



HARVEST HOME PS

School and community growing together

Issue 02

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Harvest Home
Primary School

Principal Anthony Simone

Assistant Principal Joanne Branidis

365 Harvest Home Road EPPING 3076

Phone: 03 8468 9000

Dear Harvest Home Primary School Community,

It's hard to believe that the term is almost over! We have achieved so much in this short term with our main focus not shifting from improving student achievement and maintaining a positive school culture.

Uniform – Pride of Place

One of the most exciting things as a Principal is walking around our school grounds and Learning Communities and observing the pride that students are taking in their work, pride that students are taking when they are presenting to their teachers or peers and pride in receiving Hero stamps or Kaizen awards. Being proud of what we stand for and what we want our school to be known for within the community is one of our key points of difference. I often hear comments from members of the community about how our children are wearing the uniform with pride. Please ensure that we continue to model **Pride of Place** when wearing the uniform.

Curriculum day

One of the greatest impacts on improving student outcomes is the quality of developing a rigorous model of instruction. Building teacher capacity through professional learning is a pivotal component of our work here at Harvest Home Primary School. We will be having a Curriculum Day on **16th April** to focus on High Impact Teaching Strategies (HITS). The HITS are 10 instructional practices that reliably increase student learning wherever they are applied. They emerge from the findings of tens of thousands of studies of what has worked in classrooms across Australia and the world. International experts such as John Hattie and Robert Marzano have synthesised these studies and ranked hundreds of teaching strategies by the contribution they make to student learning. We will be able to provide you with more information about how we have implemented the HITS throughout the year.

Have a wonderful break with your friends and families,

Anthony Simone

Principal

HHPS School Values

Achievement --- Cooperation --- Acceptance --- Responsibility --- Integrity

----HHPS ----

As you are aware, the staff and children at Harvest Home Primary School work in Learning Communities, where a group of teachers have a shared responsibility of a larger cohort of students.

The organisational structures of the Learning Communities are based on the **multi-age learning** philosophy where teachers are personalising the learning for all students.

The current structures of the seven Learning Communities are straight Prep students, Year 1 and 2 students, Year 3 and 4 students and Year 5 and 6 students.

Prep Kirrip A	Year 1/2 Durrong	Year 3/4 Tamboore	Year 5/6 Galada
Prep Kirrip B	Year 1/2 Wurun		
	Year 1/2 Balam		

WHY DO WE ENGAGE IN MULTI-AGING?

The Multi-Age philosophy is based on the belief that multi-aging is the most effective classroom organisational structure for teachers to meet the individual needs of children. Multi-age classrooms are **not** composite classes where students in each grade level study a separate curriculum. The use of developmentally appropriate practices is essential to the success of multi-age classroom. Developmentally appropriate practice ensures that every child is learning at his or her own rate. It involves focusing on children as individuals who are growing and developing on a continuum of learning.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF MULTI-AGING?

- Multi-age groupings reflect the values and beliefs which are important to our society, including cooperation, tolerance and support.
- Multi-age groupings model family life where children have opportunities to learn from others of different ages.
- Children learn by modelling others.
- Children are less competitive in a multi-age classroom, the atmosphere is cooperative and collaborative.
- Multi-age classrooms create an environment which enables children to be respected for their individuality.
- In Multi-age classrooms children are encouraged to learn at their own pace.
- Multi-age settings encourage teachers to focus on the individual, and meet each child's individual needs.
- Multi-age classrooms provide opportunities for extension of children beyond the traditional year expectations.

DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE PRACTICE

The developmental approach acknowledges that children learn at different rates and have preferred learning styles, which is to say they learn in different ways. A developmental program provides children with learning experiences that are active (hands-on) and meaningful. It reflects individual perspectives as it enables children to approach learning with a greater amount of flexibility. A developmental environment allows children to inquire and explore, interact with others and participate in shared problem solving and group decision making. Learning centres, integrated curriculum and varied instructional strategies are important features of the multi-aged classroom.

Jo Branidis
Assistant Principal

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----Curriculum Report----

Literacy

Research shows that families have the first and most significant influence on their children's learning, development, health, safety and wellbeing. Your family can play a key role in helping your child succeed at school.

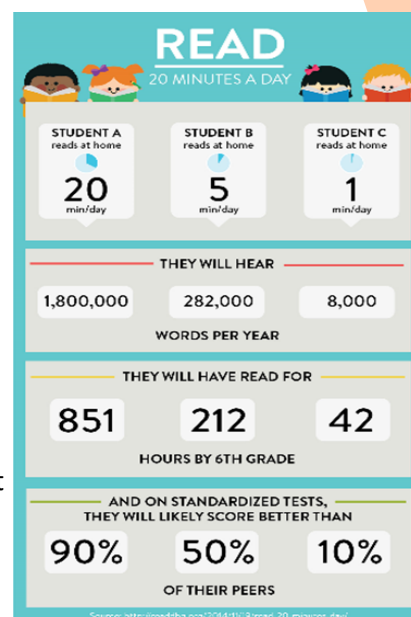
It's been fantastic to see how our school community has embraced our Take Home Reading program this term.

