



Senior School Information 2021



Tuesday 2nd February

Term Dates

➤ Term 1

27 January – 1 April

➤ Term 2

20 April – 25 June

➤ Term 3

12 July – 17 September

➤ Term 4

4 October – 17 December

Curriculum Days

5 March

19 April

16 August

(these are pupil free days)

OSHClub is open on Curriculum days. Please book through OSH Club

www.oshclub.com.au

Public Holidays

8 March – Labour Day

14 June – Queen's Birthday

2 November – Melbourne Cup

Contact Us:

Buckingham Drive, Rowville
3178

Phone: 9764 5533

Fax: 9764 3297

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

@edumail.vic.gov.au

Welcome!

The Senior 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 Senior 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 'Learning in the Classroom Newsletters' about learning and teaching to keep you updated. This will be published through COMPASS and posted on the school website.

Communication

COMPASS is our main form of communication with parents. We use this platform to:

- Send newsfeed items and reminders
- Newsletters
- Excursions and Incursions information
- Absent Reminders
- Semester Reports
- Complete payments
- Booking Interviews and
- Emailing teachers

An APP can be downloaded on your phone or you can access COMPASS on a computer.



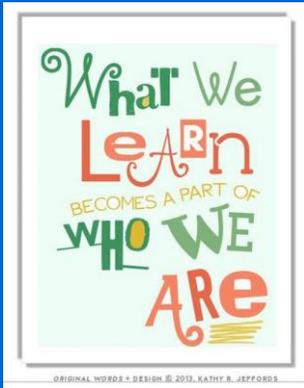
Absent or Extended Holidays

Parent can advise the school and teachers about absences from school due to illness or an appointment through COMPASS.

Please inform your classroom teacher and the office via COMPASS if you are planning an extended holiday.



The **QKR app** is still available for the canteen and possible fundraising events



Special Events:

16 Feb – School Photos

1 Apr - House Cross Country

***23 Apr** – ANZAC Day Ceremony (2.30pm)

***27 May** – Education Week Open Classrooms (TBC)

22 & 24 June – Three Way Conferences

***16 – 20 Aug**- Science Week

21 Oct - House Athletics

3 and 6 Dec – Senior School Exhibition

8 Dec – Christmas Concert

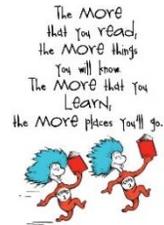
*These events will be confirmed closer to the date, depending to COVID regulations and guidelines.

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 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 and author's craft 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. They will explore the repertoire approach to spelling which includes morphological, etymological, orthographical and phonological knowledge. SMART Spelling



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 will be encouraged to participate in different styles of verbal performance.

Numeracy

Senior 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. Lessons will begin with short Number talks that allow



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



classroom conversation around purposefully crafted problems that are solved mentally. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in the Maths Olympiads extension program.

Transdisciplinary

We commence the year with activities and tasks which allows 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. The Essential Agreement is an important part of setting the learning culture within each classroom. It helps us to settle into new routines and habits for the year and sets high expectations. The agreement supports our School Values and high quality teaching and learning for the year.



Over the course of the year the children will explore six units of inquiry under the different Transdisciplinary Themes. Each unit contains a central idea, lines of inquiry, key concepts and learner profile attributes.

The Yearly Planner which is attached to this newsletter provides details of the units of inquiry your child will be investigating this year. 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.

The Thrive Approach

We use The Thrive Approach, a developmental approach, designed to meet the social and emotional developmental needs of all our children. It is informed by established findings in neuroscience; child development theory; attachment theory and research into the importance of play and creativity.

Thrive is a specific way of working with all children that helps to develop their social and emotional well-being, enabling them to engage with life and learning. It supports them in becoming more self-assured, capable and adaptable. It can also address any troubling behaviours providing a firm foundation for academic attainment.

At Heany Park Primary School we use a screening tool and activity planning resource called Thrive-Online. This allows us to check that children are working appropriately for their age and to develop the whole group with activities that ensure that they are as emotionally and socially supported as they can be. Thrive-Online will also identify any children in need of extra help. If the screening process suggests that your child would benefit from additional one-to-one support, our Thrive Licensed Practitioner (Sue Houghten) will contact you, and with your consent will carry out a more detailed assessment to develop an action plan that gives specific strategies and activities for supporting your child within our school.

We understand that some circumstances may be sensitive and confidentiality will be paramount at all times when you are discussing your child's needs with us.

SCHOOL VALUES

RESPECT

Being tolerant, caring and supportive, and valuing ourselves and each other

ACCEPTANCE

Acknowledging differences and change with an open mind

INTEGRITY

Being ethical, honest and fair in dealings with others

LIFE LONG LEARNING

Our commitment to ongoing learning to develop skills and knowledge



Sue Houghten
Thrive Practitioner



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, camp etc.

Incursion and Excursions already booked for this year include

- Water Safety beach excursion
- Bike Education
- Rickets Point
- Sovereign Hill camp
- Mad about Science

Further information for events throughout the year, will be sent home via COMPASS 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.

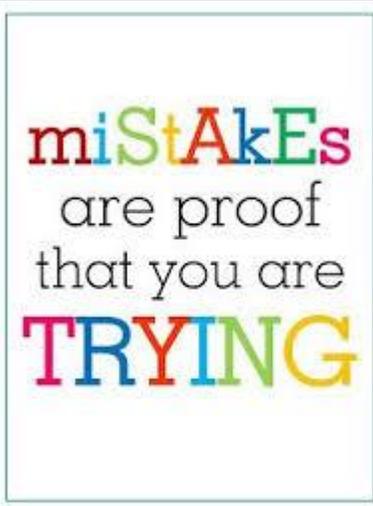
All assessments from last year are taken into consideration when planning for learning. Accurate reading data is used to begin student's work in reading groups. Student's reading progress including the strategies they are / are not using and their comprehension is closely monitored. Assessment takes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

Students who are identified as requiring further assistance or extension will have an Individual Development Plan (ILP) prepared for them. 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, set and achieve personal learning goals to promote their progress.

In 2008, the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy - NAPLAN - commenced in Australian schools. The program continues in

2019 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. This year NAPLAN testing will be online.

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 using the new online system.



Homework Policy

A copy of our homework policy is available on the school website and an electronic copy will be sent via COMPASS.

Expectations this year are:

Homework tasks will be given out each Monday and is 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. Senior students are expected to complete 30-40minutes of homework 4 days per week as per the Homework Policy.

Our Senior School Team



Deniz D'Atri
Team Leader
56D



Debbie Beimers
56B



Mark Stanton
56S