Next week is our last week for the term and there are lots of events on. Details of the activities are on the website, but here is a brief outline.

- Party day is Tuesday—boys savoury, girls sweet—No chips or snack foods
- Tuesday is Dress up day - come as someone from the Nativity
- Wednesday—Judging of the Christmas Art Challenge and come and look at HVPS answer to the Myer windows
- Thursday—carols night—Bring your tea and join us at 6pm for tea, carols and games.
- Friday—Final assembly and graduation for Grade 6—starts at 12pm.

Swimming
Thank you to all our parents for your cooperation with our swimming program. It went extremely well and it was great to see the progress made by the children. Many children would now benefit from an intensive swimming program. School holiday programs are now available at pools around the area. Please take advantage of this as they are generally very competitively priced.

Instrumental Music 2015
Today we wished Jill Rebien, our flute and clarinet teacher, farewell as she is retiring. Another teacher will take over these lessons in 2015. I am pleased that we will also be offering keyboard and guitar lessons as well. If anyone is also interested in having violin lessons, please let me know and I will make contact with a potential violin teacher. Congratulations to our clarinet and flute players who did a great job of their recital at assembly today.

Yard Clean Up
Thank you to Lorella and all the other parents she organised, for coming to do the weeding in our school. It looks so much better than it was. She has asked that we let people know that more weeding will be done next Tuesday before coffee, so please come along for about an hour to help out.

Community Grant
I am excited to announce that we have received a $2000 grant from the Mount Alexander Shire for a nutrition project called “Eat Up! - Healthy Harcourt”. Next year, we will be undertaking this event and the plan is to provide families with information about good food for school and teach the children some basic cooking skills as well as providing food for a week. More details next year.
CHRISTMAS MUSIC AFTERNOON

Dear Parents,
You are invited to a musical afternoon of dancing and singing with each class entertaining you with a Christmas song and a bush dance. We would love anyone who could possibly make it to come along to the stadium at 2:30 on Friday the 12th of December. Look forward to seeing as many parents, grandparents and friends as can make it.

Many thanks,
Katrina Hood

School Choir

Last Friday myself, and Raelene Elliott had the opportunity to accompany our school choir on their trip visiting several of the nursing home units at the Castlemaine Hospital precinct. It was a wonderful morning of song and celebration as our choir entertained residents in four separate mini concert performances. They were superb and it was an absolute delight to be there. They sang songs of the residents vintage and the oldies sang along, tapped their feet and genuinely enjoyed the performances. Songs like, Roll out the barrel, Show me the way to go home, Georgie Girl and the crowd favourite, You are my sunshine, were just a few of the songs they sang. After each performance the children then spent time chatting with their audience and getting to know a bit about them, and what songs they enjoyed and what the songs meant to them. Many residents had stories to tell about the memories the songs invoked and were just thrilled that the kids were there. Katrina Hood our wonderful music teacher had spent a lot of time preparing the children to be able to interact with the residents and it really showed. The children showed respect for their elderly audience and maturity beyond their years and were an absolute credit to our school. Congratulations to our school choir on a wonderful performance.

Di Selwood
STUDENTS OF THE WEEK:

Grade P/1: Beatrice: Her confidence and enjoyment in the swimming pool. Keep it up mermaid!
Luey: His positive attitude, initiative and persistence in all area's of his schooling.

Grade 1/2: Jaidyn: Fitting into HVPS so well.
Piers: His newfound confidence with his swimming. Keep it up little shark!

Grade 5/6: Al B: Stepping up and showing leadership and dedication at school.
Ella: Stepping up and showing leadership and dedication at school.

Tuesday December 16th Dress Up Day & Grade Parties
The theme this year is “Christmas Nativity”. Channel your best Wise Man, King, Baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph, Donkey or any other character who was at the big event!
For Grade Parties Girls bring a sweet and Boys bring a savoury—supply your own drinks—and no chips or snack food please!!

Wednesday December 17th Judging of the Christmas Art Challenge
All grades will do a Christmas Display on the boards outside their rooms.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
Number of days that students have been away this week:
Grade P/1: 9 days
Grade 1/2: 9.5 days
Grade 3/4: 10 days
Grade 5/6: 4.5 days

Cool to be at school winner is
Grade 5/6
Early Bird winner is
Grade P/1

Term 4 Lunches

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Menu</th>
<th>Duty Roster</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12th Sausage in bread/ Chocolate crackles (Lorella)</td>
<td>Amy A &amp; Jacq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th No Main/ Ice cream cone Jacq &amp; and anyone who would like to come &amp; help!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Payment information!
- Pay weekly by 9am Wednesday, filling in form each week.
- Form not accepted without money and to be placed in lunch bag and left in classroom box.

Thursday December 18th Carol’s Night
BYO Dinner from 6pm, tea and coffee provided. Sing Christmas Carols, join in Christmas Activities. Catch up with other families this festive season.

Friday December 19th
Last Day of School
School will finish at 1pm after a final whole school assembly beginning at 12.00pm
This will be the Grade 6 graduation event and all families are invited.
Staff will be back at school on 28th January, with all students starting on Thursday 29th January.

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Community Corner

Harcourt Valley Primary School does not endorse any advertising that appears in this newsletter

Thompson & Co. Castlemaine
Founders & Engineers

“Steaming Out” 1914 - 2014

- Come along and celebrate, 100 years since the “Steaming Out” of the first steam locomotive made at Thompson & Co.
- & the 10th Anniversary of VGR Trains from Maldon to Castlemaine
- A re-enactment using D3 639 “Steaming Out” of the VGR Carriage Shed in Castlemaine at 4:30pm.
- Thompson & Co. Historical Photo & Nameplate displays

Saturday December 13

Celebratory train - Departs Maldon – 2.45pm
“Steaming Out” of Thompson’s D3 Loco re-enactment
Steam Eur's D3 639 will be used for the event
2.30pm – Castlemaine Rdwy Stn – Platform 2
Re-enactment Platform Ticket - $5 : Period Costume & Chin - Free
Celebratory Train from Maldon - Includes re-enactment ticket & light supper on return to Maldon.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
Ph: 54706668  Email marketing@vgr.com.au

First Class: Adult $25 Child $10
Second: Adult $15 Child $10

Music on the Day by Thompson's Foundry Band

The Bendigo Cancer Support Group

Our Aim & Purpose
To facilitate open communication and personal experience to enable participants to create the environment to be able to share cancer experiences together as a patient or carer.

We do not give advice & we do not make judgements
A free service

Proudly supported by: UM103

Cancer is hard enough, but to do it alone with no personal support is most undesirable.

The focus of each group meeting is for participants to voice their needs, concerns, breakthroughs and experiences.

For more information please contact:

Welfare Worker
Ph: 5454 9251

Harcourt Auto Wreckers

Anthony Burns
harcourtwreckers@bigpond.com

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