

# Newsletter

Term 1– Week 3

15th February 2018

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## Diary Dates

**Every Day: Don't forget Heskett PS is a NUT AWARE School**

### February

15th: Ice Creams Available after school

16th: Subway Lunch

16th: School Council Nominations close at 4.00pm

22nd: Curriculum Day—no students attend this day

28th: Getting to Know Your Child Conversations

### March

7th: Foundation students attend School Photos

12th: Labour Day—Public Holiday

29th: Last Day Term 1

### April

**16th:** Term 2 commences

### Term Dates 2018

Term 1 – 29th Jan – 29th Mar

Term 2 – 16th Apr– 29th June

Term 3 – 16th July – 21st Sep

Term 4 – 8th Oct– 21st Dec

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

**School Values:** These appear every week on the bottom of the newsletter:

- **Heskett students are respectful.**
- **Heskett students are responsible.**
- **Heskett students achieve their best.**

Last week we did some work with the students discussing what these values mean and what behaviours we would see that demonstrate these values. As a result we developed a list of 'I will' statements. A copy of these is attached to today's newsletter for your information.

**Staffing:** As you are aware this is my last week at Heskett Primary School and I will be away for the remainder of the term. Mr Mathew Underwood will be Acting Principal during this time. Mathew has spent two days at the school this week becoming familiar with the school and meeting the students and many of our families.

**Getting to Know Your Child Conversations:** This year we will conduct parent teacher meetings in February. These meetings are intended to provide parents/carers the opportunity to meet with the teachers and to share any information you feel will be helpful for the teachers to know. Attached to today's newsletter is a **time request slip**. **Please complete and return to the school by Monday, 19th February. You will then be provided with a confirmed time.**

**Regional Staff:** Heskett Primary School has been approached by the Regional Office with a request to 'house' three Regional School Support Staff at the school on a temporary basis. These staff members are usually based at Kyneton Secondary College, but while that school is undergoing refurbishment they are not able to remain there. This proposal was discussed at School Council on Wednesday afternoon and School Council voted to accept this proposal. The three staff members will be housed in the vacant classroom in the old building for approximately 18 months.

**Heskett students are respectful. Heskett students are responsible. Heskett students achieve their best.**

**Coles—Sports for School:** Coles are again running this program. It is an excellent opportunity for the School Community to support the school by collecting the vouchers every time you shop at Coles. The more vouchers we collect the more sports equipment we will be able to acquire. Some members of the local community who do not have students attending our school have been supporting us by dropping in their vouchers and that is very much appreciated. If you are able to encourage relatives and/or family friends to collect the vouchers for our school that also would be of great benefit to our school.



**Ice Creams After School:** Each Thursday vanilla, chocolate coated ice creams will be available for students to purchase after school. The cost is \$1.00. If you would like your child to have an ice-cream please send along \$1.00 on Thursdays. This is a fundraiser to subsidise school excursions.



**School Photos:** Please note March 7th in your diary for School Photos.

**Curriculum Day:** Thursday 22nd February will be a Curriculum Day. **No students** will attend on this day. Staff members are all updating their First Aid qualifications.

#### **Student Absences (including late arrivals & early departures)**

The number of absences children have had during the year will also be reported. Again it is important for parents to realise that absences do impact on a child's capacity to maximise their learning. The following is worth noting:

Days absent per semester

0—6 days	This is normal range for school absence
7—10 days	This attendance is below average. The student could miss over one year of schooling from Prep—Year 10
11-20 days	This attendance rate is poor. This students could miss over two years of schooling from Prep—Year 10
20+ days	This attendance rate is very poor. This students could miss over two and a half years of schooling from Prep—Year 10

If you are aware in advance that your child is going to be absent please send a note to the school or phone the school. If the absence is unexpected, the school should be advised either via a phone call on the morning of the absence or by a note when your child returns to school. Calls to the school can be made after 8.30am. Calls to the school or notes must be provided by parent/carer. In the case where your child has a number of unexplained absences you will receive a letter asking for an explanation of the absences.

We ask you in advance for your cooperation in this matter, as it is very important that we work together to establish good attendance patterns for your child/ren.

## **Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)**

**Eligibility:** Below is the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

### **Criteria 1 – Eligibility**

To be eligible\* for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one, or;
- on the first day of Term two;

Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the *State Concessions Act 2004*, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR

- Be a temporary foster parent, and;
- Submit an application to the school by the due date.

A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see: [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

### **Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria**

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and 17 years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and eighteen years inclusive. CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

**Eligibility Date:** For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (30 January 2018) or term two (16 April 2018).

**If you believe you are eligible for the above, please request a form from the office, complete and return by Monday 19th February.**

**Claimants from this school in 2017 do not have to complete new forms for this year.**

**Swimming Program:** Our school's Annual Swimming Program is planned for the week commencing Monday 30th April. The Program will be held daily for the week at the Gisborne Aquatic Centre, and will be provided by qualified instructors. The cost of the program, including bus, pool entry and instructors, will be \$90.00 per student. This is advance notification for parents/carers. Permissions notices will be sent home at the beginning of next term.

## Students of the Week

**Robert** : For his persistence with Mathematics

**Matilda**: For her terrific efforts with her Handwriting

**From Mr Williamson's Classroom:** We have had another exciting week in the middle classroom. This week students resumed the skipping program much to their delight. It was fantastic to see students show casing their skills. Students this week have begun the specialist program with art, music, science and physical education and it has been great to see the students excel in the different areas of the curriculum.

Literacy – We have been busy developing our reading comprehension strategies beginning this week with finding the main idea in a story or paragraph. In writing we have continued with recounts, however students have been looking at ways to make their writing more interesting by using synonyms for 'went'.

Numeracy – Students this week were saying, writing, making and ordering numbers up to 100 000. Below are photos of students making numbers using MAB.

**From the Mrs Manitta's Classroom:** This week the students continued to read text at their level of ability while still focusing on punctuation.

The Foundation students are focusing on the letter T and spelling their sight words with various manipulatives. Eg Magnetic letters, salt, chalkboard and ball throwing so that spelling words is exciting!

In Writing the students are brainstorming and planning their recount. They are writing down keywords with an illustration to match and identifying the who, what, where and when.

In Numeracy the students are learning to order numbers to 20 from smallest to largest and identifying the before and after number. They did this using numbers written on cupcake liners which created some excitement.

Grade 1 students focused on the digraph 'oy' in phonics and completed various literacy activities to consolidate their understanding. In Writing, they are busily brainstorming and preparing a recount of their holiday or weekend. The students identified the who, what, where and when and constructed full sentences with punctuation. Later on in the week, the students will be looking at connectives (but, so, when, because) and past tense words. In Numeracy the students are ordering numbers up to 100 from biggest to smallest.

Specialist classes started this week and Foundation/Grade 1 students appeared to have fun constructing their 'Under the Sea' themed artwork.

