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We are well into third term, and events continue to occur. Thank you to parents and carers who are actively involved in their young person's education and participating in the SSGs that are currently occurring. As a school, we really want to let you know what we are doing and how our students are progressing. Meetings involving the school and its community are one opportunity that provides a time when you can ask questions regarding the educational opportunities and growth your young person is experiencing at school.

As a school, we would greatly appreciate feedback about the SSG program, the educational opportunities being provided, and anything else about the processes and practices the school undertakes.

Unfortunately, the slab for the new horticulture shed has not been laid, and while we now have a building permit, progress is extremely limited.

On a brighter note, work on the new specialist wing is expected to start this week.

Disability Inclusion Profile meetings have begun, and it provides a great opportunity for teachers to share the knowledge and understanding of the students' needs and how they cater to their students to maximize the opportunities to engage in their learning.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the school and involvement in your child's education



Important Dates

Monday 1st September - Friday 12th September: Year 10 Work Experience

Thursday 11th September - Saturday 13th September: State Schools Spectacular

Friday 19th September: End of Term Footy Day. Wear footy colours or sporting clothes.

Friday 19th September: Last day of Term 3. **Students will be dismissed at 1:45pm**

Monday 6th October: First day of Term 4

Friday 31st October: Curriculum day. **Students do not attend school on this day.**

Friday 19th December: Last day of Term 4. **Students will be dismissed at 1:45pm**

Tuesday 27 January: Curriculum day. **Students do not attend school on this day.**

Wednesday 28 January: Curriculum day. **Students do not attend school on this day.**

Thursday 29 January: Start of Term 1, **2026.** **Students return to school.**

Assistant Principal's Message

Reporting on Student Progress

Lesley Foster

Director of Happiness

Heatherwood was proud to host a delegation of teachers and parents from the "Generating Opportunities of Learning Disabled" (GOLD) Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia this month. Two other guests were from Monash University and a member of an international team supporting people in Vietnam. The group has been visiting Heatherwood for over 10 years and is currently researching opportunities for engaging young adults in the community post-school. While GOLD has established a number of viable businesses, senior members were seeking new ideas. We invited Gail Dick to present some information based on the substantial programs she has initiated to assist young people of all ages to connect with the community. These programs include Housing, living independently for young people with special needs, Recreation, Sporting Programs, including the All Abilities Basketball, parent forums, Discos sponsored by Lions and Rotary Clubs, and many more. Gail has received Australia Day awards, worked tirelessly with the Manningham Council, and consulted with the Premier of Victoria to support young people with special needs, much of which relies on funding at all levels. We thank Gail for providing valuable service, not only to our local community, but our international neighbors as well. This was a very productive 'getting together' of people with like interests and needs. Thank you to all who attended.



Expo Resource Book

Robin Vierke

Transition Coordinator

The Expo is over for now, but hopefully this little resource book will help you view many local services at your leisure.

At the time of compiling, the contacts were all up to date. All the Exhibitors have been listed with a page of information. The contact details are included for each, and they cover a wide variety of services from learning to drive, job support, recreational activities, accommodation, supported work places, and a range of TAFE colleges.

If you have transition queries for students exiting year 12, please call Robin on the Heatherwood number 9842 8319

<https://www.heatherwood.vic.edu.au/page/30/Heatherwood-Expo-2025>



School Office

Student Sign In And Out

Students who are picked up **before 2:45pm** must be signed out by an adult at the office.

Students picked up at **2:45pm onward** will be supervised at the back gate until they are collected.

Students must be picked up no later than 3:00pm.

Please remind students to check for cars when walking through the car park.



Just a
Friendly
Reminder

Parents & Carers

- Please ensure your students' clothes are clearly labelled with their full name.
- Remind your young person **not** to share food with other students, due to health and safety reasons.

2025 Yearbook

The 2025 Yearbook will **only** be ordered for your student if the \$25.00 charge has been paid in full.

NB: Full payment is required **before** November. Reserve your copy now!

Second Hand Uniform

The school is always seeking to source good quality **second hand** uniform items. If you have garments to donate, the school will graciously accept them. Thank you!

Playground Supervision

Parents/Carers are reminded that **playground supervision** is provided from 8:45am on school days until the last contract bus departs after school and that no formal supervision of the playground occurs outside those hours.



