



Diary Dates

January

- Wed 29th – All students begin Term One

February

- Fri 7th – Welcome Back Brekky
- Prep students do not attend Wednesday
- Tues 25th – School Council @ 4.15pm

March

- 2nd – Student Conferences this Week
- Fri 6th – Curriculum Day (Planned)
- Mon 9th – Labour Day Public Holiday
- Thurs 19th – School Photos
- Fri 20th – Student Leadership Conference
- Fr 27th – Last day of Term One (2.30pm finish)

Welcome back to 2020. I hope everyone had a fantastic break and managed some time with family and friends, whether you were at home or away.

Yesterday showed me just how well all of our students settled in and gave me even more confidence that this year is going to be another great year.

I'd like to welcome our new families to Hesket - Ruby, Zennon and Maceo's families are new to our school as well as Harvey's family in a different capacity.

Please take some time to say hello to staff who have joined us this year. Lydia is supporting the Junior room each day and Zoe will be teaching the Junior students from Monday to Wednesday, as well as taking all students for Auslan and PE.

Specialist Timetable – Until the end of February

	Junior	Senior
Monday	Library (Visiting MARC Van)	Library (Visiting MARC Van)
Tuesday	Science/Auslan	Science/Auslan
Wednesday	PE	PE
Friday	Art/Inquiry	Art/Inquiry

*We hope to secure a Music teacher in the coming weeks as well offering a user pays instrumental piano program.

Nut Aware School

Please be aware that we have students in the school who are highly allergic or anaphylactic to the following foods:

- **ALL** nuts
- uncooked egg
- kiwi fruit

While we do not have a policy that bans these foods, we ask that you carefully consider alternatives. Please also take time to remind your child/ren of the importance of not sharing food and ensuring their hands are washed straight after eating.

Sunsmart

Just a reminder that we are a SunSmart school and in Term One and Term Four it is a requirement that students wear their school, wide brimmed SunSmart hats.



Happy Birthday

While we love to celebrate birthdays at Heskett, this year we are asking that families not bring in birthday cakes.

We will ensure that your child feels special and celebrated on their day.

This week we would like to say happy birthday to Zennon, Blake and Amelia who celebrated their birthdays over the holidays. We also need to say happy birthday to Brooklyn who is celebrating her birthday today!



Assembly

School Assembly - We will have our first assembly for 2020 on Friday afternoon at 3.10pm. This will be held in the Junior classroom. All parents/carers are most welcome to attend our assembly.

Lunch Orders

This year the Lancefield Corner store will provide our canteen lunches on the alternate Friday to Subway. We intend to trial this for Term One and if the children are happy with the lunches we will continue with this service. As it has been quite difficult to get parents to cover the canteen roster it was thought this was a good solution. A menu is being finalised and will be sent home next week. We will have Subway lunches next week.

Welcome/Welcome Back Breakfast

We invite all students and parents/carers to attend a casual breakfast of egg and bacon sandwiches and juice on Friday the 7th of February. Breakfast will be available from 8.45am. This is a terrific opportunity to meet members who are already a part of our school community and to welcome new families. To assist with catering could you please complete the response slip on the last page of this note and return it to the school by Tuesday 4th February. If you have chooks and you have some eggs that you could contribute could you please indicate this on the slip, and send the eggs along on Thursday morning.

Before and After School Care Family Day Care Starts Next Week

Thank you to all of those families who have booked their children into our new before and after school care program.

Enrol online now by following this link or alternatively please call 9744

9534.<https://portal17.harmonykids.com.au/OnlineEnrolments/Register?id=abe52943-0496-45be-9462-d392ba23955d>

To recap some key elements of the program:

- as the program is a family day care model, it can cater for seven students in the morning and afternoon
- the program is run by a not-for-profit organisation and seeks to keep costs to a minimum
- priority will be given to those students who currently rely on the bus service for transportation to school
- much of the bookings and enrolment process will be online
- the hours of the service will be determined by needs.

**Please remember that as per Department Guidelines, students will not be supervised by Heskett Primary School staff until 8.45am each morning and not after 3.45pm. Students arriving before 8.45am are expected to be booked into before school care.*

CORONAVIRUS ADVICE FOR PARENTS, FAMILIES AND SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

You may be aware of the outbreak of a novel coronavirus in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China.

The Australian Government has advised that there is no cause for alarm with respect to the coronavirus and that the risk to the Australian public remains relatively low.

The Department of Education and Training has consulted with Victoria's Chief Health Officer and Department of Health and Human Services to provide the following advice to parents, families and school communities.

EXCLUSION OF WELL CHILDREN OR STAFF WHO HAVE TRAVELLED TO AFFECTED AREAS

In accordance with national public health guidelines and current information about the coronavirus from the Commonwealth Chief Medical Officer, it is not a requirement to exclude well children or staff from school if they have travelled to Wuhan, China, or any other areas where there have been reported cases, unless the following applies:

- the person is a confirmed case of novel coronavirus; or
- the person is a close contact with a confirmed case of novel coronavirus in the past 14 days.