Did you know if a student reads for 20 minutes a day at home they will be exposed to 1.8 million words per year? Not only will this have a huge impact on their vocabulary but will also set them up for success for the future.

Our Prep Communities will commence the Take Home Reading program in Term 2.

As the school holidays are fast approaching it would be great to see our HHPS students visit the local library. Yarra Plenty Regional Library is our local library and is located at 394 Plenty Rd Mill Park. Visit the website at <https://www.yprl.vic.gov.au/> to see what they have to offer.

Also don't forget that you have access to online bookshelves on Wushka and Reading Eggs too!



Numeracy - Spotlight on COUNTING

Children need lots of experiences in making, counting, drawing and talking about numbers. Make connections for your child by explaining how numbers and counting are a part of everyday life. Counting is one of the first experiences of maths for young children. Learning the counting words often begins with a favourite song or rhyme and the repetition of the number names.

As children move on to counting a collection of objects they begin to link each object with one number name. In the beginning, encourage your child to touch each object as they say the matching number's name. Children will begin by counting all objects in a group, for example, fingers and toes, the buttons on their clothes, steps to the house or their toys.

When beginning to count a group of objects, children may arrange the objects in an order to help them. Later they will be able to start counting at any object to find the total. Some children will need to repeat the count of the objects if the arrangement has been changed, such as the blocks were in a row and now they are in a group. This can be a good way to explore the idea that the last number counted says how many there are in the group.

Play number games online with your child. Try this website: <http://www.abc.net.au/countusin/>

Working together, families and schools can provide the greatest opportunity for children to have the best possible start in life.

Breanna Feben & Di Beltramello
Educational Leading Teachers

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----Curriculum Report----

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES/ STEAM

So far this year, we have been focusing on certain areas in Design and Technology and STEAM and we'd like to share our progress with you.

Our students have undertaken a program in Cyber Safety over the Term. This course helped build students' understanding of the responsibilities they have when using a device in a school setting in sharing and collaborating their learning.

We continued our journey as a 'Bring Your Own Device' school from Years 3-6, with a Parent Information session during the term. Thank you to the school community for the excellent attendance at the event as we aim to have a 1:1 iPad program for our learners. Please ensure that your child/ren are attending school with their devices, fully charged, ready to learn and signing into their devices and class recording sheets daily. Also, please note that your child/ren should have completed and handed in the appropriate paperwork regarding the ICT student agreement and publishing permission.

If you are still in the process of purchasing an iPad for your Year 3-6 child, here is the link to the JB HiFi portal-

www.jbeducation.com.au/BYOD

Code- HHPS2018

The school has introduced a number of new initiatives in relation to STEAM. Each area has introduced a lunchtime club (Science, Technology, Arts), with our student leaders offering assistance in term 2. The STEAM lunch time club has the students focusing on 3D prints, robotics and coding. The students have been exposed to the mathematical and critical thinking skills required when tackling these projects in an engaging environment.



Possible apps and websites for home:

<https://www.tinkercad.com/>- 3D printing

<https://www.tynker.com/>- Coding Program

<http://lightbot.com/hour-of-code.html>- Lightbot Code Hour (also available on the App Store)

<https://www.apple.com/au/swift/playgrounds/> - Swift Playgrounds

A group of grade 5/6 students have shared their persuasive writing on the Harvest Home Primary School radio station .We now look forward to the Harvest Home Student Film/Radio Crew being introduced in term 2. Students have continued to create beautiful artwork in Visual Arts and have worked on providing timely peer feedback using digital technologies. In the Science arena, students have focused on habitats and explored opportunities for sustainability projects later in the year. Stay tuned for more exciting news!

Justin Lania

STEAM/Digital Technologies Leader

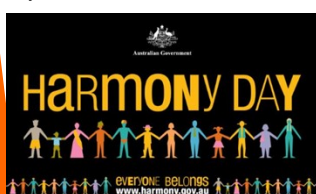
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----HHPS Positive Climate Update ----

As we draw to the end of Term 1, we are so proud of how our students have transitioned into the new school year and successfully completed Term 1. With so many new faces within our school community, it has been pleasing to say that our young student leaders have continued to develop, ensuring new friends feel welcome within the positive climate of our Harvest Home school community.

Harvest Home Heroes: There continues to be a productive and positive feel within our Learning Communities. With students working productively to show their abilities of Being My Best, Being Respectful and Being Safe. Teachers have continually identified the students displaying these personal qualities and are rewarding lots of Hero Stamps and Hero Stickers. It has been so pleasing to see our students wearing their Hero Badges with pride, as they continually display actions of Kaizen and that of young leaders. As we approach our last week of Term, students who have earned 3 similar badges will have the opportunity to 'trade in' their Hero Badges for a Silver or Gold badge to represent their continuous efforts within their Learning Communities, school yard and the successful approach to our School Wide Positive Behaviour System.



