essential, below are some upcoming workshops available. Bookings can be made via: <https://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/page/192/parenting-programs-and-workshops-registration>



### Kids and Worry

**For parents and carers with kids under 12**

This workshop will explore the reasons why children worry, and ways parents and carers can support them. It will include practical tools to assist children to manage their worries.

**When:** Thursday, 2 November

**Time:** 12:00pm - 1:30pm

**Cost:** FREE

**Where:** Online Zoom

[Learn more](#)

[REGISTER NOW](#)



### Tech Strategies for Families

**For parents and carers with kids aged 0 - 8**

Parenting in a world driven by technology presents a set of challenges. This workshop will include practical tools to assist parents and carers set boundaries with their children.

**When:** Thursday, 16 November

**Time:** 9:30am - 11:00am

**Cost:** FREE

**Where:** Online Zoom

[Learn more](#)

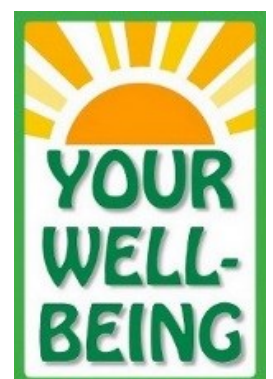
[REGISTER NOW](#)



### Free Parent Consultations

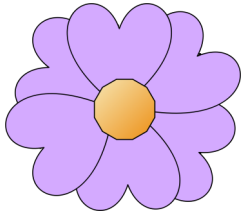
Single-session parent consultations are available on weekdays, Monday to Friday, from 9am to 5pm. Consultations are offered via phone, online via Zoom, or face-to-face.

**To book a parent consultation, call our Bendigo office reception on (03) 5438 1300**

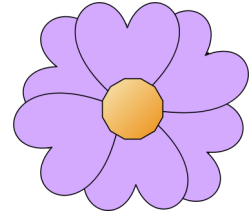


# Kindness Ambassador Award

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



*Jayden Dillon*  
*Rachel Toifl*



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

**Victoria Pese**



## READING AWARDS

**25 Nights**

**75 Nights**

**100 Nights**

Xavier Macumber

**125 Nights**

Zelda Pinnington

Lewis Powers

Amelia Eagle

**175 Nights**

**200 Nights**

Savannah Thompson

**150 Nights**

Rachel Toifl





# CIVICS AND CITIZENSHIP AWARDS



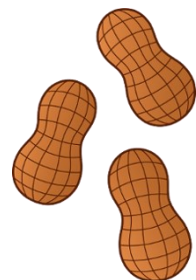
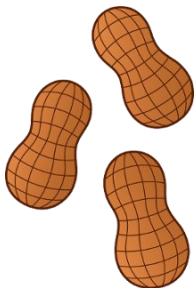
<u>TEAM-</u>	<u>RESPECT</u>	<u>RESPONSIBILITY</u>	<u>LEARNING</u>
Benjamin Jordan	Xander Ashen Victoria Pese Corey Fortunato	Angelo Gallagher George McFadzean	William Jordan Imogen Jennings Aldane Nickels Teddy Thomson Amelia Eagle Lola Anderson

## BRONZE LEVEL

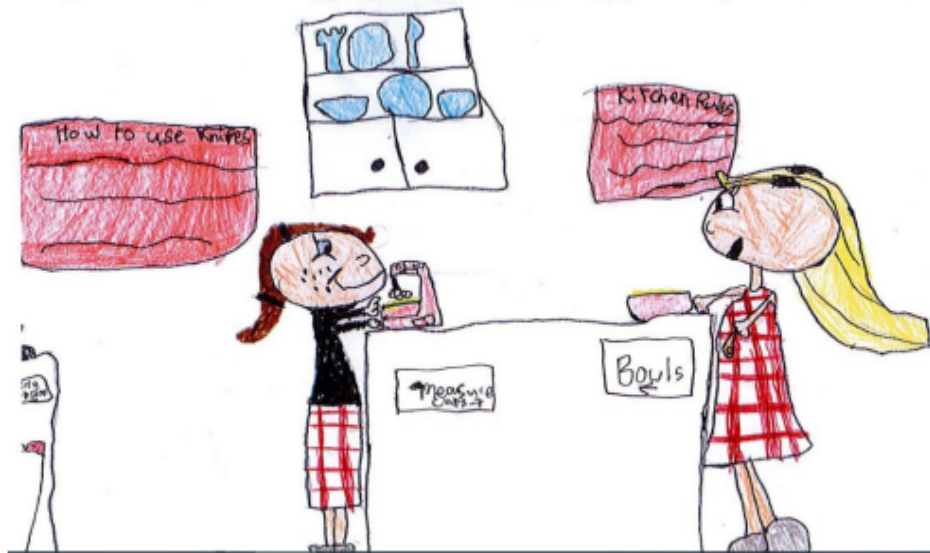
			Harry Dellar Mason Connolly Griffin Scardetta Jess Wheeler Savannah Thompson William Powers Angus Thomson Siobhan Patten
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## SILVER LEVEL

			Lola Anderson
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# 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 3<sup>rd</sup> November**

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November**

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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

# DRINK BOTTLE



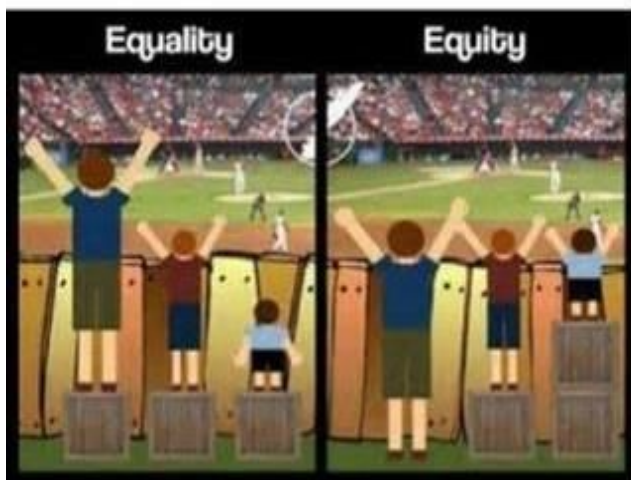
**Remember  
WATER  
only in your drink  
bottle at school.**

**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](http://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:

