Dear Parents / Guardians

The children who attended Somers Camp returned safe and sound and from all accounts, a fantastic time was had by all. Ms Toni Barker who went with the children shared how the Hillsmeade students participated in new learning opportunities, team challenges whilst developing new friendships. Ten days is a long time to be away from home (for the children and the parents), but an adventure that the boys and girls will remember for a very long time.

On Monday and Tuesday this week, Mrs Jodie Bray and I attended the C4 Casey Cardinia Network of Schools conference, *Building Staff Capacity*. Michael Fullan, OC, professor emeritus at the University of Toronto in Canada worked with us to take control over our own situation (ie. Hillsmeade PS) by linking to others locally and in networks. He challenged our thinking on being able to improve our own school but also to be a ‘system player’ by having greater influence in the bigger system (ie. other schools in the DET). He referred to the *right drivers* for change (capacity building, collaborative work, pedagogy and systemness). As I type this edition for the Link, I observed the Grade 4 team of teachers come back into the school after visiting one of our network’s schools to observe their teaching of VCOP. Our second presenter, Simon Breakspear focused more on the micro-management of pedagogical practice and set out developing practical, evidence-based strategies for mobilising staff and shifting professional practices.

At our last assembly, the grade 6 student leaders modelled the new green vests that are being worn by the recently trained Peer Support Leaders in the yard at lunch time. Mr Scott Clode informed all boys and girls that if they needed some help or support at lunch time they could look for the leaders in these vests who are now trained to guide and work with the younger children. The leaders have reported working with children on peer relationships and friendship interactions.

Monday 2nd November is a *pupil free day* (Curriculum Day) for our teachers to undertake professional learning and commence the discussion around the 2016 curriculum. The new Victorian Curriculum has been announced and although there are not too many major changes, there are new areas that need to be worked through by the teams. We are also hoping to plan our 2016 incursions & excursions so families have a better idea at the beginning of the year as to what is happening and when.

I trust you all enjoy the remainder of this week.

Deborah
Look what’s going on at Hillsmeade ............

Hillsmeade Fundraising Committee
Think Big, Dream Big

Bus Shopping Tour, Saturday 7th November – all day, leaves from school for a day of factory outlet shopping, including a sit down 2-course lunch; $65 per person. Thanks to those that have paid their deposit & its now time to pay the balance at the office. WE NOW HAVE 4 SEATS LEFT so ring and book your seat.

If you have a business you would like to advertise in our “goodie” bags, or an item for a raffle prize that advertises your business, (and you are a Hillsmeade parent), please contact Inez Crowe 0425 896 874.

Tuesdays at lunchtime we will continue to sell zooper doopers for $1 and hot chocolates for $1.50.

Please support our school sponsors who are: L. J. Hooker Casey Central:

The Good Guys “Cranbourne Cash” incentive program. To take advantage of this offer all you need to do is advise your salesperson that you want Cranbourne Cash allocated to Hillsmeade P.S. Fundraising Committee. For further information regarding this program please contact Damien at The Good Guys Cranbourne on 5991 6000.

Email: promotions016@thegoodguys.com.au

Hillsmeade Primary School 1 to 1 Laptop Program – Grade 5 Students 2016

Families with students in Year 4 have received an information flyer last week regarding the 1 to 1 Laptop program for 2016. Can you please return the expression of interest form by Friday 23, October?

The Parent Information session will be held on October 29th from 6-7pm at Hillsmeade PS.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact Scott Clode (Assistant Principal).

NOTICES DUE BACK:
- Grade 4 History The Colonial Show due 27/10
- Grade 3 History Box Incursion due 4/11

GRADE 4 CAMP
Camp is on November 4th-6th
Balance of camp money must be paid NO LATER THAN 30th October.

Breakfast Club
Portables near junior playground (next to Ms Crowe’s room)
Tuesday 8.15am-8.45am

SCHOOL TOUR
5th November
Meet at the school office at 10am.
Enrol Now for 2016
We are designing and building our dream playgrounds in grade 1 this term. We are the ‘MASTER BUILDERS!’
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.

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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........................................

MUSIC LESSONS:
Private lessons are now available for keyboard/vocal/drum and guitar. Please see the office or Mrs Scott for an enrolment form.

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.

GRADE 6 ALKIRA SCIENCE EXCURSION:

6B  28th October
6C  4th November
6D  11th November
6E  18th November

Please return permission slips no later than 2 days before visit date. There is no cost for this excursion.

*UNIFORM SALE!

5% OFF UNIFORMS

25% OFF ALL SCHOOL SHOES

FROM MON 9 NOV TO FRI 18 DEC 2015

Plus Extended Lay-by until 27th January 2016