Dear Parents / Guardians

I love the work I do as I am fortunate enough to see children’s work and smiling faces when they come to proudly show off their latest achievements. Late last week, four children from a grade 3 class came to show me their artwork which they completed during their procedural writing session. Following the step-by-step instructions, these drawings were almost identical. Congratulations guys! Well done.

One of the great things about being a KidsMatter school is the continued focus on building relationships in our school community. Our grade 6 school leaders finish their peer support training with the grade 5 children today. Once completed, the leaders are qualified to be in the yard as peer support leaders supporting our younger children with minor concerns at lunch time. This has been a 3 month program for the leaders and we are extremely proud of their enthusiasm and commitment for undertaking the training. The Breakfast Club and Happy Hub are popular places for the children where they can interact with different teachers and staff of our school. Last Thursday, we also saw a teacher versus student basketball match at lunch time. The crowd gathered and we saw a few bumps and falls, but on all accounts, I think all involved had a very competitive, but thrilling game. I’m not too sure who won though!

Each year, the children in Grades 5 & 6 complete the Student Attitudes to School Survey which provides us feedback from the children about teaching and learning and welfare related matters. We are able to follow trends in the data and also celebrate improvements but discuss areas where we can focus upon. This year, we have seen improvements in all elements of the Teaching & Learning sections from last year’s results (Teacher Empathy, Teacher Effectiveness, Student Motivation, Stimulating Learning, School Connectedness & Learning Confidence) and in the Student Relationships & Wellbeing sections (Student Morale, Student Distress, Student Safety, Connectedness to Peers and Classroom Behaviour). As with any data, we will discuss within our teams and identify ways to work with the children in focussed areas.

As you know, our school has been participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. The program has now finished for this year, so a big thanks to everyone who supported our school. We’re now at the important stage of the program where the Sticker Sheets are collected and lodged as our Earn & Learn claim. We will then be able to get new educational equipment for our school. The more we collect, the more we can redeem. So this week, please send in your Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheets and any loose Earn & Learn stickers you may have. Remember to check your handbag, the car glove box or they maybe stuck on the fridge. Every little bit helps. Thanks again for all your support!

With only seven more days of school before the September holidays, I would like to remind parents that school finishes at 2.30pm and children must be collected by 2.45pm. Teachers are still required to be at school and we use this time for staff meetings and planning for the next term. Our final term 3 assembly will start at 1.45pm next Friday.

Deborah
Hillsmeade Fundraising Committee

Think Big, Dream Big

That was a very busy term 3 for fundraising and thank you to all the families that have participated in any of the activities. Once the oval has been repaired we will be spending money on equipment, for sports and play, for that area.

Coming up in Term 4:
Bus Shopping tour is full but we do have a waiting list. Thanks to those that have paid their deposit & it’s now time to pay the balance. Any questions to Inez Crowe 0425 896 874.
Christmas raffle and party/concert – date to be announced.

Thanks to all our GOLD SPONSORS for BOGAN BINGO
Ava Maria Dental: 87902500, 370 Pound Rd, Narre Warren South
Cr. Sam Aziz: Springfield Ward Councillor, City of Casey
Harcourts Real Estate: Shop 21, Casey Central shopping centre
Jewels of Eden: Shop 14, Eden Rise Village, 87868266
Life Track Personal Training, 2 The Elms, Narre Warren, Michelle: 0410519212
Prestige Chemdry: 1300 880 968, shane@prestigechemdry.com.au
Russell’s for Hair: 39 Webb St. Narre Warren, 97047260
Dr Snip: 1300 377647, 232 Cheltenham Rd., Keysborough
Victoria Statewide Conveyancing: 87905488, Peter Gajanovic: Level 1, Suite 6
   58–60 Victor Cres., Narre Warren, info@victorianstatewide.com.au,
Mr Jason Wood MP: Member for La Trobe, Victoria
Zagame’s Berwick: 9702 6223, 288-296 Clyde Rd, Berwick.

