

MARCH 2024

Harvest Home Primary School

School and Community Growing Together

Principal: Andrew Bouzikas
Assistant Principals: Dale Rigby
Joanne Branidis
Stacey Lawler
365 Harvest Home Road, EPPING. 3076
Harvest Home
Phone: 03 8468 9000
Primary School

TERM 1 EVENTS	DATE
Wednesday 31 st January	First Day of Term 1
Wednesday's from Week 1 to 5	Prep Interviews
Thursday 15 th February	Meet the Teacher
Friday 1 st March	Clean Up Australia Day
Friday 8 th March	International Women's Day
Monday 11 th March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Tuesday 12 th March	Dream & Lead Conference
13 th to 22 nd March	NAPLAN Testing Window
Thursday 21 st March	Harmony Day
Friday 22 nd March	Ride2School Day
Thursday 27 th March	Community Maths Afternoon
Thursday 28 th March	Last Day of Term 1

Principal's Report

Dear Harvest Home Community,

It is a great pleasure that I celebrate another successful beginning to our school year, with all of our students positively connecting with their friends, new peers, teachers, and new connections. It is hard to believe that we are almost at the end of the first term. Even though it has been a shorter first term than previous years, we have ensured that we have made every minute count. It has been pleasing to see our Prep students settle into their new routines as primary school students, along with each student continuing their legacy as learners in their progressive year level. This year, we have welcomed over 100 prep students and 20 new students to our school. In true Harvest Home spirit, each student has had a very positive start to the year.

Harvest Home Primary School – 2024 Goals and Priorities:

As previously communicated, our school completed our Department Review process at the end of 2023. The process was very successful with many celebrations related to our student learning, wellbeing, and engagement, successful learning outcomes along with positive structures for building teacher capacity and a strong sense of community connection. This has enabled a positive framework for this school year and the next period of our School Strategic Plan. As a leadership team, we have worked with our Senior Education Improvement Leader and school staff to define our goal in our Annual Implementation Plan (AIP). Our annual goals as outlined within the AIP, align with our new School Strategic Plan (SSP); which will guide the school's direction and progress over the next 4 years.

Harvest Home Primary School's goals and key improvement strategies for 2024 are:

Goal 1: To maximise learning growth for all students:

- KIS 1: Build capacity to differentiate teaching to ensure challenge and progress for all students
- KIS 2: Ensure consistent implementation of instructional teaching models across all curriculum areas.

Goal 2: To maximise students' engagement and wellbeing:

- KIS 1: Enable authentic student voice and agency in learning
- KIS 2: Develop student learning opportunities that challenge, engage, and promote curiosity.

We look forward to collaborating with our students, staff, and our school community to achieve our successful outcomes.

School Council 2024:

Thank you to all staff and family members who submitted nominations for our upcoming School Council tenure periods. The nomination period has now concluded, and I would like to congratulate the following members of our school community who were successful in their nominations:

Dale Rigby and Stephanie Robinson: Staff Representatives.

Rebecca Bullock, Ranuka Abeysinghe, Nicole Shead, and Ali Alamein: Parent Representative.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank Maria Sommerville, Ananya Desai, and Shahida Angullia, who will continue their tenures on our School Council for 2024.

We thank Kaylene Kubeil, Radha Guda, Amira Mohamed, and Mahalashmi Rengarajan for their valuable contributions to our School Council throughout the various tenure periods.

We will host our first School Council meeting on Wednesday 27th March commencing at 6.15 pm, with our Annual General Meeting being held on the same evening, which will begin at 5.30 pm.

We are excited to work with the new School Council configuration for the upcoming school year.

Principal's Report

Attendance:

Throughout 2023, we had a very successful student attendance rate, with many students achieving over 90% school attendance. This has been a focus for our school community and an aspect of school that we would like to continue to improve. It is important that your child attends school every day; where possible. We are aware and supportive of many aspects; such as religious celebrations, family holidays, and medical appointments; that may impact attendance; to support these absent days; we ask that you communicate this information with your child's home group teacher, marking attendance via Compass or contact our school admin team.

Congratulations to the 233 students who have 100% attendance for this year and the large student population who have only missed 1-2 days this year.

