Heathmont East Primary School

School Information Guide

All students are empowered to learn and achieve success; to be curious, engaged, collaborative, empathetic and critical thinkers.

Resilience Respect Teamwork Growth

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Welcome

Heathmont East Primary School extends a very warm welcome and we thank you for considering Heathmont East as a Primary School for your child. Choosing the right school for your child is an important decision and we encourage you to visit us to discover our whole school approach to excellence in learning and wellbeing.

Our school vision '***All students are empowered to learn and achieve success; to be curious, engaged, collaborative, empathetic and critical thinkers***' drives our actions which support learning and wellbeing throughout HEPS. We provide an engaging environment through our values of Respect, Resilience, Teamwork and Growth, we support and challenge the development of a growth mindset; enabling our students to be intrinsically motivated, embrace learning, and have the ability to reflect on their own learning and beliefs.

We have a highly dedicated and talented staff and we work collaboratively to deliver a diverse range of learning experiences. We support and encourage all students to develop agency in, and a love of learning; striving to '**Aim High'** in all their pursuits. HEPS fosters a culture of strong relationships between family and school, we pride ourselves on working with our school community and we believe that the people in our community make our school a special and welcoming place in which teachers and families work closely together to ensure students flourish. You can participate both formally and informally at HEPS through;

- Being a member of the School Council or a committee group
- Participation in school excursions or whole school activity days
- Attending working bees or helping in the HEPS garden
- Assistance with sports or athletics
- Participation in community events
- Supporting social / fundraising events
- Volunteering in classrooms

We hope this booklet provides to be a valuable source of information and we encourage you to contact the school directly should you wish to further discuss the educational opportunities we provide for our students. We look forward to a long and supportive relationship with you and your family.

Kind regards,
Anita Elliott
Principal

Vision

'All students are empowered to learn and achieve success; to be curious, engaged, collaborative, empathetic and critical thinkers'

School Values

As a school community we have created values which reflect our philosophy and community at HEPS. These values underpin the way in which we engage with students, teachers and families to support a flourishing school community.

RESILIENCE

Flourishing in the face of every-day and challenging situations

RESPECT

Respect for self, others, and property

TEAMWORK

Working collaboratively and effectively with others to achieve our best

GROWTH

Recognising and celebrating social, emotional and academic growth

Leadership

Assistant Principal
(Learning)
Mr. Lou Corso

Principal
Mrs. Anita Elliott

Assistant Principal
(Wellbeing)
Mr. Marcus Leonard

Communication

Office hours: 8.30 am - 4.00pm Monday to Friday

(03) 9729 5439

heathmont.east.ps@education.vic.gov.au

2027 Term dates

Term 1

27th January (*Curriculum Day.* No students at school) - **25th March**

Term 2

12th April - 25th June

Term 3

12th July - 17th September

Term 4

4th October - 17th December

School Times

8.45-	Yard begins to be supervised by school staff
8.50-	**School bell, students enter classrooms**
9.00-	Wellbeing / Classroom connection
9.30-	Session 1
10.15-	Session 2
11.00-	***Recess***
11.20-	Session 3
12.05-	Session 4
12.50-	Lunch eating time
1.00-	***Lunch Playtime***
2.00-	Session 5
2.45-	Session 6
3.30-	Yard supervised by school staff until 3.45

CURRICULUM

HEPS teaches the Foundation to Year 10 Victorian Curriculum. This describes the knowledge; skills and behaviours that students need to prepare them for further education, work, and life. For each level, there are standards that students should know and be able to do at each stage of learning.

In order to plan for and deliver the curriculum standards, an integrated approach is used by our teachers and they work closely in teams to address one or more areas of the curriculum.

Literacy

Students are immersed in learning tasks which encourage a love of reading and writing. Understanding and thinking about what students are reading is important. Language is central to learning and the Victorian English Curriculum involves speaking, listening, reading, writing, and thinking within a cultural context.

Numeracy

Mathematics or Numeracy across the school is planned to be sequential and covers Number, Algebra, Space, Measurement, Statistics and Probability. Mathematics focuses on developing increasingly sophisticated and refined mathematical understanding, fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills. These proficiencies enable students to respond to familiar and unfamiliar situations. Students explore Maths at HEPS through a range of open-ended, real life problems.

Inquiry

In an inquiry-based classroom, learning grows out of students natural curiosity to question the world. Inquiry-based learning assists students in developing their skills in asking questions, gathering and analysing information, exploring solutions, justifying conclusions, taking action, and reflecting. At its very heart, inquiry is all about thinking - thinking in order to make meaning.

