



# Junior School Information 2017

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February

## Dates:

### ➤ Term 1

31 January – 31 March

### ➤ Term 2

18 April – 30 June

### ➤ Term 3

17 July – 22 September

### ➤ Term 4

9 October – 22 December

## Curriculum Days

18 and 19 April

22 May

## Public Holidays

13 March – Labour Day

25 April – ANZAC Day

12 June – Queens Birthday

7 November – Melbourne Cup

## Contact Us:

Buckingham Drive,  
Rowville 3178

Phone: 9764 5533

Fax: 9764 3297

Email: [heany.park.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:heany.park.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au)

## Welcome!

The Junior School Team welcomes you to a new year at Heany Park Primary School. We look forward to getting to know you and your child throughout the year as we work together to provide engaging and challenging learning opportunities. We encourage you to contact your child's classroom teacher for any information, questions or concerns. If you wish to make a time to meet with your child's teacher, please phone or email to make an appointment.

The Junior School teachers operate as a team, working and planning together. We support our students to further develop their initiative, self-discipline and independence as learners whilst nurturing them to develop confidence and a sense of self-worth.

This information book has been created to assist you in understanding some of the things your child will experience this year. There will be a Junior School fortnightly bulletin about learning and teaching to keep you updated. This will be posted on the school website. If you require a hard copy to be sent home, please request this via your classroom teacher.

## Communication

All school newsletters, fortnightly learning updates, notices and other information can be accessed via our school website [www.heanyparkps.vic.edu.au](http://www.heanyparkps.vic.edu.au)

Our newsletter and other information can also be accessed via our 'Tiqbiz' program for computers and 'Tiqbiz' app for smartphones, [www.tiqbiz.com](http://www.tiqbiz.com). For important reminders/notifications we use

the Tiqbiz app on smartphones as an SMS service. This is our preferred means of communication.

Notices requiring a reply will be sent home as a hard copy. They will also be available electronically on our school website for you to print.

If your child is absent from school please provide an absent note on return to school. Please inform your classroom teacher and the office in writing should you be planning an extended absence.

The QKR app is also available for school payments eg excursions, sporting events.



## Learner Profile

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognising their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

### IB learners are:

Inquirers  
Knowledgeable  
Thinkers  
Communicators  
Principled  
Open-minded  
Caring  
Risk-takers  
Balanced  
Reflective

*“The illiterate of the future will not be the person who cannot read. It will be the person who does not know how to learn.”*

## Literacy

Literacy skills are emphasised throughout each day across all the curriculum areas.

### Reading

The purpose of reading is to construct meaning from a variety of printed, dramatised, and visual texts. Reading is an essential part of our classroom programs and life. We explicitly teach strategies to help support students decode, make meaning from and enjoy a variety of texts. Teaching and Learning foci plan to support students thinking within the text, about the text and beyond the text.



### Writing

Your child will participate in our school wide approach to writing with the explicit teaching of text types for different purposes and audiences. Students will explore a range of genres and develop skills to enable them to become proficient writers. Spelling and Grammar are integral to our writing program. Through the explicit teaching of phonics your child will be given feedback on their spelling and grammar, providing direction for what they are ready to learn next.

### Speaking and Listening

Students will engage in various tasks to develop their Speaking and Listening skills. These include how to listen effectively, how to ask open questions and how to speak in a manner that engages the audience. Students will be encouraged to use a clear voice and appropriate volume and pace when speaking. Students will be encouraged to develop speaking and listening skills through show and tell and short presentations.

## Numeracy

In the Junior School students learn to make connections and apply mathematical concepts, skills and processes to pose and solve problems in mathematics and in other disciplines and contexts. Each lesson includes at least one key learning focus, e.g. Number (counting, place value and patterns), Space (shape and location), Measurement (estimating and measuring length, mass, area, capacity and volume), Chance (likelihood) and Data (interpreting data and creating graphs). Mental computation strategies are explicitly taught so students can calculate efficiently and develop automatic recall of basic number facts.



## Transdisciplinary

We start the year with activities and tasks which allow your child, the class and teacher to get to know each other. An Essential Agreement will be developed in each classroom. This establishes the expectations and guidelines for how the class will operate and treat each other to ensure everyone can be the best learner possible. It helps us to settle into new routines and habits for the year ahead and set high expectations. This supports our IB attitudes and high quality teaching and learning for the year.



All learning starts with gathering prior knowledge and misconceptions and

## Special Events: Semester 1

20 February - RACV Road Safety

9 March-School Council AGM

5 May- Reading Information Session

22 – 26 May –  
Celebration of Learning / Education Week

## IB attitudes and values:

Appreciation

Commitment

Confidence

Co-operation

Creativity

Curiosity

Empathy

Enthusiasm

Independence

Integrity

Respect

Tolerance

designing tasks to build on students' knowledge, understandings, skills and attitudinal development.

This year we have six units of inquiry:

These are detailed on the Yearly Planner which is inserted within this newsletter. You may want to place this on your fridge for easy reference.

Please note the dates for opportunities for you to connect with your child's learning.

---

## Excursions & Incursions

Throughout the year, students will have opportunities to learn both within and outside the classroom with a variety of incursions, guest speakers and excursions. These have been planned to enhance and elaborate on the understandings and skills developed throughout our Transdisciplinary learning.

There will be opportunities for parents to be involved in these events along with other whole school activities such as Cross Country, Harmony Day, House Athletics etc.

Incursion and Excursions booked for this year include; a speaker from RACV talking to the children about Road Safety, an excursion to the Cranbourne Botanical Gardens to participate in the Seed to Tree program and an excursion to Healsville Sanctuary to participate in the Aussie Animals Adventurers program

Further information for events throughout the year, will be sent home at appropriate times.

---

## Assessment

Ongoing assessment occurs everyday and informs what is to be taught and learnt next. Teachers conduct a variety of assessment tasks throughout the year. This includes standardised assessment and teacher-devised tasks that determine student achievement for reporting purposes.

All assessments from last year are taken into consideration when planning for learning. Accurate reading data is used to begin student's work in reading groups. Student's reading progress including the strategies they are / are not using and their comprehension is closely monitored. Assessment takes place on an ongoing basis over all lessons. It is used to plan teaching content and group students according to their learning needs.

Some students who are identified as requiring further assistance or extension may have an Individual Learning Plan (ILP). Programs or tasks will be provided for school and at home to address student's specific learning needs.

Each term students will be encouraged to reflect on their skills, understandings, work habits and effort. Teachers will work with students to identify and communicate their next steps for learning. Students will receive ongoing feedback about how they are progressing and what they can do to further their learning.

## Five Essential Elements of the PYP

### Knowledge:

What do we the students to know about?

### Concepts:

What we want students to understand?

### Skills:

What skills want students to be able to do?

### Attitudes:

What we want students to feel, value, demonstrate?

### Action:

How we want students to act?

---

## Homework Policy

A copy of our homework policy is available on the school website and will be re-published in the Whole School Newsletter next week (16<sup>th</sup> February) Reading regularly forms the main component of student's Homework and children are encouraged to talk about the texts they are reading. Some students will continue to receive sight words to learn to help with automaticity when they encounter them in texts. On some occasions there will be a Numeracy task which relate to the students current learning.

---

## Our Junior School Team



Sonya McLeod  
Team Leader  
1/2SM



Claire Panton  
1/2CP



Araanee Ketheswaran  
1AK



Marcus Lo Ricco  
2ML

