



# Heatherwood News



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## From the Principal

It doesn't seem that long ago that I was welcoming all members of the school community to the beginning of the school year, now it is nearly the end of Term One.

Reflecting over the past term a lot of things have occurred and I greatly appreciate your support and involvement. Students have settled well into their classes and in most cases are maximising the learning opportunities provided both in and outside the school. There have been a number of camps, SSG's and programs involving students engaging with the community.

Thank you to the parents who have nominated for School Council. As at the close of business on Friday the number of nominations matched the number of vacancies so no election was required. Parent representatives are Lynda Hamilton, Wes Hudson, Michael Eefting, Rosanna Cimino, Mellisa Giles and Paul Dall'Oglio and a Community member Steve Worrall. The Heatherwood community has significantly benefitted from Kim Doherty and Michelle Aitkens' involvement with the school and their significant contribution they have made over a number of years. On behalf of the school community I would like to thank them for their support and being such strong advocates for our school.

The school is undergoing a review, which involves a DET (Department of Education & Training) appointed reviewer, challenge partners (from primary, secondary and specialist educational settings), school staff and members of the school council. Its purpose is to ascertain how the school is performing against goals set in its strategic plan and to assist with setting goals and strategies for its next 4 year plan. This will ensure that the best teaching and learning opportunities are provided for our students. Thank you for your ongoing support.

**Paul Hills | Principal**



## NDIS and Post School Options

Heatherwood School has programmes and initiatives in place to prepare students for when they exit school at the end of year 12.

For students who are eligible for, or currently have, an NDIS plan, it is strongly advisable to consider the role of your NDIS funding when planning post school options. **Many post school options are only available on a fee for service basis and require NDIS funding.**

Students eligible for the NDIS may also be identified as suitable for School Leaver Employment Supports (SLES) which is a funded program and offers individualised support for up to 2 years after finishing Year 12 to help develop skills and confidence to find and keep a job in open employment.

It is highly recommended that you have your NDIS planning meeting or review meeting with sufficient time to discuss and plan post school options such as a **Disability Employment Services (DES)**, **Community Participation**, and **SLES** well before the end of year 12. It may be necessary to discuss with your planner the possibility of booking a 9 month review in year 12.

Families can contact the NDIS by calling **1800 800 110** to request the Access Request Form or you can make contact with your Local Area Coordinator or your local NDIA office to obtain the Form and obtain advice.



### NDIA Office locations: (Tel Ph: 1800 800 110)

- Boronia - 3 William Street (sharing with DHHS)
- Box Hill - 3 - 13 Harrow Street
- Dandenong - Ground Floor, 19 George Street

### Local Area Coordinators (LAC's) can help you to:

- Understand and access the NDIS
- Create a plan (this is then approved by the NDIA)
- Implement your plan
- Review your plan
- Link you to information and support in your community
- Learn about support(s) available in your local community
- Understand how the NDIS works with other government services – such as education, health, and transport
- Sustain informal supports around you – this is family, friends and local community members.

Local Area Coordinators (LAC's) are based in **Latrobe Community Health** offices throughout both Inner and Outer Eastern Melbourne and they have offices in the following locations. The general telephone number is **1800 242 696**.

- **Bayswater** - Mountain High Shopping Centre, 7 - 13 High Street
- **Boronia** - 3 William Street
- **Box Hill** - Level 2, 26-28 Prospect Street
- **Chirnside Park** - 1 Eastridge Street
- **Dandenong** - Level 5, 76 Thomas Street
- **Doncaster** - 90 Tram Road
- **Mount Waverley** - 541 Blackburn Road
- **Ringwood** - 88 Maroondah Highway

### A word from the Office....

#### Unknown Bank Deposit

In December 2018, the School received a payment into our bank account from Studfield. If it was you who made this payment, could you please contact Kaye Shilcock, Business Manager.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### April