Harmony Day: On Wednesday 21st March, our students came together to celebrate the many different and wonderful cultures that make up our school community. It was lovely to see our students dress in **ORANGE** and join in the variety of activities that recognise and embrace cultural diversity within our multi-cultural country. Traditionally, orange signifies social communication and meaningful conversations. It also relates to the freedom of ideas and encouragement of mutual respect. <https://www.harmony.gov.au/>

Students of our Year 1-2 and 5-6 learning communities had the opportunity to participate in activities delivered by the education team of the Wurundjeri people. Students within the Balam, Durrong and Wurun communities participated in language experience sessions, where students explored the cultural language through games, counting and singing. Students in the Galada community participated in the Welcome to Country ceremony, where Uncle Bill told stories of the land, explained connections to our language of today and translated the local meaning of our Learning Communities.

<https://www.wurundjeri.com.au/>



We look forward to another positive term of learning!
Kerrie Atkins and Andrew Bouzikas
Positive Climate Team

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-----Important Upcoming Dates-----

27th March	School Community BBQ 3:30 - 5:30pm
29th March	Last Day of Term 2- 2:30pm finish
29th March	Together on Fridays at 1:45pm
29th March	Easter Raffle drawn at TOF
30th March	Public Holiday-Good Friday
16th April	Curriculum Day– No Students
17th April	Term 2 begins for students
19th April	School Photos

-----REMINDERS-----

SCHOOL TIMES School begins at **8:50am**. Please ensure you arrive to school with plenty of time for your child/ren to calmly enter their Learning Community. School Gates are opened at 8:30am and closed at 9am. If late, parents must sign their students in at the office. The school day ends at 3:10pm.

UNIFORMS Please ensure all items of uniform are clearly labelled. A lost property tub can be found in the Community Hub (room next to the Canteen) where unnamed items found in the school yard are kept.

FOOD SHARING/CELEBRATIONS We ask that if you want to bring something along to hand out to the students when celebrating a birthday, that you stick to non-food items, e.g. stickers, pencils, mini toys, keyring etc. Due to the range of students with allergies and food preferences, cakes/cupcakes are not permitted for sharing.

SICK BAY Parents are reminded that if your child needs to be medicated during the school day, you will need to bring the medication to the Office in the morning and complete a form giving us permission to medicate your child. At the end of the day the medication must be collected by an adult and signed out.

SCHOOL CAR PARK Parents, as a reminder please be aware that the staff car park is for **staff vehicles only**. Please note that NO pedestrians are allowed to walk through the staff car park at anytime, for safety reasons. We have staff cars coming and going on a regular basis and we want to avoid any accidental injuries to our school community.

COURT ORDERS If you have any court orders relevant to your child could you please provide the school with a copy, to ensure their safety while in the school's care.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION Is all the general and emergency information you have given the school up to date? If not could you please notify the Office ASAP. This information is very important in case we need to contact you at any time.

PREP 2019 Enrolments for Prep next year will be taken in Term 2. Enrolment forms can be picked up from the School Office then.

CSEF (Camp, Sport and Excursion Fund) Parents who hold a current Centrelink Pensioner concession or Health Care benefit card or a Veteran Affairs pension card are required to come to the Office to apply for CSEF. Please bring your concession card with you.

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ONLINE PROGRAMS

As part of the Book Pack, students have access to some wonderful online programs to enhance their learning. The programs are utilised in school and are a part of the HHPS Home Learning Expectations. Logins can be found in the inside of the Home Reading Journal/School Diary.



Wushka is a cloud-based levelled reading program used at school and would love you to continue reading with your child at home. The program encourages students to engage with fiction and non-fiction texts on interactive devices. All School Readers are levelled from Level 1 through to Level 31+ and have been developed using decades of educational publishing experience. Recognising that the best outcomes are achieved when students continue reading at home, your child can use their login details received at school, to complete readers set by their classroom teacher, at home. Visit wushka.com.au to login and start reading!



Your child is using Mathletics as part of their mathematics program at school. Mathletics is a targeted, rewarding and captivating online learning resource, which is aligned to curriculum standards. Your child has take-home access to Mathletics – they simply sign in with their school username and password using any compatible computer or mobile device. The extra Mathletics practice at home can make all the difference to your child's progress. Encourage them to achieve a weekly target of 1000 points to earn a certificate, building through bronze, silver and gold across the school year. Go for gold! www.mathletics.com



Your child is using Spellodrome as part of their literacy program at school. Spellodrome is a literacy resource that provides detailed instruction in spelling and support for vocabulary development. Your child has take-home access to Spellodrome – they simply sign in with their school username and password using any compatible computer or mobile device (same login as Mathletics). The extra Spellodrome practice at home can make all the difference to your child's progress. Encourage them to achieve a weekly target of 1000 points to earn certificates and awards.



ABC Reading Eggs is designed to get your child motivated and excited about reading. Your child will now be able to access the program in class and at home. They will work through the program at their own pace, focusing on phonics, letters, vocabulary, sight words, fluency and comprehension.

Reading Eggspress is designed to build on reading and comprehension skills, and is usually for students in grades 2 onwards (7–13 year olds). There is also a built in library, where once again students can access a wide range of ebooks.

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