



Harcourt Valley Primary School

Newsletter



3 Wilkinson Street, HARCOURT 3453
 Phone: 03 5474 2266 Mobile: 0478 435 770
 Email: harcourt.valley.ps@education.vic.gov.au



Friday 21st November 2025

Week 7 Term 4

TERM 4- 2025

DATES TO REMEMBER

TUESDAY 25 TH NOVEMBER	PREP TRANSITION DAY 9-10:30AM BELEZA UNIFORM POP-UP SHOP FROM 8:30AM
WEDNESDAY 26 TH NOVEMBER	2026 PREP PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT 6:30PM – 7:30PM
SATURDAY 29 TH NOVEMBER	HVPS BBQ @ GATHER HARCOURT HVPS TRIVIA NIGHT
TUESDAY 2 ND DECEMBER	PREP TRANSITION DAY 9-11AM
TUESDAY 2 ND DECEMBER	CHOIR EXCURSION TO NURSING HOME
WEDNESDAY 3 RD DECEMBER	SCHOOL COUNCIL 6:30PM
FRIDAY 5 TH DECEMBER	WHOLE SCHOOL EXCURSION VICTORIAN MINATURE RAILWAY OPENING
MONDAY 8 TH DECEMBER	WHOLE SCHOOL FREE EXCURSION TO HAMER HALL CHRISTMAS MELODIES
TUESDAY 9 TH DECEMBER	PREP TRANSITION DAY 9-12PM STEP-UP DAY
MONDAY 15 TH DECEMBER	GR 6 GRADUATION
THURSDAY 18 TH DECEMBER	WHOLE SCHOOL CINEMA EXCURSION
FRIDAY 19 TH DECEMBER	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR 2025! 1:30 FINISH

INSIDE THIS WEEK'S NEWSLETTER

- Principal's Report
- Students of the Week
- Fundraising News
- Art Room News



BREAKFAST CLUB
FRIDAY MORNINGS FROM
8:15AM to 8:55am



**Our 2025 Preps
enjoying FRESH
FRUIT FRIDAYS!!**

FAREWELL MRS MILNE

We wish Mrs Milne all the very best as she commences her maternity leave next week. Thank you for all of your terrific work this year. For the final 4 weeks of term, Mrs Hargreaves will be teaching the Grade 3-4 class on a Thursday, and Mrs Maddaford will be teaching on a Friday.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

We welcome Ms Beckwood for the final part of this term who will be teaching specialist Physical Education on a Tuesday and Wednesday.

2026 PREP PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

2026 families are invited to attend a Prep Parent Information session scheduled for next Wednesday evening commencing at 6:30 p.m. The evening will cover a broad range of topics relating to commencing the first year of school.

TRIVIA EVENING

A reminder to our families that our Trivia Evening will be held on the evening of Saturday 29th November.

ATHLETICS SPORTS DAY

Our Athletics Sports Day held last Tuesday was a wonderful success, and I would like to commend all students for their sportsmanship and determination throughout the day. A big thank you to Mrs. Stearne for her terrific organisation of the event. It was wonderful to see so many students participating and supporting each other. Thank you to the families that were able to help out at the athletics carnival.

Final House Results for the day were: Barker- 289 , Mitchell 263 followed by Lang on 239 points.

**VICTORIAN MINIATURE RAILWAY OPENING**

We have been very fortunate to have been invited to attend the official Opening of the Victorian Miniature Railway located in Harcourt on Friday 5th December. Permission forms have been issued via Xuno.

CHRISTMAS MELODIES AT HAMER HALL

Students will be travelling to Hamer Hall, Melbourne on Monday 8th December for a Christmas concert. Students are required to be at school by 08:30 a.m for an 8:40 departure. The school bus will be operating 30 minutes ahead of time on the morning of our excursion.

This wonderful concert will include:

Vocalists Dale Burridge, Bridget Costello and Etuate Lutui will join The Salvation Army Staff Band and The National Boys Choir for this unforgettable Christmas celebration.

GRADE 6 GRADUATION

We are looking forward to the Grade 6 Graduation Ceremony and Graduation Dinner, which will be held on Monday 15th December. Invitations for both the ceremony and dinner have been distributed today. To assist with catering, RSVPs for the dinner are due back by next Friday 28th November.

CRAFT SAND CONTAMINATION UPDATE

You may be aware of a recent alert about craft sand products that may contain asbestos. For current information about the recall, including a list of products, visit the ACCC website.

At our school, we are taking the steps set out by the Department of Education to collect and dispose of the products. Current advice from national and Victorian health authorities is that there is a low risk to human health from these products. If you have the product at home, however, the advice from the health authorities is that you should stop using it and follow the safety advice published here: [Safe disposal and health information for consumers with recalled sand products | ACCC Product](#)

FREE PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From 1 January 2026, people aged under 18 can travel free on all Victorian public transport services using a new youth myki card. This includes trams, trains, buses and coach services.