2025 Enrolments:

We have received a large number of inquiries and conversations related to enrolments for Prep 2025. School tours for Prep (and other year levels) have begun; with tours scheduled for Term 2 and 3, along with the Prep enrolments process to begin at the start of Term 2. Further details related to enrolments can be found on our website https://www.harvesthomeps.vic.edu.au/

Staffing Update:

On behalf of us all at Harvest Home Primary School, I would like to thank Rachel Bell and Diana Samuel for their leadership, strong relationships with our students and teaching flexibility this year. Both Rachel and Diana have begun their family leave as they begin to prepare for life's next adventures. We look forward to hearing the exciting news in the coming weeks.

Throughout this term, we have continued to add expertise and experience to our Wellbeing and Inclusion team. I would like to welcome Robert McAlpine to Harvest Home Primary School. Robbie brings experience in the wellbeing space, where he is currently leading schools as Regional School Wide Positive Behaviour coach. Robbie will join our Positive Climate team, working with our Prep to Year 3 students. We look forward to him starting with us on Monday, 25th March, 2024.

With mixed emotions, I would like to congratulate Hugh Wilson on his successful application as a STEAM teacher at a local primary school, which will begin at the start of Term 2. Hugh will continue his teaching as a generalist STEAM teacher, whilst providing tech support to students and staff. We thank Hugh for his efforts in developing and implementing our STEAM specialist subject at Harvest Home Primary School and wish you all the very best as you continue your educational journey. Recruitment for relevant specialist positions has begun, with appointment details to be shared as appropriate.

School Privacy

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy.

For more information about privacy, refer to: Schools' Privacy Policy— information for parents.

This information is also available in ten community languages: Arabic Dari Gujarati Mandarin Somali, Sudanese Turkish Urdu Vietnamese.

Thank you for an amazing term of learning as a school community.

"Create Your Legacy"

Andrew Bouzikas Principal



2024 LEARNING COMMUNITIES

At Harvest Home Primary School all students and teachers work in Learning Communities. Every child has a home group teacher that they begin and end the day with, however throughout the day they could be working with different teachers across their Learning Community. Working collaboratively in this manner allows your child to develop relationships with various teachers and students. These flexible teaching options enable the teachers to cater for the individual needs of all students. The teachers use their knowledge and data sets relating to each student's learning and wellbeing to plan collaboratively and purposefully. This 'shared responsibly' allows all teachers in the learning community to learn from one another whilst still creating a range of learning experiences.

The Year 1-6 students have begun the year learning the expectations of transitioning to different groups and spaces around each of the Learning Communities. For our middle-senior students this may mean moving from one space or portable to another, or even up and down stairs. We support all students to do this in a safe and respectful manner. The teachers and students really enjoy learning in these mixed groups. You may want to ask your child who their Reading, Writing or Numeracy teacher is. Let's see if they remember!

Currently our Prep students spend most of their day with their home group teacher/s as they learn the structures and routines of school. As the year progresses, they will also begin to move around their learning communities and start to learn with the other teachers and students within their Learning Community.







