



Heatherwood News

July 2022

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IMPORTANT DATES

8-Aug (Mon)	Year 9 Charnwood Camp
11-Aug (Thu)	
17-Aug (Fri)	Professional Practice Day (Student Free)
16-Sep (Fri)	Last day of Term 3*
	** Students are dismissed at 1:45pm, one hour earlier.
04-Oct (Mon)	First day of Term 4

Message from the Principal



Dear Members of the Heatherwood School Community

Welcome to Third Term. Things are really happening at the moment which I hope our students are talking about at home. See below and the cover for some photos of the demolition that has occurred over the past weeks.



We do understand that this has created some challenges including significant often longer ways for students and staff moving from one part of the school to the other, students having portable toilets and the mud that staff and students have to walk through as the weather becomes wetter. This is being addressed by extra matting and crushed rock being laid in major thoroughfares. Umbrells are also being placed in every room.

Our focus continues to be on student well-being and students are encouraged to speak to someone if they have any concerns. Most have enjoyed watching what is occurring

SSG's were held from August 1st – 4th. It is important to take up this opportunity to gain an understanding of your child's progress and to be part of their programming for the rest of the year.

With DET support and due to the significant challenges in employing CRT staff, Heatherwood will have their Professional Practice Day for teachers on Wednesday 17th August. **Students are not required to attend school that day.**

On the last day of term 2 the school held a walk a thong to raise money in memory of Tony Walker. An amount of \$1120 was raised and donated to the Olivia Newton-John Foundation. The receipt is included in this newsletter.



20 July 2022

Ms Shilcock
Heatherwood School
370 Springvale Road
DONVALE VIC 3111

Dear Ms Shilcock

Thank you for caring.

I would like to extend to you, my most sincere thanks and appreciation for your kind gift to the Olivia Newton-John Cancer Wellness & Research Centre in memory of Tony Walker.

With your kindness during this difficult time, you are joining a wonderful group of people making an extraordinary difference for people with cancer and their families. What a compassionate, caring way to honour Tony Walker.

Because of caring people like you the doors of our Wellness Centre offer solace and support to patients and their families. Your compassion at this difficult time is a beautiful testament to their life.

With gratitude,

Debbie Shiell
Foundation Director



OFFICIAL RECEIPT



Name: Heatherwood School
Date: 20/07/2022

Donation: \$1,120.00
Receipt No: 132797

Donations \$2 and over are tax deductible

ABN 96 237 388 063

The school also received this letter from Tonys wife and sister

To the Students, Parents and Staff of Heatherwood:

We would like to thank everybody in the Heatherwood School Community for their kind and caring support. To all those who supported Tony over the last 12 months through his illness, attended Tony's funeral, sent cards and messages we are very grateful. A special thankyou to the students from Heatherwood past and present who attended his funeral. So many people have said the nicest things about Tony. How much they loved his classes, how much fun he was and how much they will miss him.

A huge thank you to all of you who are participating in the Walk - A - Thon. This is a great tribute to Tony and the money raised will be going to an important cause. Tony loved being a teacher at Heatherwood. Being a teacher was his passion and going to work each day was always enjoyable and satisfying. He couldn't imagine himself doing anything else. I know he would want all the Heatherwood students to find their passion and go for it. Doing this will be the best way you can honour Tony and his life. He lives on in all the students he taught and helped make their best lives.

Robyn (Tony's wife) and Viv (Tony's sister)

The school also received a notice from Monash University regarding a research study that is being undertaken. If you are interested in taking part of this study please contact the school.



MONASH
University

Attention profiles in young people with different developmental disabilities

This project is being conducted by Dr Nerelie Freeman (psychologist), Ms Johanna Vandersee and Ms Rebecca Johnson (Masters of Educational and Developmental psychology students) at the School of Educational Psychology & Counselling, Faculty of Education, Monash University.

They are conducting a study which is examining how young people aged 5 to 18 years with intellectual disability differ in the way they pay attention to details, shift attention between tasks, and remember information. The study will involve you completing some rating scales about your child and a member of the research team coming out to our school to complete some activities on an iPad measuring their attention and cognitive skills.”

It is going to be a busy term and as a school we will continue with your support to make a positive difference to all our students.

Paul Hills - Principal

Message from the Assistant Principal



For the first time in last the two and a half years, Heatherwood School has remained open all year. We are proud to be able to offer face to face teaching every day. Heatherwood staff have supported classes and students, making sure that students have a familiar staff presence, even when a class teacher is absent. While this year has presented many challenges, we have worked together to find opportunities to overcome obstacles, involve our young people in change and find many reasons for celebration.

The demolition of a large portion of the school and the re-establishment of classrooms has been a major event especially as most of this occurred while programs were being delivered. Many students provided valuable help in the move to new classrooms and we have appreciated this. Students and staff watched in awe as the buildings disappeared during the first three weeks of this term. We all felt part of this process. This involvement helps us contain the many memories we have gathered over the last twenty plus years. It also helps us accept the many restrictions for accessing parts of the school and the yard. Our community is now getting set to create new memories, where bigger and better things can happen in the years to come.

Wellbeing and Learning are essential partners in life and particularly relevant to student growth and progress. The teenage years are a time when students start to take on responsibility, to understand friendship at a deeper level and build their own confidence and resilience. A major part of learning at Heatherwood is to support the wellbeing of students. This happens on a personal basis, in the classroom and by providing consistency, routines and a positive 'can do' approach for students.