If you think your child or a family member may meet one of the above criteria, please contact the dedicated hotline on 1800 675 398. Please keep Triple Zero (000) for emergencies only.

SEEKING MEDICAL ADVICE FOR YOUR CHILD

Please seek medical advice for any child who is:

- experiencing fever and respiratory symptoms (including but not limited to cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, body aches or fatigue); AND
- has recently travelled to Wuhan, China, or any other areas where there have been reported cases in the 14 days before of the onset of illness.

As with the above advice, please call the dedicated hotline on 1800 675 398 to discuss further actions.

MORE INFORMATION

For up-to-date information, please see the Department of Health and Human Services website: [Information for the public - novel coronavirus](#)

Hesket Primary School's Bushfire Plan (Summary)

Every family at Hesket PS has the responsibility to create and implement their own personal Fire Plan. In accordance with advice from the CFA, enacting this Fire Plan should take place at the earliest possible time.

Ensure that the school has your current mobile number and that phone communication is always available during the fire season.



Bushfire at Risk Register (BARR)

Hesket Primary School is categorised as Category 2, which means that our site is considered to be at high risk from bushfire. As such Hesket Primary School:

1. is required to close on **CODE RED** days
2. will not operate at its normal site under **EXTREME** fire danger conditions for our Local Government Area (LGA). On **EXTREME** days, we will relocate to lower risk host school, Romsey Primary School. On these days, you will be required to drop off and pick up your child/ren from Romsey Primary School.

You will be contacted directly via sms, Seesaw or telephone the day prior to the **CODE RED** and **EXTREME** weather days.

We appreciate that potential relocation or cancellation of our school may result in some inconvenience for your family, but the safety of our students and staff remains our top priority.

Understanding Warnings

Warnings are issued when a fire has started and you need to take action. Make sure you understand the three levels of warnings and what they mean. The three levels of warnings are:

	ADVICE An incident is occurring or has occurred in the area Access information and monitor conditions.
	WATCH AND ACT An emergency is developing nearby. You need to take action now to protect yourself and others.
	EMERGENCY WARNING You are in imminent danger and need to take action now. You will be impacted.

Don't expect warnings to be issued in any particular order. The first warning you could get could be an Emergency Warning. There are three different levels of warnings:

Our Hesket Primary watch zone on the Vic Emergency App is set at 25 kilometres, which staff monitor daily. We plan to follow the above warning system and access the best advice available. Our fire response plan is as follows.

Triggers for Action

A bushfire/grassfire is observable or identified via VicEmergency App within 25km from the school. There is a Watch and Act or Emergency Warning area for the fire that includes Hesket Primary School.

1. When an **Advice** is issued for our watch zone, we will contact the DET Emergency Controllers and the local CFA and be guided by their advice, monitoring conditions as they may change. At this stage, if it safe to do so, (Romsey Road clear) you may choose to pick up your child.

2. When a **Watch and Act** is issued for our watch zone, we will contact the DET Emergency Controllers and the local CFA and seek advice on whether to:

- evacuate all staff and students to a safe location
- remain on site and monitor conditions

If we evacuate, it will be dependent on the safest evacuation route to either Romsey or Kyneton Primary Schools. **We ask that you do not attend the school.** You will be notified via Seesaw of the evacuation school.

3. If our school is in an **Emergency Warning** area and the warning states that it is too late to leave then we shelter in place and seek further advice. We will contact the DET Emergency Controllers and the local CFA to inform them we are gathering in our Shelter in Place. This is to gain the best advice and ensure emergency services are aware of our situation and are available to assist. **At this stage we will be evacuating or Sheltering in Place (on advice) and ask that you do not attend the school. If you arrive at school at this stage, we will encourage you to stay with your child at school.**

We have local agreements with Romsey Primary School, Woodend Primary School and Kyneton Primary School and will evacuate to the safest location, given the conditions of the day. Local bus lines are on standby to evacuate us should a situation arise.

If we evacuate, we will be in communication with you via SMS, Seesaw or a phone call.

At all times, the school will endeavour to communicate our actions with families, however we ask that families do not contact the school as we only have two phone lines which need to be available to communicate with emergency services.

We also ask that families do not attend school to pick up their child, as this will dramatically increase traffic in the area. This has the potential to interfere with emergency vehicles, making access more difficult.

The above information is very important and we ask you to return the following slip so that we are aware that our school community fully understands of our Bushfire Plan.

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Reading of Bushfire Information

Family Name: _____

I have read and understand Heskett Primary School Bushfire Management Plan.

Signed: _____



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Welcome Back Breakfast – Friday 7th of February

Family Name: _____

Attending: (Names) _____

We can contribute eggs: Yes/No If Yes Number: _____

I have the following dietary restrictions: _____



