



# Heathcote PS News

**HEATHCOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
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Issue No. 3

20th February 2017

<b><i>At Heathcote PS we value...    Respect    Learning    Teamwork    Responsibility</i></b>
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February 24th -10am	Parents Cooking for others—food for freezer—Clarissa
February 24th	It's my school too! workshop
March 13th	Labour day holiday
March 9th—9am	Parents Walking group—Pink Cliffs to the Heathcote Hub (coffee) - Clarissa
15th March 5pm	AGM and School Council Meeting
March 24th—10:30	Parents Easter Eat—cook and consume—Clarissa
March 31st—2pm	End of School Term—early dismissal
April 18th	<b>First day of term two</b>
April 20th	School Photos
April 22nd/23rd	Run, Cycle, Walk and Roll The O'Keefe
April 24th	Professional learning day, no students required at school
April 25th	ANZAC Day, public holiday, no school
May 19th	Snow Queen, Alpha Production
May 24th	School Tour for 2018 Foundation students
June 12th	Queens Birthday Holiday, no school
June 30th	Last day of term two, early dismissal
Term 3 August 7th	Professional Learning Day for teachers, no students required at school
Term 4 November 6th	Professional Learning Day for teachers, no students required at school

## CIVICS AND CITIZENSHIP AWARDS—Presented at Assembly last Friday

<p><b><u>RESPONSIBILITY</u></b></p> <p style="font-size: 2em;">Josh</p>	<p><b><u>Team-work</u></b></p> <p style="font-size: 2em;">Summer</p>	<p><b><u>Respect</u></b></p> <p style="font-size: 2em;">Jackie, Ella Reid</p>	<p><b><u>Learning</u></b></p> <p style="font-size: 2em;">Courtney Rena, Chase</p>
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### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT— Ms Ballantyne's News

Dear Parents and Carers,

Students are well and truly settling into our new school year. Some great food has been prepared in the kitchen and eaten by our Year 3-6 students. Under Michele's guidance they are producing some great meals. I do hope they are sharing their cooking skills with you at home! Michele is looking for volunteers to help with the kitchen/garden program. If you can spare a couple of hours once a week we would love to have you involved. Please contact Michele if you are able to help out.

This week we see the first visit from the Kinder to our Library. We have some wonderful books in our Library to share and look forward to their visit and sharing our fabulous Library.

Last week you will have seen a note regarding Heather Zak implementing the Special Religious Instruction program in our school. Heather is keen to start working with the students who have a current signed consent form. If you would like your child to be involved in 2017 please come into the office to sign a consent form. If this is difficult, please let us know and we will send one home for you to sign.

All fundraising events at DET schools need to have approval from School Council. Our School Council has approved our fundraising events for this year. They include an opportunity to buy some bulbs from Tesselar's. Please find the order form with this week's newsletter. They are great bulbs and their delivery date should work in well for planting time. We will have an Easter egg fundraiser, if families could donate Easter eggs towards this fundraiser it would be greatly appreciated. In Term Two we will be having a Car Boot Sale, a Pie Drive and in Term Three another Wood fundraiser. In Term Four we have plans for an Open Garden/Plant Sale and a Tea Towel fundraiser. We will be asking for volunteers to work with us on some of these events.

We need some volunteers to help cook sausages on Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup> April and Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April for the O'Keefe Marathon. If you can help out please let Greg know. We appreciate your support.

The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) commenced in 2015 for four years and provides payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions. CSEF applications for 2017 are currently open. Parents or legal guardians are required to submit the CSEF application form to our office.

Families holding a valid means-tested concession card or temporary foster parents are eligible to apply. \$125 per year is paid for eligible primary school students.

CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian's concession card successfully validating with Centrelink on either the first day of term one or term two. If the parent/legal guardian's concession card successfully validates on the first day of term one, the application will be processed and the full annual payment will be made to the school from March, 2017. For applications which fail the term one validation, but become valid on the first day of term two, the application will be processed and annual payment will be made to the school during term two.

School Councils comprise of parents, the principal, staff and often community members. School council elections are held in February or March each year. All parents or guardians of students enrolled at the school are eligible to vote for parent members, and staff vote for staff members. Community members are co-opted by the school council.

School council members are elected for approximately a two year term. Half the membership is elected or co-opted each year creating vacancies for the annual school council election. This year we have 2 vacancies. Nominations for these positions can be made until 3.00pm on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017. Nomination forms can be collected from the office.

We have noticed some students arriving at school very early before supervision is provided. Our yard is supervised from 8.45 to 9.00, all breaks and from 3.00 – 3.15 each day. Students do not need to be here prior to 8.45, if they are in the yard there is no supervision prior to that time. For the safety of all students we ask that your children are not at school prior to this time.