CROWN & QUINCES Buses

If at any time your young person is not travelling on the bus to school **or** home from school you must do each of the following:

1. Inform **the school** on 9842 8319 **OR** write a note in your young person's diary.
2. Inform the **bus company**
CROWN 9845 1455
QUINCES 8506 2700



BOTH THE SCHOOL AND THE BUS COMPANY NEED TO KNOW OF ANY CHANGES THAT OCCUR.

Trade Kitchen

Shaz deWacht

Term 3 has started strongly with lots of soup and pasta meals prepared to keep us warm in the cold, winter days.

Senior student's presentations were shared with a few staff who asked interesting questions about the various student topics, and we learnt lots about Sandwiches and keeping the kitchen clean.

This semester, Year 9's will have the opportunity to work in Trade Kitchen as the year 10's will be on work experience. Thank you to those who have already expressed their interest in working in Trade Kitchen. More information will be available in the next newsletter and a note will be sent home with the students.

We were lucky to have Brianna assist us for two weeks in Trade Kitchen during August.



Trade Kitchen

Shaz deWacht

Ali Basel had the opportunity after researching club sandwiches to visit and meet Tim Bones (from MasterChef fame) at his café in Ballarat – Tim's Toasties. The highlight for Ali was finding out the secret to making the best toastie – using sourdough bread! Ali received a Tim's Toasties t-shirt, photos with Tim, and best of all - eating the toasties.

At Ali's suggestion, we offered two new toasties to the specials menu on Thursdays. The Chicken, Cheese, and BBQ sauce toasties were more popular than the Ham and Cheese toasties. The Senior Trade Kitchen students were surprised to find that they needed to make 22 extra toasties because they sold out each day.



Jo Larkin Represents Australia on the World Stage

We are proud to share that our Work Experience Coordinator, Jo Larkin, recently represented Australia as the Assistant Coach at the World Basketball Championships for players with an Intellectual Impairment, held in Kazakhstan.

Jo has been the Assistant Coach of the Australian Pearls since 2006 and has supported many Heatherwood students over the years to reach their dreams of playing for Australia.

The competition brought together teams from 11 countries, including Spain, France, Kazakhstan, Israel, Italy, Poland, Portugal, the USA, Venezuela, Japan, and Australia.

Australia entered two teams in the 3x3 competition, proudly taking home both the Gold and Silver medals. In the 5x5 format, Australia entered one team and went on to win the Gold medal. The Australian Men's Team was also very successful, winning Gold in 3x3 and 4th place, and Gold in 5x5.

The championship offered a true 3x3 experience, with games played on a drop-in FIBA-standard court set up under a bridge, complete with a DJ pumping out tunes and lively commentary throughout the games — creating an exciting and authentic atmosphere. The 5x5 World Championships were then played in a stadium the size of Rod Laver Arena!

Congratulations to Jo for her amazing achievements and for continuing to inspire our students with her passion and dedication.

"It is always an incredible honour to represent Australia on the world stage. Seeing athletes grow in skill, confidence, and teamwork is always rewarding. Being able to experience different cultures and places around the world is an added privilege." - Jo Larkin



Year 12 Sport & Recreation Students Complete CPR Training

Jo Larkin

Work Experience Co-ordinator

Our Year 12 students and the Sport and Recreation class have successfully completed a certified CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) course. This valuable training taught students how to respond in an emergency when someone is not breathing or their heart has stopped.

As part of their studies, students learned how to assess an emergency situation, perform chest compressions and rescue breaths, and safely use an automated external defibrillator (AED). This hands-on course supports important outcomes in the curriculum and helps students build real-world skills they can use to help others.

We are very proud of all students for their participation, focus, and effort in learning these lifesaving skills.



Phillip Island, Yr 7

Tania Benevento

Year 7 Classroom Teacher

After weeks of anticipation and preparation, thirty-one students and eight staff set off to CYC The Island, Phillip Island, for the Year 7 camp. Three buses were filled with students buzzing with a mix of nerves, excitement, and endless questions about what awaited them. Once we arrived and settled into our cabins, the fun began straight away with activities including the giant swing, flying fox, archery, and pedal cars. That afternoon, we headed to the Nobbies. Although the Nobbies Centre was closed, we enjoyed a stunning walk along the boardwalk, watching waves build and crash against the rocks.

From there, we made our way to the Penguin Parade. Just as we arrived, the skies opened, and students found themselves sitting in puddles of water, but their excitement never wavered. The sight of the penguins waddling up the beach was a true highlight, rain and all.