To access free travel, they must tap the myki card on and off each time they travel. For areas that do not use myki cards, they must show their myki card to travel free. More information about the youth myki card will be available later in Term 4, 2025 – refer to the myki types webpage on the Transport Victoria website.

For more information about other travel options to school, and support for eligible students, refer to the Travelling to school webpage on the Victorian Government website.

Have a nice weekend!

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

13/11/2025

PREP/1 – MRS TURNER & MRS HOOD	Arlo - For wonderful engagement in the phonics lesson by making sure you are always concentrating and repeating the information.
2/3 – MR WALTER	Julian - for a fantastic effort when completing the Phonics + program.
3/4 - MRS MILNE & MRS HARGREAVES	Ronan - For being a friendly and thoughtful friend who helped his friend when he was hurt.
4/5/6 – MISS PASCOE	Ada - For always demonstrating school values and striving to achieve her best in everything she does. Thank you for being a great leader.
PE – MS STEARNE	Fraser - for the effort he put into completing the athletics rotations and for impressive Javelin throwing! Special mention to Jude, Billie and Ada for enthusiastically sharing their athletics knowledge with their classmates and spending time helping others refine their techniques.
ART – MRS MADDAFORD	Charlie - For persisting with his amazing drawing of a cicada.

20/11/2025

PRINCIPAL	Micheal -For making the most of his learning time by beginning his tasks quickly and concentrating on his work.
PREP/1 – MRS TURNER & MRS HOOD	Jude - For working really hard in maths and striving for great things. Keep up the great work Jude!
2/3 – MR WALTER	Kaiya - being super creative and making lovely craft flowers
3/4 - MRS MILNE & MRS HARGREAVES	3/4S - For being a bunch of legends this year. I will miss teaching and laughing with you all so much and I wish you all the best for the rest of 2025.
4/5/6 – MISS PASCOE	Mack - For always having such a positive attitude to learning and working his hardest to get his work done to a high standard.
PE – MS STEARNE	All students who participated in the House Athletics carnival - it was wonderful to see you perform and do your best for your team!

FUNDRAISING AT HVPS



**HAVE YOU BOOKED YOUR TABLE!!!
WE ARE SEEKING SILENT AUCTION
DONATIONS FOR OUR TRIVIA NIGHT IF
YOU CAN HELP US OUT, PLEASE COME
AND SEE LOU IN THE OFFICE**

APPLE PIE BAKING SESSIONS

Tues 25th Nov - 5pm-9pm

Fri 5th Dec - 9am-12pm

Tues 2nd Dec - 7pm-9pm

Come along for a couple of hours when it suits you!



Delivering 1,000kg of free fruit to Bendigo school children every week

mckern steel foundation



@mckernsteelfoundation



**fresh
fruit
friday**

Made possible thanks to our Foundation Partners



**Thursday 2.45pm – Assembly via Webex
School Assembly Webex:
Meeting number :
2653 371 2854
Meeting password: Thyn33i83D4**

ART ROOM NEWS

We have had a great start to the term. The first day back, each student drew an apple design for a collaborative fundraising initiative. Look out for the beautiful tea towel, apron and tote bags at Applefest!

As part of the Landcare grant, we had local artist, Linda Newton, come and work with students on botanical illustrations. The students were highly engaged and in awe of Linda's talent. Students really took to the challenge and drew some beautiful illustrations of plants and animals found in Ulambara.

Some of the classes are focussing on portraiture this term and if you are looking for some family TV, Portrait Artist of the Year on ABC interview is well worth a look!

Also, if you are in Castlemaine on the weekend, the Information Centre/Market Building has a sculpture exhibition on with a fantastic cardboard creation of a man and horse/machine. It is extraordinary, and students in Gr 3/4 will find it of particular interest in relation to our current 'recycled city' project.

CALLING ALL HVPS ARTISTS!

It is report time soon and we are looking for another fabulous **image of the school** for the front cover. We want you to create an image of anywhere in the school, in any 2D medium of your choice. Artworks can be handed to Ms Maddaford or Mr Walter for judging. Submissions close **Thursday 4th December**



HARCOURT VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Wilkinson Street, HARCOURT 3453
Ph: (03) 5474 2266 / 67 Mobile: 0418 107 059
Fax: (03) 5474 2706



Transition Program for Preps starting school in 2026

SESSION TIMES

- TUESDAY 18TH NOV 9-10AM
- TUESDAY 25TH NOV 9-10:30AM

**BELEZA UNIFORM POP-UP SHOP FOR WHOLE
SCHOOL 10% OFF FOR PURCHASES ON DAY**

8:30AM – 9:30AM

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

- WEDNESDAY 26TH NOV 6:30PM – 7:30PM
 - TUESDAY 2ND DEC – 9-11AM
 - TUESDAY 9TH DEC – 9-12PM

**PLEASE PACK HAT, WATER BOTTLE AND MORNING
SNACK**

*We look forward to welcoming you and your
family into the Harcourt Valley Primary School
Community in 2026*

Be Respectful

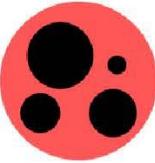


Be Responsible



Be Curious





OSH ADVENTURES

School Aged Child Care

Let's have an Adventure!