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2024 Learning	Wurundjeri	Year	Teachers
Community	Meaning	Level	
Kirrip	'friendship'	Prep	Stephanie Zanti/Emily Farley, Andrew Johnson, Emma Dinakis, Marina Tsitsis, Jasmine Chanter, Holly Taylor
Durrong	'unite'	One	Megan McLean/Brittany Rutherford, Charee Warwick, Danyaal Nieftagodien
Wurun	ʻriver red gum'	One	Amy Sneddon, David Failla, Lourdes Restrivera
Tamboore	'waterhole'	Two	Jacinta Bok/Rachel Malivindi, Samara Ujmaia, Sarah Diamond- Ward, Samantha Thompson, Laura Gray
Dulap	'pride'	Three	Tanya Varasira, Sharon Fox, Sarah Williams
Galada	'creek'	Three	Stephanie Coffey/Mikaela Ryan, Kirra Rowe, Alicia Iaconis,
Balam	'butterfly'	Four	Renata Smith, Andrew Neophytou, Tara Bethke, Huyen Nguyen
Killara	ʻalways there'	Four	Tanyel Hasim/Lauren Ludvik, Jessica Eden, Emma Curran, Zoe Robinson
Maramba	'better'	Five	Malinda Bogdanovski/Stephanie Schieven, Ashleigh Teasdale, Ashleigh Leung, Max Williams
Matong	'strong'	Five	Amali Amarasinghe, Yulia Yip, Kyle Hattie
Yiaga A	'discovery'	Six	Elana Rose/Maria Ivanciu, Lisa De Santis, Ashleigh Macali
Yiaga B	'discovery'	Six	Rebecca Tomsic, Michael Gorgievski, Nikolina Taskovska
Invention Coaches	!		Elisa Hassani, Bianca Dickinson, Sarah Kennedy
Specialist Teachers			PE- Monica Isip, Robert Grillo
			Visual Art- Melissa Kramer
			Science- Rachel Flavel, Carmen Fruvall
			Spanish- Julia Pena
			STEAM- Hugh Wilson, Paul Di Pietro
			Mindfulness- Louisa Stanford, Marina Klasan
Positive Climate Staff			PC Leaders- Sophie Chilton, Robert McAlpine (from Term 2)
			Student Transitions- Angela Herrick
			Support- Kamal Koar, Tyson Vanderwert, Alison White, Maria Ranalletta
Education Support Sta	nff		Despina Oudin, Rebecca Missen, Lacey Merschen, Chloe Puddy,
			Joanne Roy, Fraser Kubeil, Angela Beccia Suzanne Harris, Baxter Sparks
Educational Leaders			Prep/One- Breanna Feben
			Two/Three- Kellie Blandthorn
			Four/Five- Di Beltramello
			Six/Specialists- Stephanie Robinson













MEET THE TEACHERS AT HHPS













MEET THE TEACHERS AT HHPS

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM: LITERACY AND NUMERACY (NAPLAN)

A big congratulations to our Year 3 and 5 students who have sat the NAPLAN tests over the last fortnight. NAPLAN is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. In 2024, all schools across the country will undertake online NAPLAN.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of our school's assessment and reporting process and do not replace the extensive, ongoing assessments made by our teachers about every student's learning growth and achievements. Families can use NAPLAN reports, along with our school progressive and academic reports, to discuss their child's overall growth and performance. NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four areas of Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

Our school will use the collective results from the NAPLAN assessments as one of the measures to assess our school's annual goals and directions.



Birthday Gift Ideas

Birthdays are an exciting time in a child's life. We understand that some families like to bring in treats/gifts to celebrate this special day.

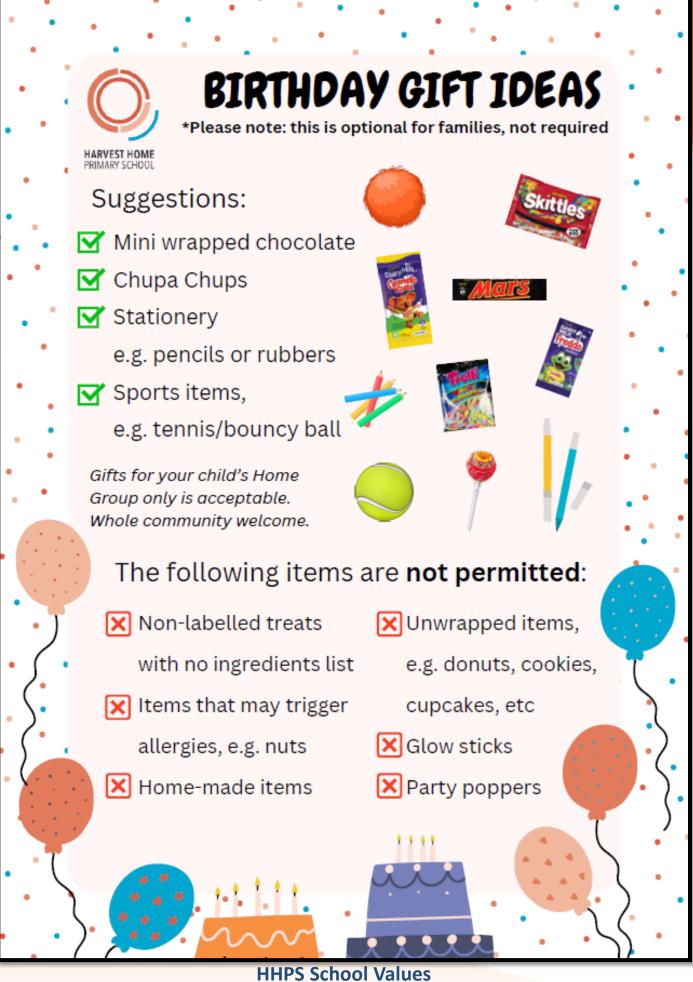
We have recently reviewed the previous birthday gift/treats process to take into consideration factors such as affordability for parents, inclusion of students with allergies and consistent expectations across the year levels.

