



# HEATHERWOOD SCHOOL

AUGUST 2016

## A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL Mr. PAUL HILLS



Change is something that occurs constantly and it can be viewed with optimism or pessimism. Over the next 18 months Heatherwood will be going through a number of significant changes that will impact on our students and all members of the school community. The Performing and Visual Arts building project will be completed, there will be a major building project started which will impact on the school at various levels, including the loss of portables. This will result in significant relocation of students and classes within the school as well as alterations to parking and access to certain areas within the school.

During the fourth term Year 12 students will be transitioning and accessing their post school options and in late 2017 the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) will be rolled out throughout this Region. Information relating to the NDIS will be included in future newsletters.

While each of these changes presents challenges, one of the strengths of the school community is in its ability to make the most of each opportunity that changes such as these offer and with your support, each opportunity can result in improved outcomes for each of our students. I am sure that I can count on everyone to assist the school to meet each challenge in a positive way.

Due to circumstances beyond the schools control the drama production Smithy will be re-scheduled to mid term 4. The students will continue to practise and are very enthusiastic about participating in the event. More details will be provided in future newsletters.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

15 MILE CREEK

KORIN GAMADJI INSTITUTE

TRADE KITCHEN

PE NEWS

TRY FOR 5 NATIONAL NUTRITION WEEK

DATE	EVENT
AUGUST 1ST	IMMUNISATION DAY
SEPT 16TH	LAST DAY OF TERM STUDENTS DISMISSED AT 1:50
OCT 3RD	TERM 4 COMMENCES
OCT 16— 22	NATIONAL NUTRITION WEEK
OCT 28	CURRICULUM DAY NO STUDENTS TO ATTEND

## NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

Parking is becoming a major problem for the school especially at drop off and pick up times. You could greatly assist us by parking in the lower carpark of the Manningham DISC centre (next door to the school) and walking the pathway into the side entrance of the school. Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated. Parents and carers please remember if you wish to speak to a teacher your first point of contact is with the office. Office staff will contact your requested teacher. If they are unavailable office staff will gladly take a message. Now that winter is over and summer is just around the corner, please make sure all your students' clothing is clearly labelled with their names.

### ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL - LESLEY FOSTER

**Sue King**

It is with great pride we acknowledge the contribution that Sue King has made to Heatherwood over the last 13 years. Unstinting in her commitment to students, staff and programs, Sue was the master of technology and willingly assisted all of us gain new skills. Sue has made a significant career change, now working in a Retirement Village and I am sure that the elderly members will benefit from Sue's knowledge and training ability. Sue's son Marc attended Heatherwood for 6 years and became captain of the school. As both parent and staff member, Sue provided many insights to the community in ways we can all work together for the benefit of students with special needs. In her farewell to staff, Sue spoke of the family's journey, with some sound advice for us all, the need to look for what the child can do, the positives and to realise that achievement may take longer for some, but will occur. We wish you well Sue and will look forward to hearing of your future career achievements.

### **World Congress IASSIDD (International Association for Scientific Study of Intellectual Disability and Development)**

Eighteen members of the World Congress visited Heatherwood on Thursday 19 August to gain insight into the educational systems at our school. Members came from as far away as Finland, Singapore and Japan and consisted of senior department educators, psychologists and teachers. Tony Walker, Lynn Penrose, Robin Vierke and I hosted their visit and staff members were able to welcome them and chat over morning tea.

Thankyou to Danielle di Cosmo and Minnelese Coetser whose students in the Certificate 1 in Hospitality created a delicious spread and to Di who supplemented the spread on behalf of staff. The visitors were amazed with the facilities at Heatherwood, the library, computer rooms and the resources. The Learn to Drive Program and bug-gies were, as always, a standout, equally so the House Program and the Learning for Life skills taught there.

# JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Junior School's term has been chock full of action so far! Plenty of great learning activities to help students develop personally, socially and academically.

August 15<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> was National Science Week and Heatherwood celebrated with a very interesting incursion from Starlab who set up a Planetarium in the CLS! The junior students and their teachers were amazed at the journey of the cardboard rocket through the Solar System. The theme of National Science Week theme this year was *Droids, Drones and Robots*. Students were treated to a drone flight demonstration and tried their hand at being and programming a robot. What a busy, fun week it has been!



Year 8s have had a particular focus on friendships and cooperation through our Protective Behaviours and Personal Development programs. This has involved identifying the most important qualities of a good friend, learning skills for working with others and responding to the needs of others to solve a group problem in fun games.

Rehearsals have been getting into full swing for the upcoming Smithy production. Classes have enjoyed bursting out into song in preparation for the big event! The date for the production will be in the middle of term 4.





# MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS



During week 5 of this term, the Year 9 cohort spent a lovely week up at 15 Mile Creek, accompanied by Robin, Anne, Wendy, Max, Sue N and Braham. The campsite is about 30 minutes past Benalla. Even though the weather was pretty dismal down in Melbourne, the sunshine was very pleasant for the happy campers. All of the students spent an adventurous day at the snow on Mt Buffalo. Some went snow shoeing, some tobogganing but all had the opportunity to see snow, feel snow, and for some to eat snow but more importantly throwing snowballs was the highlight. Students were kept warm with a BBQ lunch and hot chocolate and scones for afternoon tea. On the other days students rotated around activities comprising of Mountain bike riding, climbing up a rock wall and abseiling down, nature/bush activities, archery, canoeing and cooking damper over a camp fire. After each session students returned to base camp gleaming with excitement and telling stories to their friends over dinner. A variety of two course meals were served each night and no one ever complained of being hungry. A lot of the food was sourced from local producers or grown on the campsite. Night walks admiring nature after dark and the astronomy in the sky assisted all in falling asleep with ease. Overall, the year 9's had a wonderful experience on camp and are still reminiscing about the memories weeks after their return. A big thank you to all the staff who organised and or attended the camp.

**Braham Morris**



## MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

## 15 MILE CREEK

43 teenagers, 6 teachers, one camp. What did they do for those five days?

Monday we went on a bush walk in the dark. We looked at the stars and looked for animals lurking in the dark. Tuesday we went to Mt. Buffalo where there was snow. People did some tobogganing but the most challenging thing that day was the hill we climbed up, some of us fell down the hill. Wednesday we did rock climbing. On my first try I got to the top and rang the bell with ease but on my second go I couldn't touch the yellow and all the good rocks at the top were yellow. Lets just say it took me a while and after I finally rang the bell my arms had become jelly. Thursday we went to the dam where we did some canoeing. The water was freezing. I know this because I was the very first one to fall in the murky brown water. We successfully crossed the dam but one student jumped ship into a donut shaped black tyre tube. He lived to tell the tale. It was a great camp especially the Mt. Buffalo day . To the bus, home sweet home. **Lachlan**



We went to 15 Mile Creek camp with 45 students and 6 teachers. We were divided into 4 groups by the camp staff. I was in the Pizza Eating Echidna group. On Tuesday we went to a 2 hour drive to Mt Buffalo, wearing 3 layers of clothes. When we arrived we threw snowballs , slid down hills on toboggans and had bbq for lunch. On the 11th we went for a walk through the creek, well some of us did. Others went beside the creek instead of getting their pants and shoes wet. In summary I thought the camp was good because I found it engaging. **Ian**



# MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS



## **Year 10 visit to Korin Gamadji Institute Richmond Football Club.**

On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> August Heatherwood year 10's visited an indigenous education centre run by Richmond football club. On arrival students were given a tour of the facilities and were told that many indigenous youngsters from all parts of Victoria came to do an education program run through the club. There are approximately 22 participants. As part of the tour we were shown a ceremonial possum fur and Aboriginal art work. Larissa got to hold up a football jumper used for AFL Indigenous round. At the conclusion of our tour we were able to see The Richmond footballers at training. When there was a break in training the footballers met with our students and signed autographs and jumpers. The value of this excursion was that we formed a vital community partnership with staff from the institute offering to come to Heatherwood to speak to all students and it was a great follow on from the Kutcha Edwards visit at the start of term. I would like to thank The Korin Gamadji Institute and the Richmond Football Club for making us feel so welcome.

**Lynda DenElzen (Year 10 teacher).**

# TRADE KITCHEN NEWS

The Trade Kitchen had two groups of year 10's completing work experience during weeks 3 and 4. The students got a real understanding of the ins and outs of working day-to-day in a hospitality/customer service role.

We've been lucky to be getting fresh fruit and vegetables from Max's horticultural group. Some of the things we have made recently are fresh kiwi fruit parfaits and spicy chorizo soup with school-garden kale.



Lachlan and Hanno make a great team preparing the pizzas!

The following students have been awarded **'Chef of the Day'** for their commitment, team work and cooking skills in the Trade Kitchen in weeks 5 and 6:



**Alastair Moore-M7**  
**Philip Hour-M9**  
**Dylan Wassink-S5**  
**Lily Worrall-M7**

**Gemma Clements Trade Kitchen**





# PE DEPARTMENT



## ***National School Sport Cross Country Championships (Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Aug to Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug, Canberra ACT)***

Rachael Potter (M2) and Daniel Milone (M5) qualified and competed as part of Team Vic in the recent National School Sport Cross Country Championships in Canberra.. This is an enormous achievement and both students performed extremely well.

### ***Rachael Potter Results:***

2<sup>nd</sup> place in her age group female multi-class Cross Country relay  
4<sup>th</sup> place in her age group female multi-class Individual 3km Cross Country race

### ***Daniel Milone Results:***

2<sup>nd</sup> place in his age group male multi-class Cross Country relay  
5<sup>th</sup> place in his age group male multi-class Individual 3km Cross Country race

### **Congratulations on these fantastic results!**

Please email me if you have any other sporting achievement you wish to be recognised and celebrated.

**Sam Ditty**

**PE Department (Enquiries email: [ditty.samantha.s@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:ditty.samantha.s@edumail.vic.gov.au))**





We all know we should eat 5 serves of vegetables a day...

But did you know that the average Aussie only eats *half* that amount? During Nutrition Week this year the Heatherwood community are taking up the "Try for 5" challenge.

There will be more information in next month's newsletter on this and other Nutrition Week activities.

We are also planning to put together a Heatherwood recipe book featuring favourite recipes using vegetables. For this we will be asking students, parents and families and staff for contributions.

- the Curriculum team -

Health and Physical Education / Design and Technology / Personal Development