Over the next few days, we explored Churchill Island, visited the Koala Park, and watched the pelicans being fed. We also explored another beach, where some students braved the elements and chased waves as the sun was setting. It was truly stunning.



Meals were enjoyed together, and students embraced camp life, following new routines, taking responsibility for themselves and their belongings, and showing independence in a different setting. Along the way, friendships were formed and strengthened, and both students and staff enjoyed getting to know one another in a whole new light beyond the classroom walls. The journey home was filled with tired but happy faces, carrying stories and memories that will be shared for years to come. While everyone loved the adventure, there's nothing quite like the comfort of family and the warmth of your own bed, and everyone was glad to be home.

A huge thank you to the dedicated staff who made this camp possible, and to our families for trusting us with your children for this unforgettable experience.



Middle School Teachers Luncheon

Lynn Penrose and Rosie Zappone

Food Technology Teachers

A luncheon for Middle School teachers gave the hospitality students an opportunity to put into practice and bring together the many skills they are learning.

Working in small teams, they prepared the food, set the table, and set up the drinks station, then greeted their 'customers', plated the meal, and served food and drinks. All was done with a professional approach, and the students appreciated knowing how much the teachers enjoyed their lunch experience.

Well done everyone - a great team effort.



Thanks so much for the amazing luncheon. The food and service were excellent. It was so delicious, I particularly liked the mushroom and cheese burger.

The students were polite and checked that I was enjoying my meal and asked if my drink needed refilling. They took my plates away at the right time without interrupting my conversation or leaning across me.

I thought the table setting was pretty too.

Kath Horgen

Charnwood, Year 9 Camp

Monday 11th August - Thursday 14th August

Katherine Walsh

Year 9 Classroom Teacher

The Year 9 camp took place at Charnwood, Lima East, from August 11th to 14th, with a snow day at Mt Buller on the Wednesday.

It was a terrific camp. We could not have had better weather – sun shining every day!

The food was hearty, plentiful, and freshly cooked – the dinners were amazing and the desserts even better!

The campfire was a huge hit, and there were many fun activities to challenge us, but the highlight was probably the massive snowball fight at the top of Bourke St on Mt Buller.

The Year 9 students really stepped up and didn't need to be asked twice to help each other or the Auscamp staff.

We missed Tapa at the Snow Day – hopefully his knee will be better soon.

A big thank you to Lenisha for being our camp coordinator once again

From the Year 9 staff and Lee,

Looking forward to next year!



Charnwood, Year 9 Camp



Science Week

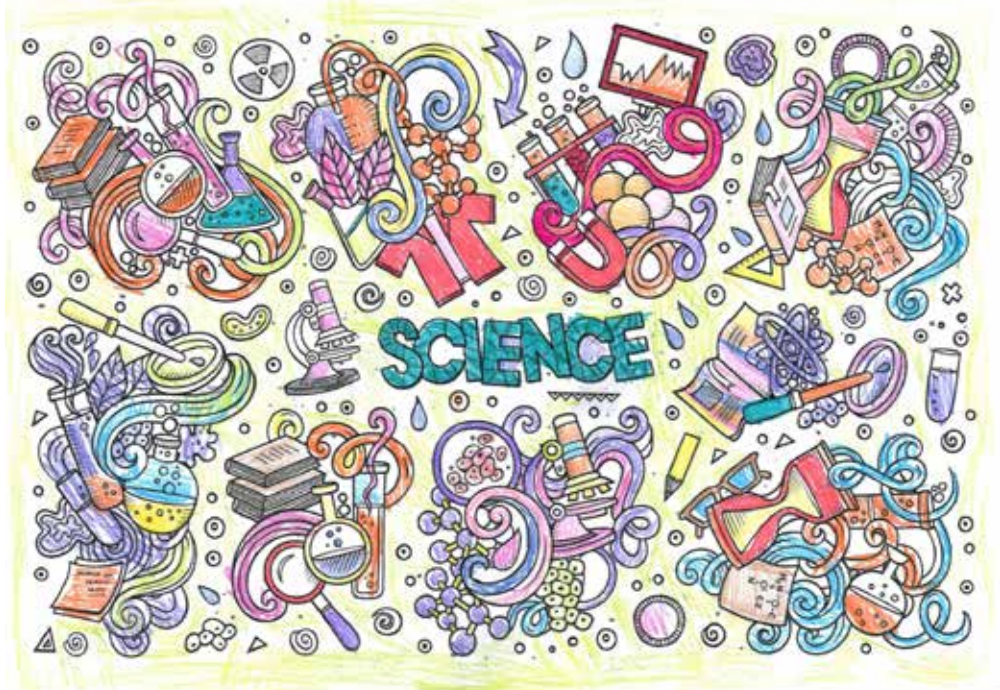
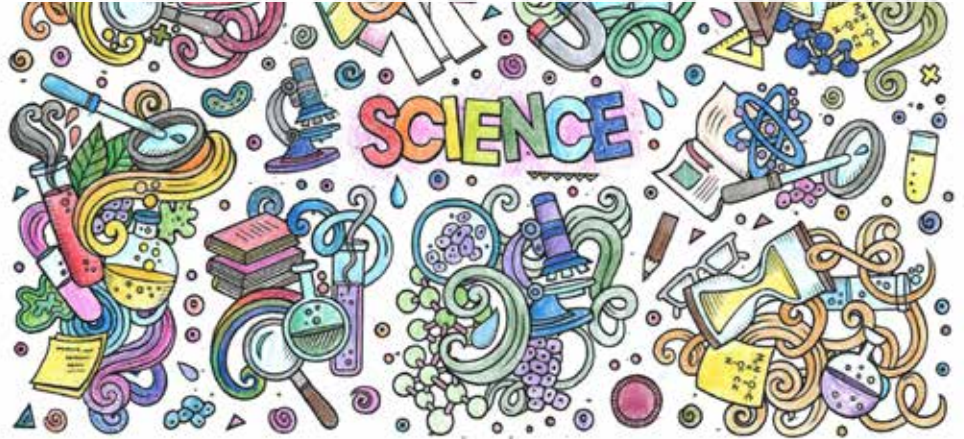
Monday 11th August - Friday 15th August