We have collated a list of birthday gift suggestions as well as items that are **not permitted** to be handed out as birthday treats. Gifts can be provided for your child's homegroup or the whole Learning Community. See the included birthday gifts flyer.

Please note it is **not** an expectation to bring anything in for your child's birthday. Everyone loves celebrating a birthday and we are no different, so we will make their day special.

Thank you for following our birthday gifts process to ensure that it is enjoyable, fair and safe for all.





Term 1 Events

This term, we have had 3 excursions including the GRIP Leadership Excursion, Bundoora Action Indoor Sport Excursion and Dream & Lead Leadership Excursion. Some reflections of these excursions are included below.

Bundoora Action Indoor Sports Excursion- student reflection

On Friday, February 23rd, we went to Bundoora sports centre.



We arrived at school early, bouncing up and down excitedly, with smiles on our faces. We rushed inside to put our bags away. All we needed was water. We hopped on the bus, eager to arrive asap.

When we arrived, We were able to play 4 amazing sports! We hit the ball up in volleyball, kicked the ball in the goal in soccer, we hurled dodgeballs at each other, and we bounced the ball all the way to the goal in handball.

Although at the end of the excursion we were tired, it was a fun and exciting experience for us. We are looking forward to our next adventure as the year continues.



Dream & Lead Leadership Excursion- student reflection

On the 12th of March, all the year 6 leaders went on the Dream and Lead Conference Excursion in the city.



'We heard many inspiring people and learnt many new techniques that will help us become better leaders. It was a great experience, and everyone enjoyed it and had fun.' – Jasmine

'I really enjoyed the day, it consisted of 3 parts. When we first got there, there were little activity books, and we were able to do activities and record our thinking in that book throughout the day.' – Indie

'My one takeaway from the excursion was from the last presenter Skye Hughes, she talked about resilience and that it's not about bouncing back, but about bouncing forwards. – Romy



'My one takeaway was about being resilient as this is a quality that will help you as a leader' – Aadit

'I liked hearing the presenters talk about their own journeys, it allowed me to see how far they have come, which is inspiring to me as a Year 6 leader.' – Aatathi

This week we also celebrated Harmony Day and Ride 2 School Day, with many students and families joining in and celebrating these occasions.

To round out Term 1, we will be holding our Community Maths Showcase afternoon on Wednesday, March 27th, which doubles as a celebration of World Maths Day which is Saturday, March 23rd. We look forward to seeing our families engaging in the planned Maths activities on the day.

Keep an eye out on our school website for student reflections after events take place!

Kind Regards,
Jo Branidis, Dale Rigby & Stacey Lawler
Assistant Principals

Curriculum Leader Report

HHPS COMMUNITY MATHS AFTERNOON

A positive home school relationship recognises the important role that both families and teachers play in developing positive attitudes towards education and learning for children. This relationship is essential in building motivation, learning confidence, and fostering a lifelong enjoyment and passion of learning.

At Harvest Home Primary School, we acknowledge and value the importance of community involvement and the positive impact on student achievement. We know that learning is maximised when strong educational partnerships between students, teachers, school, community and home are established.



On Wednesday 27th March we are opening our Learning Communities to share with you some fun and engaging maths learning experiences. Our doors will be open from 3.30pm-4.30pm in all Learning Communities, including our Specialist spaces.

Prep & Year 1	Teddy Bear Maths	Make sure you bring along your favourite Teddy Bear to participate in some Teddy Bear themed maths activities.
Year 2 & 3	Maths Games and Puzzles	Solving puzzles and playing maths games are two great ways to develop an enthusiasm for numeracy and strengthen essential reasoning and logical thinking skills. Come along to learn some fun games that you can play at home too!
Year 4 & 5	Challenging Maths tasks	It's OK to make mistakes in maths. In fact, it's crucial! Join us to develop a growth mindset in maths and be challenged by a variety of tasks.
Year 6	Maths Escape Room	You will need to use your problem solving skills and determination to help you solve puzzles and crack the code to exit a digital escape room.
Specialists	Maths in Specialists	Maths is all around us, sometimes we don't even realise. Join us to discover all the different way s we use maths in our specialist subjects.