NEW LOOK LOST PROPERTY!!!

Looking for something to do on the holidays?
2015 RACV Energy Breakthrough Fund Raising Raffle
Hillsmeade has 3 teams representing the school by constructing and racing human powered vehicles and need to raise funds for repairs and equipment.

2 PRIZES to win of
$50 Village cinema gift card
Tickets $1 each.

Write your name, phone number & child’s grade on ticket
Due back Wednesday 16th September.
Drawn at assembly Friday 18th September.
More tickets available at the school office.
Thanks grade 5/6 HPV teams and staff.

Notices Sent Home

- Survivor Day
- Footy Day/Torch product recall

Excursion Cut Off Date:

- Zoo Grade 3 Due Back 11th September

Grade 4 Camp

Camp is on November 4th-6th
Balance of camp money must be paid no later than 30th October.

Coaching Corner: Learning Styles in Children

“Every child can learn, but not on the same day or in the same way” - George Evans.

Understanding how your child can learn can change the whole education experience. And, this is so important in the primary years when children are developing their values and beliefs around education.

There are 3 basic groupings that education experts have nominated as learning styles - visual, auditory and kinaesthetic. Though before you start to pigeonhole you child or yourself as a learner, you do need to consider that while we do have a dominant learning style, we all need to borrow a little from the other learning styles to experience the whole world around us.

Visual Learners:
Believed to be the most dominant learning styles, visual learners learn through watching. For their learning to make sense, visual learners need to be able to see, visualize and illustrate their knowledge, skills and concepts. Telling these learners what to do may not make sense at all, they need to see it.

Auditory or language learners:
Learning through listening to what others have to say is the dominant style of these learners. They remember things by talking aloud and require things to be explained to them orally, and may talk to themselves when learning something new.

Kinaesthetic learners:
These learners like to be actively involved and learn best through hands-on learning experiences and movement. They want to actually ‘do’ what is being talked about or learned and often talk with their hands and touch things in order to learn about them.

There is no one learning style that is better than another, rather, as people are in general, each is different and beholds with them varied strengths and areas for further development.

Kelly Utting
Teaching and Learning Coach
CELEBRATING DIVERSITY...

4TH September 2015 - Assembly

Together we celebrated the 74 Cultures identified in our Hillsmeade Family!

No dogs allowed in school grounds Monday to Friday 8am to 4pm. Refer to “The Link” dated 17th June, 2015 when this motion was passed at School Council.

Changing of Clothes

With the wet weather and plenty of puddles around, could you please pack a spare set of clothes in your child’s school bag just in case of an accident?

Attendance at Hillsmeade Primary School in 2016
My children, listed below WILL NOT be returning to Hillsmeade in 2016.
(This does not apply to Grade 6 students)

__________________________________Current Grade 2015
__________________________________Current Grade 2015
__________________________________Current Grade 2015
__________________________________Current Grade 2015

(PLEASE PRINT)
Parents Signature___________________________

Please indicate which school they will be attending.

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Do You Need Money to Help Pay for Camps, Excursions and Incursions?

Do You Have a Health Care Card?

We may be able to help you if you are the holder of a Health Care Card. The Government have made available $125 per child to support families to cover the costs of camps, excursions and incursions. Please come to the office to fill out the application and bring your Health Care Card for photocopying. If you have any queries please phone and speak to one of the office staff on 9704 6313.

Any future notices you can then write “Please use CSEF” and you do not need to send any money.

Hillsmeade Vision Statement
Hillsmeade Primary School is a warm, friendly and diverse learning community where students have opportunities to learn in a manner that is personalised and caters for their interests, needs and strengths. We strive to prepare our students and families for a life of continual learning and we pride ourselves on our unique learning environments. We aim for Hillsmeade students to investigate, communicate and become lifelong learners with curious minds and a bright future.