



Harcourt Valley Primary School

3 Wilkinson Street, Harcourt 3453

Phone: 03 5474 2266

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

Education for a Sustainable Future

**Our School is on the
Bushfire At Risk Register**

On a Code Red day,
Harcourt Valley PS will be
closed.

Diary Dates

Student banking weekly by **Tues 9am**

Lunch orders start in term 2

Assembly each **Thurs 2.45pm**

Breakfast club each **Friday 8.20am to 8.50am**

Note: below details are subject to change

February

Monday 10th	Grade Prep - 6 Swimming Program day 4
Wednesday 12th	Grade 1 - 6 BOLC excursion - Ballarat Wildlife Park No Grade Prep students <u>Apple Pie Baking 9am</u>
Thursday 13th	Apple Pie Baking 9am <u>Assembly Grade 5</u>
Friday 14th	Grade 6 student leadership speeches 2.30pm.
Monday 17th	Parent/Carers Information Exchange meetings
Wednesday 19th	No Grade Prep students Apple Pie Baking 9am School Council Meeting 7pm
Thursday 20th	Assembly Grade 6 <u>Apple Pie Baking 9am</u> Family BBQ at school 5.30pm - 7 pm
Friday 21st	Grade Prep - 6 Swimming Program Day 5
Wednesday 26th	No Grade Prep students Apple Pie Baking 9am
Thursday 27th	<u>Apple Pie Baking 9am</u> Assembly Grade 3
<u>March</u>	
Wednesday 4th	Apple Pie Baking 9am
Thursday 5th	Apple Pie Baking 9am Assembly Choir
Saturday 7th	Applefest
Monday 9th	Labour Day Public Holiday - No Students or Staff
Thursday 12th	Assembly Grade 1
Wednesday 18th	School Council Annual General Meeting 7pm
Thursday 19th	Assembly Grade 4
Thursday 26th	Assembly Grade Prep

Newsletter Friday 7th February 2020

Principal's Report

NEW EARLY YEARS FACILITY FOR HARCOURT FAMILIES

On Monday the Member for Bendigo West, Maree Edwards MP announced that the YMCA would receive a \$550,000 grant to build a new early learning centre facility on the school grounds located on the corner of Mills Road and Bingham Road. This is very exciting news and I look forward to keeping you updated on the progress of the development of the new early years facility.

BUILDING OUR LEARNING COMMUNITY (BOLC)

We have had a very positive start to the year with all students and staff focussing on our, "Building Our Learning Community" program. This two week program is called "Building Our Learning Community" and it has a theme of "Ready to Learn for the 2020 academic year." With one week already completed, students have participated in numerous activities such as: Setting challenging yet achievable goals for learning, reflecting on how they learn, understanding the importance of regular school attendance and learning how our core values of Respect, Responsibility, Resilience and Integrity form a pivotal part of our school community.

MINDFULNESS

An important component of our students achieving success at school is to ensure that they are well equipped to deal with social and emotional situations. Today, the majority of students had the opportunity to participate in a mindfulness class facilitated by Rochelle Paten. The learning objectives of today's session was for students to become better aware of their thoughts and commence practising how best to manage difficult thoughts through using mindfulness techniques. Academic research into the neurological science of mindfulness has found that developing appropriate mindfulness strategies is beneficial to peoples' cognitive and academic performance, health and well-being, and improving relationships.

Further mindfulness information and training can be located via the following website:

Smiling Mind: <https://www.smilingmind.com.au/>

Headspace: <https://www.headspace.com/mindfulness>

FLEXIBUZZ

To strengthen our communication channels, please ensure you sign up to Flexibuzz, our online communication tool. If you require support signing up to Flexibuzz please contact the office.

WELCOME MRS HARGREAVES

We welcome Mrs Hargreaves to Harcourt Valley Primary School. Mrs Hargreaves will be teaching Art for the 2020 year.

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Forms & Payment to be returned

Grade 1-6 students—BOLC excursion permission form and \$30

Grade 3 - 6 students—Netbook lease agreement and \$180

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our next School Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 19th. The following School Council meeting will be the Annual General Meeting scheduled for the 18th of March. In the lead up to the AGM, I will be calling for nominations for the vacancies on School Council within the coming weeks. I encourage interested parents to nominate for the positions. If you decide to stand for elections, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate, or you are welcome to self nominate. Further information relating to the School Council election process will be inserted into the newsletter in the coming weeks.

SWIMMING

Our water awareness/ water safety program has commenced extremely well with students making the most of the pleasant weather we are currently experiencing. Please be aware, that as a SunSmart school, we require all students to wear a rash vest or similar top when swimming. Our next swim sessions will be held next Monday 10th and Friday 21st February.

APPLE PIE BAKING

Thank you to all of the parents that have commenced apple pie baking. It is terrific to see such a large group of parents supporting our main fundraiser for the year. Baking times are every Wednesday and Thursday up to Thursday 5th March commencing at 9am.

PLACEMENT OF SOFTFALL- REQUEST

We have just received a delivery of softfall and require the softfall to be placed on our playgrounds underneath the high playground equipment. It would be appreciated if over the next week, a team of wonderful parents/students could progressively relocate this softfall. Required equipment for this task is available from the school. Thank you in advance!

PARENT TEACHER INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Parent teacher information exchange sessions will be held on: Monday 17th and Monday 25th February. These sessions provide an opportunity for parents to share additional information with teachers relating to their child's learning. Bookings are available on the following link www.schoolinterviews.com.au User code: **q9ym2**

BALLARAT WILDLIFE PARK

Next Wednesday 12th February, Grade 1 to Grade 6 students will attend the Ballarat Wildlife Park, Ballarat. Students will be departing at 9:15am sharp and return to school at approximately 3:20pm. Please ensure students are in school uniform and have a packed lunch, morning tea and water bottle.

GRADE 6 LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

The Grade 6 student leadership speeches will be held next Friday 14th February commencing at 2:30pm. Grade 6 families are most welcome to attend this event. 2020 leadership positions will be announced at school assembly on Thursday 20th February.

FAMILY BARBECUE

To celebrate the commencement of the school year, a family barbecue will be held at school on Thursday 20th February commencing at 5:30pm and concluding at 7:00pm. Whilst meat will be supplied for the evening, we ask families to bring along a salad plate to share. We look forward to seeing you there.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Our Friday morning free Breakfast Club will commence next Friday 7th February. Breakfast Club commences at 8:20am and concludes at 8:50am. If you are able to assist with this program please see Helen or Lorella.

HEADLICE

There is currently head lice in the school, can all families please check their children's hair for lice each week and if necessary treat as soon as possible.

For further advice please visit the following website.

www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/infectious-diseases/head-lice

Enjoy your weekend!

Andrew Blake