Digital Technology

HEPS believes that through learning the use of dig-ital technologies we equip our students to be digital citizens in a rapidly changing world. The Digital Technologies curriculum enables students to become confident and creative developers of digital solutions through the application of information sys-tems and specific ways of thinking about prob-lem solving. Students acquire a deep knowledge and understanding of digital systems, data and information and the processes associated with creating digital solutions so they can take up an active role in meeting current and future needs. *HEPS is an accredited eSmart school.*

Assessment and Reporting

HEPS assessment and reporting enables families to be fully informed of their child's progress.

- **Information sessions** and family engagement occur early in Term 1
- Written student **reports** in Term 2 and 4
- **Three-way learning conferences** in Term 1 and 3 include teachers, students and families and involve a celebration of learning and wellbeing and goal setting.
- **NAPLAN** occurs in March with students in Level 3 and 5. Results become available in Term 2 to families.

SPECIALIST PROGRAMS

At HEPS we offer a variety of programs to cater for 21st century learners. Specialist classes encourage our students to explore individual talents and strengths.

Physical Education

Our program develops both individual skill and collaborative team sports. PE at HEPS improves cardiovascular fitness, increases self esteem, confidence and concentration alongside building stronger bones and muscles.

Visual Arts

A way for our students to individually express and communicate their experiences. This program creates a space for students to visually record their thinking in ways other than words and writing.

Performing Arts

Encourages students to develop creative passions for music while learning language and communication skills through creating, making, exploring and responding to music. We believe that learning music works best when our students are making music, singing, playing instruments, performing and dancing.

Whole school HEPS production

This occurs annually in Term 3. Both the Visual and Performing Arts programs at HEPS are involved in the whole school production.

Sustainability

Students learn that they can have a powerful, positive and meaningful impact on our world. They learn to think about how they can compromise a balance between environmental care and social well-being. Learning about sustainability in our world enables our students and their future communities to have an impact in building a socially just, sustainable, and equitable society.

STEAM

(Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics)

STEAM at HEPS encourages students to take thoughtful risks and persist in problem solving. Students learn to define problems, imagine solutions, plan, build, test, improve, reflect, and communicate. Learning skills in STEAM immerses students into a technological environment fostering communication, creativity, and innovation.

Japanese

Learning Japanese at HEPS involves students being immersed in a variety of cultural and language activities. Learning a language develops an understanding of how different languages work, and an awareness of other people, their ideas, and ways of thinking.

Library

Students visit the Library with their class teacher. They are encouraged to borrow and return books weekly. They learn the DEWEY decimal classification system and learn research skills by searching for and investigating both fiction and nonfiction books.

STUDENT WELLBEING

At HEPS our students' mental health and wellbeing is a high priority. We host a range of programs and well-being initiatives at the school, acknowledge positive behaviour, build consistency using a common language to establish and define expected school wide behaviour.

HEPS is an inclusive environment catering for positive education and is promoted through daily activities and routines as students learn about their character strengths and identity. Students celebrate their own strengths as well as the strengths of their peers.

Student Voice and Agency

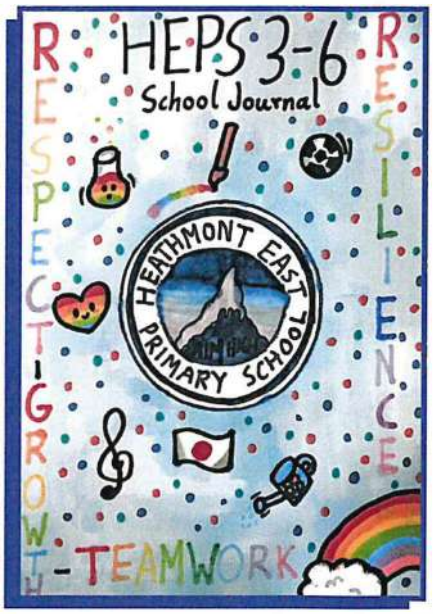
We strongly believe that Student Voice and Agency is vital for student engagement and achievement. At HEPS we are focussing strongly on students having a say in what they learn, how they learn it and what they can do to improve. There are plenty of opportunities for student to have meaningful impact on their school. From participating in Junior School Counsil to creating meaningful learning goals to suggesting what history topic they might like to explore, Student Voice and Agency is an important aspect of HEPS.

Respectful Relationships

We teach the respectful relationships program because learning about respectful relationships is an important part of a student's emotional and social development. The relationships in a student's life, including those with friends, family and peers, can influence their physical health, promote self-esteem and assist them in developing a sense of belonging.

