

Herons Creek Public School



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Newsletter

Term 3 Week 1, 22 July 2024

Dates for the Diary

22 July- Staff Development Day at Kendall PS for all staff

23 July- Students first day of term 3

25 July- Library Van visit

31 July – Canteen

9 Aug – Book Club orders due

14 August- K-2 attend performance of Grug at the Glass House

22 August- Library Van visit

23 August- Cultural Day (on country) with Ian Bell

4 September- School Photos

Welcome back to school for Term 3! I hope this message finds you refreshed and ready for another exciting term of learning and growth.

As we begin this new term, I want to extend a warm welcome back to Lenx and his family and to all our returning students and families. Your enthusiasm and dedication to education are what make our school community thrive.

Term 3 presents us with many opportunities to build upon the foundations laid earlier in the year. We have planned engaging lessons, exciting activities, and enriching experiences that will inspire curiosity, creativity, and collaboration among our students.

Our teachers and staff are committed to providing a supportive and stimulating learning environment where every student can reach their full potential. Together, we will continue to foster a culture of academic excellence, personal growth, and community spirit.

Parents, your partnership and involvement in your child's education are invaluable. We encourage you to stay connected with us, communicate any questions or concerns you may have, and participate in school activities whenever possible.

Students, make the most of this term! Challenge yourselves, ask questions, and embrace new opportunities for learning and discovery. Your dedication and effort are the keys to your success, and we are here to support you every step of the way.

Here's to a productive and fulfilling Term 3 ahead!

NAPLAN Results

Results of your child's recent NAPLAN assessment will be sent home this week. Before diving into the specifics, I want to emphasize an important perspective: NAPLAN is just one test, taken on a single day, and it represents only a snapshot of your child's abilities in specific areas.

While the results provide valuable insights into your child's progress and areas of strength, it's crucial not to place undue emphasis on them. Each child learns and develops at their own pace, and a single test score does not define their potential or future success.

As educators, our focus remains on supporting your child's growth and development across all aspects of their learning journey. We use NAPLAN results as a tool to identify areas where additional support or enrichment may be beneficial, ensuring that every child receives the tailored attention they need to thrive.

I encourage you to view these results as part of a broader picture of your child's education. They are one piece of the puzzle, and we are committed to nurturing your child's strengths while addressing any challenges they may encounter.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the results further, please don't hesitate to reach out. Together, we can continue to provide the best possible educational experience for your child.

Aboriginal Pedagogies 8 Ways of Learning

We are excited to share with our school community that our staff member participated in professional learning focused on Aboriginal pedagogies, specifically the "8 Ways of Learning." This initiative reflects our commitment to honoring and integrating Indigenous perspectives into our educational practices.

The "8 Ways of Learning" framework draws upon traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge systems to enhance teaching and learning experiences. This approach offers a holistic and culturally responsive way of engaging students across various subjects and year levels and benefits *all* students.

During the professional learning sessions, our educators delved into each of the 8 Ways, which include:

1. **Story Sharing:** Emphasising the importance of storytelling and narrative in learning.
2. **Learning Maps:** Using visual representations to connect knowledge and concepts.
3. **Non-verbal:** Incorporating gestures, symbols, and non-verbal communication in teaching.
4. **Symbols and Images:** Utilising visual aids and symbols to convey meaning and understanding.
5. **Land Links:** Connecting learning experiences with the land and environment.

6. **Non-linear:** Embracing flexible and non-linear approaches to learning, trying different ways.
7. **Deconstruct/Reconstruct:** Analysing and reconstructing knowledge through critical thinking, watching and doing.
8. **Community Links:** Engaging with local communities and elders to enrich learning experiences.

By integrating these principles into our teaching practices, we aim to create a more inclusive and culturally responsive learning environment for all students. This initiative aligns with our ongoing commitment to reconciliation and meaningful engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

We look forward to sharing more insights and experiences from this professional learning journey as we continue to explore and implement effective strategies that benefit our entire school community.

Feel-Good Friday

Don't forget your money if you would like to order **noodle cups \$3** or **toasties \$2** this Friday to support our Year 6 student fund raising activity.

Canteen

Canteen will operate next - Wednesday 31st July. It will be a Lasagna & Garlic bread meal with a drink for \$5.00. Pre-order forms will be sent home before the end of the week. Please ensure they are returned with money by Monday morning. A big thank you to Kerrie & Trish for their work in the Canteen.

Book Club

Book Club magazines will be sent home with the students on Wednesday. If you would like to place an order, please ensure it is completed no later than Friday 9th August. You can either do this online yourself or you can return the order form and cash to the school office.

Reports

Most student reports were sent home with them on the last day of term 2. Students who were absent on the last day of term 2 were given their reports to take home yesterday. If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's report, please contact the office to arrange a time to discuss it with the teaching staff.