ENROL ONLINE TODAY

Simply visit

www.oshcadventures.com.au

and go to the 'enrol now' button!

Exciting News from OSHC Adventures: Before, After School and Holiday Care!

We're thrilled to be part of the vibrant Harcourt Valley PS community and to welcome your family to our Outside School Hours Care program! Our OSHC is all about fun, friendships, and making each day feel special for school-aged children.

We know that Out of School Hours Care is more than just a place to be before and after school – it's a place to play, explore, and grow. Your children will find a caring, safe, and exciting environment to nurture their social, emotional, physical, and creative needs.

Stay Connected: Using the Xplor Home App for Easy Access to Bookings & Billing

Did you know managing your child's care at Harcourt Valley PS OSHC has never been easier? With the Xplor Home App, you can access everything you need right from your phone!

Harcourt Valley PS OSHC Opening Hours

We're here to support your family's schedule! Here are our operating hours:

Before School Care: Monday - Friday, 7:00am - 9:00am

After School Care: Monday - Friday, 3:30pm - 6:15pm

Holiday Care & Pupil-Free Days: 8:00am - 6:15pm

Session OSHC Fees

Here's a quick look at our current fees:

Before School Care: \$25.00 (max CCS: \$3.62)

After School Care: \$35.00 (max CCS: \$5.07)

Holiday Care & Pupil-Free Days: \$97.00 (max CCS: \$14.07)



HARCOURT VALLEY
Primary School

*Eligible families can receive subsidies of up to 90% on fees with the Child Care Subsidy (CCS). We strongly recommend you apply for the CCS to determine your eligibility.

XUNO FAMILY

XUNO Family is the school's communication portal for families. All our correspondence is sent through the app. Weekly newsletters, attendance, absence's, teacher communication, school information, all done through our family portal. We encourage all families to use this portal moving forward to ensure all our school community is always up to date with everything happening at HVPS. If you can't seem to get the app working or are unsure on how to use it just give the office a call or pop in at any time and we can assist you.

Student Absences - How to notify the school if your child is absent:

Xuno – Parent Web Portal or Family App

1. Log in to your XUNO parent portal or XUNO Family app.

2. Via the **XUNO web portal**: From the **School** menu click on Attendance, or on the dashboard, click the **Attendance Today** tile.

Via the **XUNO Family app**: From the main menu, tap **Attendance**

3. If you have more than one child at the school, select the name of the child you are reporting an absence for.

4. Click/tap on the **Send absence note** button

Email: harcourt.valley.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Telephone- 5474 2266

Mobile – 0478 435 770

from 8.30am

School Bank Account Details:

Account Name: Harcourt Valley Primary School

BSB: 063 509

Account Number: 1004 2656

Reference: e.g.: Surname

School Uniform

Over the Christmas break, we transitioned the school's uniform to the local uniform shop in Castlemaine, called Beleza. Beleza Uniform Shop will stock all our uniforms moving forward. Pop in and say hello to Kerry and she will help you with all your child's uniform needs.

Beleza School Uniforms

CASTLEMAINE STORE

207 Barker Street

3450 Castlemaine, VIC

Australia

Phone: (03) 5401 3483



SCHOLASTIC
Book Club LOOP
for Parents

LOOP is the Scholastic Book Club
Linked Online Ordering & Payment platform for parents.

To order and pay for Scholastic Book Club by credit card visit:

www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP



Celebrating 10 years

Delivering 1,000kg of free fruit to Bendigo school children every week

mckern steel foundation

McKen Steel Foundation

fresh fruit friday

Made possible thanks to our Foundation Partners

McKen Steel Foundation **King & Co** **Impact** **Adroit** **LTS Equipment** **Viatek** **Community Services** **Purphy** **Impact** **Adroit** **OBELI** **red arena**

SUMMER HOLIDAY FUN!

JAN 12 - 23



CIRCUS, PARKOUR & AERIALS

BIG ENERGY, BIG LAUGHS,
BIG CIRCUS FUN



CASTLEMAINECIRCUS.COM.AU

SENIOR PERFORMANCE 2025

A diverse showcase of dance from Over the Moon's senior dancers.



PHEE BROADWAY THEATRE *Castlemine*

Dec Sat 6
Sun 7 2:30 PM AND 6:30 PM
2:30 PM Book NOW



SAUSAGE SIZZLE

GATHER HARCOURT

SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER



10AM - 2PM



COME GRAB A DELICIOUS SAUSAGE AND
SUPPORT THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITY

JAMES PARK, HARCOURT

RAISING MONEY FOR OUR AMAZING LITTLE SCHOOL