Friendology

Friendology is a friendship program that teaches children how to put a voice to their feelings, create healthy friendships, and build a solid foundation for future relationships. We empower students to build a culture of kindness for themselves and others. We teach students how to explicitly develop healthy friendships and positively manage conflict.



Wellbeing Room

We have a dedicated wellbeing room at HEPS that provides a quiet space for students to regulate and reset for their learning. This space allows a supervised space for students to learn social, academic and regulation strategies.

School Wide Positive Behaviours

At HEPS we follow a School Wide Positive Behaviours approach. This means that all students have been involved in explaining what positive behaviours look like. Students who are involved in this process are much more likely to be connected to the school. We have a behaviour management flowchart that clearly identifies minor and major behaviours, providing students with a predictability to help our young people thrive. Response to all student misbehaviour is calm, consistent and timely.

Student Support Services

The student support services program provides access to specialist learning and health services in all Victorian Government schools. Specialist staff includes educational psychologists, school nurses, dental vans, social workers, student welfare coordinators, speech pathologists, and visiting teachers.

All Foundation students receive a Level 6 Buddy. Students work collaboratively throughout the year on a variety of tasks and develop familiar connections with students from Level 6.

GROWTH

Student Leadership Opportunities

Students at HEPS have many leadership opportunities. Students are encouraged to apply for their position by writing and delivering a speech. House captains, School captains, Sustainability, Library, Japanese, PE, Music, Art, Wellbeing, Junior school council, Green Thumbs, are all positions of leadership that students are encouraged to apply for. Our Junior school council meet regularly facilitated by teachers. They represent their classes and contribute to decision-making processes. They collectively influence outcomes by putting forward their views, concerns, and ideas.

Junior school council

Academic Support

By looking at individual student growth HEPS' caters to individual needs across all areas of the curriculum.

Extension

A variety of opportunities are offered for students to be involved in to extend and support high ability and giftedness. HEPS has partnered with local secondary schools and outside organisations to support students' individual growth and collaborative problem-solving abilities.

Tutoring

The tutoring program at HEPS supports students' growth in small group sessions in Literacy and Numeracy.

COMMUNITY

Classroom helpers (Volunteers and visitors to the school)

Family members are welcome and encouraged to help throughout our school. Whether it be helping in classrooms, on excursions, at working bees or community events, we value families as partners at HEPS. All volunteers must have a current working with children check and complete helper training run by a member our leadership team at HEPS.

Excursions and extra-curricular activities

Excursions, camps and incursions occur throughout the year. Payment and permission for these can be given through Compass.

Extra curricular activities at HEPS include:

- External music tuition
- External sporting groups and or STEAM coding clubs
- Various lunchtime clubs such as Art, Coding, Gardening club, Choir, Library club and Run club.

School council

School council is a representative body of parents and staff who work together to support the leadership, teaching and administration staff to maximise the educational opportunities and experience for all students. School council has a responsibility to work in the interests of all students in our school community within the guidelines set by the Department of Education and Training. Parent participation provides important view points and valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school. Elected members participate in monthly meetings as well as participating in at least one sub committee.

Parents Association

Our parents association is another body of parents who work together to support our school. Parents work together to support many community events at HEPS and help raise money for our school. The PA supports such things as Mothers and Father's Day stalls, BBQs, movie nights, twilight sports, colour runs and many other events.

IMPORTANT INFO

Contact

Compass
Fortnightly newsletters
Level WhatsApp groups
School Facebook page
Class teacher individual emails

School Assembly

Our assemblies are student-led.

Monday (Whole School)
9am - front of the school

Friday (Half School)
2.45pm - in the gym

Out of School Hours Care

Team Kids is our Out of School Hours Care Provider. Care is provided from **6.30am – 8.45am and 3.30 – 6pm** Monday to Friday. Care is also available on student-free days and during the school holidays.

Student absences

To report any student absences please use the Compass Portal and specify the reason.

Lunch orders

Lunch orders are available online from **Classroom Cuisine** every Wednesday.

Reduced Rubbish lunch boxes

Students are encouraged to bring rubblish free lunch to school to reduce the amount of plastic and packaging that ends up outside in our yard and in the environment.

Walking or riding to school

Students are encouraged to walk or ride to school. This reduces the traffic around our school and encourages a healthy lifestyle. Bike racks are available for students to park their bikes.

Uniform

Our uniform provider is **Spartan School Supplies.** Second hand uniforms are made available regularly through a stall at HEPS.

HEATHMONT EAST PRIMARY SCHOOL

Aim High

(03) 9729 5439

heathmont.east.ps@education.vic.gov.au