Adrian Penko, Pete Kosztka

Science/STEM

Science Week this year was all about "Decoding the Universe"—and wow, did our students rise to the challenge! Every day, classes got a new puzzle or riddle to crack, each one revealing a 2-digit number. Piece by piece, these clues built the final 8-digit code that everyone was racing to unlock. It was part brain workout, part detective mission, and part "who can shout the answer loudest before the teacher writes it down."

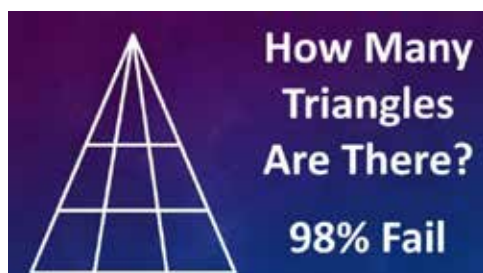
Along the way, we had a colouring competition full of creativity, some very impressive (and hotly debated) poster designs, and a whole-school Kahoot that brought the week to a chaotic, hilarious finale. Let's just say the competition was fierce and by Friday, brains were buzzing, pencils were worn down, and we had several triumphant classes clutching their shiny Science Week Trophies like they'd just discovered fire with bragging rights that will probably last until Christmas. Huge thanks to all the students and teachers who made this a successful Science Week, and a massive congratulations to all the winners.



Quantum Jump Sequence:
 $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 7 \rightarrow ? \rightarrow 16$

Challenge:
Look closely at how much each number increases.
Can you spot the pattern in the jumps?

What is the
missing number?



Mt Donna Buang, Year 9 Outdoor Ed

Lee O'Sullivan

Outdoor Education teacher

Year 9 students took part in their first Outdoor Education excursion to the summit of Mt Donna Buang. Expecting a fresh winter layer, sadly, the weather did not bless us with the greatest conditions for snow-play. However, we made the most of our time at the mountain, following along the canopy walk and skybridge that overlooks the stunning rainforest, climbed the summit observatory tower, and had some fun at the toboggan fields. A great start to the semester for these adventurous students!



SRC dress in Footy Colours or Favourite Sports team

End of term Footy Day Friday 19th September 2025



Visual Arts

Elise Ladanyi

Visual Arts Teacher

Year 10 students have been learning about Pablo Picasso and exploring abstract portraits. This week, they created characters using a wool felting technique on felt squares, with many producing vibrant and creative results.



Heatherwood School Council Update

The Heatherwood School Council is made up of a mix of school staff and parents/carers of current students. Together, we play an important role in helping make Heatherwood a great place for both students and staff.