- 1/4 Mon – Alpine Bike Camp  
5/4 Fri
- 1/4 Mon – S7 Class Camp – Torquay  
4/4 Thu
- 5/4 Fri House Day – Cross Country

**5/4 Fri** **LAST DAY Term 1**  
**Early Dismissal 1:50pm**

**22/4 Mon** **Easter Monday (Public Holiday)**

**23/4 Tue** **First Day Term 2**

**25/4 Thu** **Anzac Day (Public Holiday)**

### June

**28/6 Fri** **Last day of Term 2**

## Reports on line



At the last Heatherwood School Council meeting, the councillors were keen to get feedback from the parent community on being able to access their child's report online. While the council considers the proposal favourably, we are now in the process of contacting you as parents for your feedback. Class teachers will be contacting a percentage of parents. The process of accessing reports on line is quite simple, with verified privacy via a personal code, and an email address is not required. You can access the report from a phone, iPad or computer. Should the school decide to go ahead a letter will be sent to all parents with details. All reports can be downloaded and saved over a child's school life. Thankyou for your feedback on this initiative.

**Lesley Foster | Assistant Principal**

**21 MARCH**  
**HARMONY DAY**

On Thursday-21<sup>st</sup> March, students and staff at Heatherwood School celebrated Harmony Day with the theme "Everyone belongs". Throughout the week, it was heart-warming hearing students' expressing their understandings of diversity, respect, inclusivity and culture which are concepts closely associated with Harmony Day. Sally Campbell, the coordinator for Harmony Day, invited award winning writer Abdi Aden to share his journey from a teenager fleeing the war in Somalia to working hard and finding home in Australia. The students engaged wholeheartedly with Abdi's story, asking him questions and readily responding to his questions. I believe the students have benefitted greatly from Abdi's insights, being resilient, fearless and never playing victim in order to chase their aspirations.

Another highlight of the event was the poster competition that encouraged students to demonstrate their appreciation for Australia's cultural diversity through the use of visual arts. Students were given opportunities to collaborate with their friends to complete the poster or working individually. The winning poster was from M6 (Ewan Wheeler).

I was deeply impressed by the students' teamwork, on top of their creativity and talents. I want to stress also that the students have been demonstrating inclusive practices throughout my first week of placement at Heatherwood School. I am truly grateful for my 10 days being part of this community.

**Ann Ta**

**Pre-service teacher from Monash University, 2019**





# HARMONY DAY 21 MARCH



On Harmony Day at Heatherwood School speaker Abdi Aden talked to all the classes about resilience and success in the “Speak to Me” project. We ran a Harmony competition and the students and classes created posters to represent what they felt about Harmony Day. Abdi viewed all the posters and found that M6 had a winning design demonstrated that Everyone Belong’s. A big thank you to the school captains who met Abdi and showed him around the school. The hospitality class invited Abdi to join them for lunch where he experienced Heatherwood antipasto and shared his journeys with the students. Abdi really enjoyed his talk at Heatherwood and commented on the great questions the students asked. Thanks to the Heatherwood students and staff for a great Harmony Day.



**Sally Campbell**





## Work Experience 2019

Career Education classes have commenced for all students in Years 7 to 12. Robin Vierke is currently taking classes with the Years 8, 9 and 10, Mark Walker is currently looking after classes for Years 7, 11 and 12. We will be looking at the world of work, the vast possibilities and the opportunities that are available for our students.

The Year 11 students will have a two week block from **22<sup>nd</sup> July until 2<sup>nd</sup> August** (this is the second and third week of term 3). The Year 10 students will have a 2 week block from **14<sup>th</sup> of October until 25<sup>th</sup> October** ( this is the second and third week of term 4). We are looking to put students in a range of work placements which will allow them to start thinking about their futures.

The **uniform** for many retail outlets such as Coles is plain black pants, black shoes and a white shirt, not all of our students have these items and if you have any spares I will try to collect a supply to lend to students for work experience placements. Thank you for your assistance and I will hopefully have an opportunity to speak with all the parents of work experience students.