The Department of Education and Training (DET) is very clear about student, parent and teacher behaviour. DET is committed to providing safe and supportive environments where diversity is valued and everyone is treated with respect, fairness and dignity. At times in our community individuals may have issues with others, these issues are adult issues and should not enter our car park or school grounds and should not involve our students. As adults we are role models for our students and it is important that we model respect, fairness and dignity with all. Your ongoing support is appreciated.

Enjoy your week.

*Ms Kate Ballantyne*

## It's My School Too – Empowering Bystanders

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February we have Jamie Roberts, Youth Worker and creator of the 'It's My School Too' program coming to present workshops to all our students as part of the implementation of the program at our school.

The 'It's My School Too' program is designed to provide all students with a range of useful strategies in helping to reduce or eliminate unkind behaviours should they find themselves bystanders and unsure of what they can do to make a difference for the better.

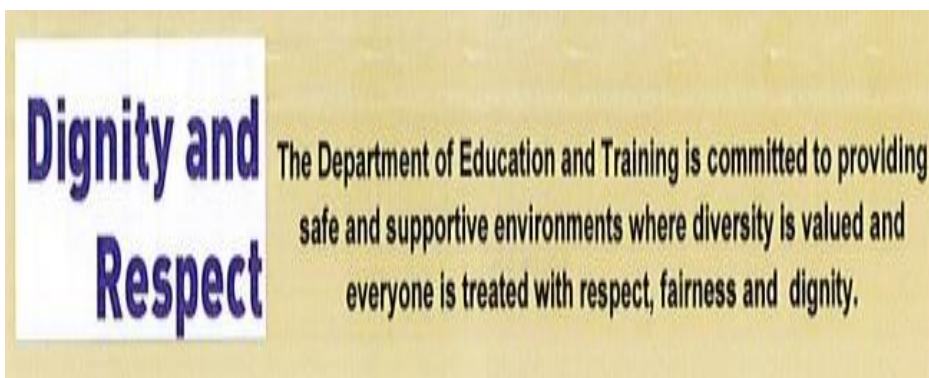
As part of the program, all students will be asked whether they agree or disagree with the following statement: “ *All students at Heathcote PS have a right to participate in school life without being treated unkindly*”. We are expecting that our students will agree with the statement in ensuring a strong student voice becomes part of our ongoing efforts to keep our school a safe and inclusive environment for everyone.

All students will be bringing home a 'Student Support Statement' with information about the program and a section for both you and your child to sign. We are hoping you will discuss the programs message with your child as well as what they have learnt in the workshops presented by Mr Roberts.

We will be installing a display board where the names of all our students who agree with the programs message will be added as an ongoing visual reminder that it is our students, as well our staff who believe that everyone has a right to participate in school life without being treated unkindly.

The program is being implemented at Axedale, Heathcote and Tooborac Primary Schools and has been made possible thanks to a generous grant from the Heathcote and District Community Bank branch of the Bendigo Bank.

Jamie Roberts



**Tuesday**



11am 2-5 years



4pm 5-7 years  
4.45pm 8-13 years

**BOOK NOW . . .**

**CARPE DIEM**

**FREE EVENT**

**"PROMOTING  
SOUND MEN-  
TAL HEALTH  
with  
humour,  
compassion  
and heart"**



**PERFORMANCE  
Q&A  
MEET & GREET  
SUPPER**

STARRING  
**JOHN**

**CHRIS  
WOOD**

**PIDD**

**HEATHCOTE RSL HALL**

**TUES 21<sup>ND</sup> MARCH**

**Doors open 7pm for 7.30 start**

## STEM

Welcome students, parents and community to another exciting year of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. We have kicked off this year with chemistry. All students are studying “States of Matter” and we are investigating how substances can exist as solids, liquids and gas.

In the first week we listed the properties of each, showed how substances can change physical states and even created carbon dioxide (gas) by mixing a liquid and a solid. We used this gas to blow up a balloon and to extinguish a candle.

This week we put our acting talents to great use by acting out how gas, liquid and solid particles behave in a confined space. While undertaking some research into particles, each student helped transform a liquid into a solid by making butter from cream.



**HEATHCOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**ABSENCE NOTE**

Name .....

Grade: .....

This student was absent on .....

(insert dates)

APPROVED REASONS: (tick one)

20 0	Medical	
20 1	Illness	
20 5	Medical appointment	
20 9	Dental	
21 1	Funeral	
80 6	Unauthorised Parent Choice	
80 7	Authorised Parent choice	
80 4	Extended Family Holiday	

Other (comment below)

Additional comment: (if required)

.....  
.....  
(Parent/Guardian signature).....

Date: .....

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