Most of the Heatherwood specialist subjects have now been re-introduced on a weekly basis. Interschool Sport and Swimming are well established and offer opportunities much greater than physical education and fitness. Recent whole school events have included the Walk for Walkathon last term, in remembrance of Tony Walker (Performing Arts teacher) and the NAIDOC 'Mash Up' Day this term where students and staff played a major role in organising and delivering the programs. We welcomed Claire Axton (Food Technology teacher) and Tracie Munro (Education Support Staff) throughout the year. We are also supporting a number of Universities and Colleges, assisting students to gain qualifications in their careers.

School Reports were sent to parents / carers at the end of Semester 1 and we are looking forward to the Student Support Meetings where we can show families and carers the work our young people are doing at school.

Most important of all is the Heatherwood community, the School Council and families who work with us to create enriching opportunities for young people. As parents, carers, your knowledge of your young person is much appreciated as we, together, help students learn and grow.

Lesley Foster - Assistant Principal

A Big Thank You

A big thank you to all the staff for putting in a huge amount of time with completing the mid year student reports. As many parents and carers have observed they are very thorough and it's a great way for everyone to understand the progress of each student. Strategies may need to be modified mid year to assist students reach their goal and it's a good time to stop and check how things are going.

I know reading my sons report I was given a very clear indication of how he is progressing with his skills and learning. The staff have had multiple challenges to achieve completing these reports in a very tight time frame. Many new staff had to be assisted with the process (which is still a relatively new set up) so a big thank you to those section leaders who took on the extra hours.

It's been a particularly challenging time for all our staff and on behalf of the school council and school community I would like to extend a big thank you for the hard work that was put into completing these reports along with the every day challenges of pandemic life.

You are all amazing.

Annie Basel - School Council Rep

Victorian Institute of Sport



S5 visited the VIS in South Melbourne to investigate how an elite athlete trains and fuels their body. Their gym was fantastic with a pool, athletics track and a lot of weights. The scholarship holders have access to dietitians to help with their food choices to perform at world class sporting events.

Jo Lakin - S5 Teacher

Sports News

School Sport Victoria
State Cross Country
Championships (Thursday
14th July at Yarra Glen
Racing Club)
Eleven students from
Heatherwood School qualified
and competed via their results
in the South-East Special
Schools Cross Country into
the School Sport Victoria
(SSV) State Cross Country
Championships Multiclass
events.

Competition day produced
some great results from our
Heatherwood team. Well
done to the students who
gave their best to complete
the gruelling 3km course,
congratulations to these
students for making the State
finals.



Results:

Girls 12-15 years Multiclass event 3km
4th Mikayla Milligan- J4 (Time: 19:34)
7th Phoebe Edwards- M4 (Time: 21:49)
Amelia Hladyz-Bailey- J2 (Injured)

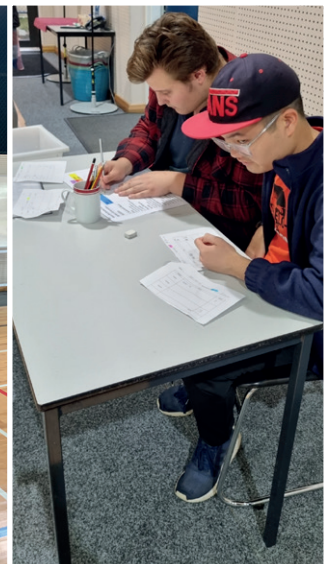
Girls 16-20 years Multiclass event 3km
5th Charli Luttgens- M8 (Time: 16:48)
7th Bebe Peters- M8 (Time: 20:15)
8th Bec Edwards- S5 (Time: 20:16)

Boys 12-15 years Multiclass event 3km
2nd Lucas Ozergin- J2 (Time: 13:03)
3rd Oscar Payne- M4 (Time: 13:31)
5th Mitch Langdon- J6 (Time: 14:16)
7th Rhy Cammiade- M3 (Time: 15:37)

Boys 16-20 years Multiclass event 3km
1st Jaiden Battista- M6 (Time: 12:20)

Sam Ditty - PE Department

Tony Walk-a-thon House Day



On the last week of Term 2 the entire school participated in a 'Walk-a-thon' as part of Heatherwood's celebration of a much-loved staff member Tony Walker.

Students and staff donated \$1120 to the Olivia Newton John Foundation for cancer research.

House Day was dedicated to Tony with sporting activities, speeches and a celebration.

Jo Larkin - Teacher

Humanities 2022



Our ANZAC memorial was held on the 29th April 2022 at the memorial garden under the flag pole. The week started with an ANZAC project that reflected on all the areas of Australians at war. The seniors created a flower wreath that they presented to the local memorial. M7 organised a guard of honour and the school captains read the order of service. It was a solemn moment that the students shared through quiet reflection, an ANZAC poem and a letter from a Turkish mother read by Katherine Walsh added to the solemnity of the moment. The students laid wreaths, poppies and sprigs of rosemary to honour the ANZAC memory. After a minute's silence the students sang the Australian National Anthem and listened with extreme politeness to the New Zealand National Anthem. The Winners of the ANZAC Day project were the students of J1 and J2 with the extraordinary mural of the History of the ANZACs.

At the beginning of third term Heatherwood School held their annual NAIDOC assembly. This assembly is held to honour our first nations students and acknowledge the land we stand on. This amazing assembly was student led with the input from the school's indigenous students beginning in third term. The humanities team offered the different class groups ideas on working with the NAIDOC theme of Get Up, Stand Up Show Up. Some classes worked on their own personal Acknowledgement of Country, some classes researched the 1967 referendum, other classes chose a famous person and finally a personal message from our senior students Oakley Wagg and Paris Deblasis supported by the Senior Students finished a brilliant assembly.



Humanities Team

