



# Senior 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

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## Welcome!

The Year 5/6 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 we are busy before or after school, please phone or email to make an appointment.

The Year 5/6 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 Year 5/6 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

In the Senior School, the study of English language develops skills in Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening—the skills essential for success in all areas of learning.

### Reading

The students will be increasingly exposed to a range of authors and literary styles through the inclusion of digital technologies and media in the English program. Students will explore how language, visual imagery, colour and layout influence the reader and contribute to the reading experience. They will analyse and explain literal and implied information from a variety of texts. Students will be encouraged to read a range of texts to support their literacy development, including books, newspapers, blogs, magazines and age-appropriate picture books.

### Writing

In their senior years of primary school, students will extend their knowledge of text types through literature studies and writing workshops. They will create detailed texts elaborating upon key ideas for a range of purposes and audiences. They will demonstrate an understanding of grammar, make considered choices from an expanding vocabulary, use accurate spelling and punctuation for clarity and make and explain editorial choices.

### Speaking and Listening

Students will listen to discussions, clarifying content and challenging others' ideas. They will make presentations and contribute actively to class and group discussions, using a variety of strategies for effect.

They will understand how language features and language patterns can be used for emphasis. In order to support their confidence and ability when public speaking, students in Year 6 will be involved in a series of workshops facilitated by 'Super Speak'. The program provides expert tuition, by trained secondary English and Drama teachers, on structuring and delivering various styles of verbal performance.

## Numeracy

In Year 5 and 6, students develop their mathematical skills and understandings through problem-solving in everyday situations. 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 allows your child and his 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 the IB attitudes and high quality teaching and learning for the year.

## Special Events: Semester 1

**10 February**-YLead  
student leaders training

**9 March**-School Council  
AGM

**21-24 March** Yr6 Camp

**22-24 March**- Y5 Camp

**5 May**- Reading  
Information Session

**9-11 May**-  
NAPLAN (Yr5)

**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

All learning starts with gathering prior knowledge and misconceptions and 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.

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## Excursions & Incursions

Year 6 students will be attending camp at Club Lorne from Tuesday 21st to Friday 24th of March. Attending camp allows the students to develop their independence in becoming more responsible, improving their social skills by co-operating with their peers and building new friendships. It is a great opportunity for staff and students to get to know each other beyond the classroom early in the year.

Year 5 students will be attending camp at Sovereign Hill from Wednesday 22nd to Friday 24th of March. Students will gain an authentic experience of living life on the goldfields. Activities include; gold panning, mine tours, Blood on the Southern Cross light show and experiencing life in the 1800's. This camp supports student understanding of Asian history and culture and its place in Australian history.

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## 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.

Teachers will work with students to identify, set and achieve personal learning goals to promote their progress. Students who are identified as requiring further assistance or extension will 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.

In 2008, the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy - NAPLAN - commenced in Australian schools. The program continues in 2016 with all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 being assessed using common national tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy. At HPPS students in Years 3 and 5 participate in the assessment program. If your child has special circumstances preventing them from participating, you should discuss these with our school principal, Ms Janet Evison. NAPLAN tests are conducted at school and administered by class teachers.

## 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?

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## 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)

Expectations this year are:

Homework tasks will be given out each Monday and are expected to be returned the following Monday. Tasks may include reading, spelling, maths and transdisciplinary learning. Each child will have a student diary which is required at school every day. Year 5/6 students are expected to complete 30-40 minutes of homework, 4 days per week as per the Homework Policy.

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## Our Senior Team



Christine Vavasour  
Team Leader



Lisa Hill  
6LH



Robyn Davis  
Literacy Leader  
5RD



Chris Kijek  
5CK



Alicia Hendy  
5AH