The council meets twice a term, and as a parent representative, it's always great to hear first hand how the school is going and to receive updates on exciting initiatives — such as the progress on the new horticulture shed.

At our last meeting, we discussed the importance of effective communication between the school and parents/carers. We thought it would be helpful to use this month's newsletter as a quick refresher on the main ways to stay connected.

Sentral Parent Portal

An online tool where you can receive school correspondence digitally, complete permission forms, book Student Support Group meetings, and more.

If you have trouble accessing or using Sentral, please email the school for assistance.

Student Diary

Teachers often use student diaries to communicate with families, so please check them regularly (at least twice a week). You can also use the diary to send notes or letters to teachers.

Some teachers use emails or phone calls to communicate with parents. If you are not receiving regular contact, please contact the class teacher.

Heatherwood Website

www.heatherwood.vic.edu.au

Find everything from the events calendar to a 360° virtual tour of the school.

Email

- Contact your child's teacher directly, or
- Use the main school email: heatherwood.sch@education.vic.gov.au

Phone

Call the school on **(03) 9842 8319**.

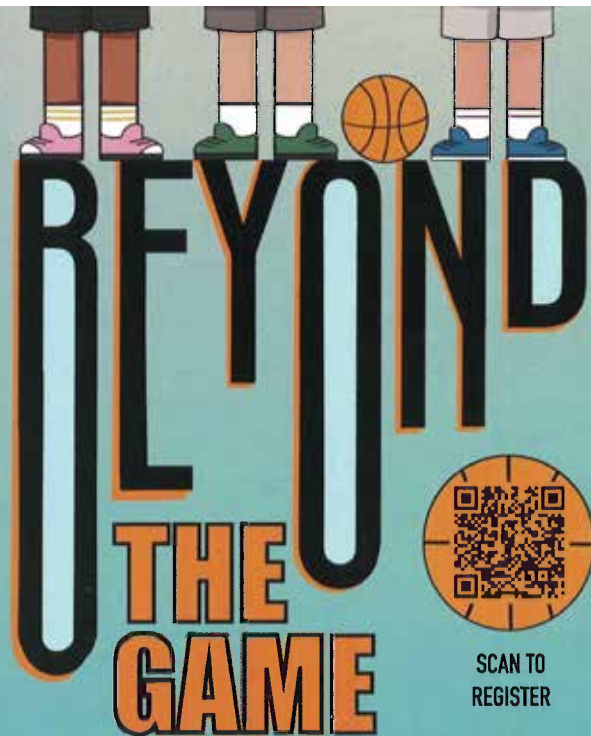
Facebook

Join the Heatherwood Parent Chat Facebook group, administered by School Council representative Annie Basel. It's a great place for parents to share information, ideas, and support. All parents and carers of current students are encouraged to join.

Finally, if you are interested in finding out more about the school council feel free to send me an email to andrewmurray2k@hotmail.com



Bonnie Rose



PROGRAM STARTING AUGUST 6TH 6PM

AT MULLUM MULLUM STADIUM

ALL ABILITIES BASKETBALL PROGRAM

beyondthegame.com.au

Beyond the Game is an all-abilities basketball training program designed to empower individuals living with disability through inclusive sport, physical activity, and social connection.

Our mission is to create a fun, supportive, and accessible environment where participants of all skill levels can build confidence, improve their fitness, and enjoy the benefits of team sports. We focus not just on basketball skills, but on developing life skills such as teamwork, communication, and resilience.

Each session is tailored to meet the unique needs and goals of our participants, ensuring everyone has the opportunity to learn, grow, and be part of a positive community.

Visit beyondthegame.com.au to connect

Or see us at **Mullum Mullum Stadium**, 31 Springvale Rd, Donvale VIC 3111

Wednesdays 6PM

Manningham Youth Services and partners present

ALL ABILITIES ALL STARS

A free inclusive basketball event for young people aged 12-25.

3 v 3 basketball, mini games, free shooting, prizes, and snacks.

Monday 22nd September
at Mullum Mullum Stadium.
10am – 4.30pm

Scan here to find out more and register.



The Rotary Club of Manningham City presents

ALL ABILITIES GOOD VIBRATIONS DISCO

Saturday

28 Jun 2025 *Movie Characters*

9 Aug 2025 *Flower Power*

13 Sep 2025 *Footy*

1 Nov 2025 *Halloween*

7 - 9:30 pm

Tende Beck Scout Hall
5 High St Doncaster

\$5 entry

Bookings essential
(via Humanitix)



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