Robin Vierke



Fleur George is the NDIS coordinator for Knoxbrooke.

Her contact details are:

**Fleur George | NDIS Coordinator**

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## PE and Sports News

### Interschool Basketball & Beach Volleyball Carnival Day (Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March at Dandenong Stadium)

Heatherwood School entered four Basketball teams across the grades of A grade, B grade, C grade & Girls grade and two teams in the Beach Volleyball competition throughout Term 1 Interschool Sport.

#### Heatherwood School Carnival Day results:

Basketball A Grade - Made it to the semi-finals

Basketball B Grade - **2<sup>nd</sup> Place Runners Up** in a very close Grand Final against Emerson School.

Basketball C Grade - **1<sup>st</sup> Place Premiers** in a Grand Final against Emerson School

Basketball Girls Grade - **2<sup>nd</sup> Place Runners Up** in the Grand Final against Emerson School.

Beach Volleyball- Heatherwood Green - **1<sup>st</sup> Place Premiers** and Heatherwood Blue - 7<sup>th</sup> place.

Well done to all students that represented Heatherwood in Interschool for Term 1, teams will be announced early Term 2 for Interschool Sports of Soccer & Hockey.



## Interschool Tennis Vic Come & Try Day

(Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at Notting Hill Pinewood Tennis Club, Mt Waverley)

Tennis Victoria put on a great day for many South-East Special Schools involving skills, drills and some friendly competition games. It was a great showcase of Tennis and the interactive activities that were suited to all abilities, the Tennis Victoria staff provided a great display of hot shot activities for staff and students to experience throughout the session. Each student received a tennis cap and tennis racquet to keep, we encourage them to head down to their local club with family and friends for a hit of tennis. More information on how to get into Tennis clubs in the community visit <https://www.tennis.com.au/vic/>. Thanks to Tennis Vic for providing this opportunity for our students.



## School Sport Victoria Eastern Metropolitan Secondary Region Swimming Finals

Emily Sheill (J1) represented Heatherwood School in the recent School Sport Victoria Eastern Metropolitan Secondary Region Swimming Finals. Well done to Emily! I will be offering further opportunities to more Heatherwood School students in School Sport Victoria Cross Country and Track & Field later in the year.

Results:

3<sup>rd</sup> place in 12-15 years Girls 50m Freestyle Multiclass

5<sup>th</sup> place in 12-15 years Girls 50m Backstroke Multiclass



### PE Cricket Victoria Clinics

All Year 7 & 8 students have been involved in a three week Cricket clinic run by Cricket Victoria staff. This clinic have worked on eye-hand coordination, fundamental motor skills development and transferring motor skills into specific cricket related skills through a range of fun and active games and activities. Thanks to Cricket Vic for providing this opportunity for our students.

### House Cross Country Day (Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April at Heatherwood School)

Look forward to a great whole school House Walk-a-thon & Cross Country races for our Term 1 House day. All staff and students present at school on the last day of Term 1 will be involved in the active day, working hard and gaining house points for their House team. More information regarding the day coming home via a letter with students during the week of the event. Results will be announced in the next newsletter.

### Active April

Premier's Active April encourages Victorian families to get healthy and active by participating in 30 minutes of physical activity a day for the month of April and beyond. Jump on board, register at [www.activeapril.vic.gov.au](http://www.activeapril.vic.gov.au).

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



# Horticulture



# Knoxbrooke *Achieve* Information Night



**Tuesday 21 May 2019**

**Mullum Mullum Stadium**

**31 Springvale Road  
Donvale**

**5-7pm**

Come along and find out more about Knoxbrooke Achieve – NDIS funded School Leaver Employment Supports designed to teach the skills needed to achieve employment or further education.

Session includes an  
NDIS Q & A

RSVP by 17th May to: Belinda Allwood  
[belindaa@knoxbrooke.com.au](mailto:belindaa@knoxbrooke.com.au)

Limited places  
Refreshments provided

  
**Knoxbrooke**  
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