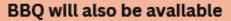
We hope to see you there!

Curriculum Team

COMMUNITY MATHY SHOWERS

WEDNESDAY 27TH MARCH 3.30PM - 4.20PM

Families are invited to visit our Learning
Communities and Specialist areas for our
Maths Showcase.



Sausages \$2.50

(Beef/Halal/Chicken)

Cold Drinks \$2.00

Cash sales only



Prep - 1: Teddy Bear Maths

Year 2 - 3: Games and Puzzles

Year 4 - 5: Challenge Tasks

Year 6: Escape Rooms

Specialists: Showcasing Maths in the

Specialist Areas



03 8468 9000 www.harvesthomeps.vic.edu.au

365 Harvest Home Road Epping 3076

Buzz Leaders Report

Buzz Leaders

The HHPS Buzz leaders are our school Student Voice Leaders. The Buzz Leaders are students from Years 2 - 5 and are led by our Year 6 Student Voice Leaders. They are elected by their peers to advocate for the community's voice. At HHPS we believe that it's not solely the responsibility of teachers to make decisions regarding learning, environment, and school impacts; and our students play a crucial role too. The Buzz leader's role is to capture this student's voice to ensure all decisions reflect their input. We take great pride in introducing the 2024 Buzz Leaders.



































Positive Climate

Positive Climate for Learning



It's been great to see our students engaged in and learning in a positive climate. This includes making connections with their peers and teachers, promoting respectful, inclusive and trusting relationships whilst feeling safe and supported in their learning environment.

School Expected Behaviours

We have updated our school expected behaviour posters to include our learner dispositions. Each community has been focussing on the types of actions that represent the expected behaviour.





School Expected Behaviours

Our Wheel of Choice is our visual prompt poster to support students with strategies they can use when playing outside. Our new poster was created through collaboration with teachers and students and through our Mindfulness sessions.





Positive Climate

Self Regulation Strategies

This year we continue to focus on developing student's ability to self regulate. Self regulation is the ability to understand how we are feeling and manage our reactions to feelings in situations happening around us. With student feedback, we have added an additional five strategies (tools) that can support students self regulation. Students are taught, encouraged and prompted to use strategies from their personalised tool box.



Finger breathing



Sensory tool





Movement break



the candles



Count to ten







Calm Down Space



REGULATION TOOLS

SWPBS badge data

It's been wonderful seeing lots of hero stamps, stickers and badges being awarded and celebrated across the

At break times outside, our Positive Climate student leaders have been rewarding students showing our expected behaviours by giving them a hero card when they are displaying being safe, being respectful and being their best.

As part of our School Wide Positive Behaviour (SWPBS) program, our first badge trade day which occurred week 5, was a huge success, with many students trading in their silver and gold badges for a prize.





Positive Climate Team

Harmony Day at HHPS



Ride2School Day at HHPS



Online Programs

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



Wushka (in 2023 this is for Prep students only) 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



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.



Sunshine Online offers schools the very best in animated and interactive digital content for Literacy and early Numeracy. The range of content options directly support our Curriculum. Animated and interactive, Sunshine Online offers an extensive digital learning environment with quality content for use in Literacy and Numeracy programs. The e-books are levelled so that teachers can choose where to start and therefore motivate them to progress through the levels. The program can be accessed via an app or:

https://www.sunshineonline.com.au/

HHPS House Keeping

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 8:55am. If late, parents must sign their students in at the office. The school day ends at **3:10pm.** All students must be picked up then or alternative arrangements made.

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.

FAMILY RESTRICTIONS

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.

Daily Session Structure

8:50am	School Begins (Morning Routine)
9:00am	Session 1
9:50am	Session 2 *Healthy Snack Break*
10:40am	Session 3
11:30am	RECESS
12:00pm	Lunch Eating Time Inside
12:10pm	Session 4
1:00pm	Session 5
1:50pm	Break
2.20pm	Session 6
3:10pm	School Ends