

Dear Parents / Guardians

I cannot believe it is only one month until Christmas Day. With only 17 more school days after today, we still have lots of exciting events on the calendar including Life Ed Van, Junior Cross Country, Grade 2 camp, MAD Day, Big Day Out (Grade 6), Little Day Out (Grade 5), Big Night In, Grade 6 Graduation, Choir Concert, Christmas Concert, prep transition sessions, our whole school transition morning and a family sports afternoon. Please keep your eyes on the Link and watch for the notices coming home for these events.



I know there is a special page in today's edition for our HPV group who travelled to Maryborough last week for the Energy Breakthrough Competition, however I couldn't let it pass without congratulating all the children, their parents, our sponsors and of course, our wonderful teachers whose passion, commitment and enthusiasm ensured our children participated in this year's event. Rob Kay, Toni Barker and our pre-service teacher Tegan Aoun deserve to be acknowledged. Well done guys, you made the front page of *The Maryborough District Advertiser*. (Photo courtesy of the paper).

As we start to collect data for the end of year reports, we have identified that quite a large number of children have been absent this year without explanation. These absences are recorded as **Unexplained Absences** on our system until an explanation from parents is received. The Department of Education's policy states,

Parents/guardians are required to provide an explanation for their child's absence from school....

If your child has unexplained absences on our system, you will shortly be receiving a letter outlining the dates and seeking an explanation for the absence. Please support us with following the correct procedure by ensuring you follow up with this request, and for future absences, you provide a note to the school outlining the reason.

Our enrolment numbers for 2016 are showing an increase in our total number of students across Prep-6. This year we were funded for 854.2 students and we are currently working on 875 with over 140 prep enrolments. As we plan for 38 grades, there will be some movement of classes and ongoing recruitment of teachers. Things don't slow down here!

Deborah

NOVEMBER

23rd-8th Dec

Life Ed Van

30th

Prep Transition

11.40am—12.40pm



3rd

Choir Concert 6.30pm-8.30pm

4th

MAD Day Grade 5/6

Whole School

Assembly 2.45pm

Grade 1 item

7th -8th

Grade 2 Camp

8th

Tabloid Sports 3.45pm-5pm

9th

Prep Transition

9.30am to 12.30pm

Whole School Transition Day

(including Grade 6 to 7)

Prep Information

Night 7pm -8.30pm

10th

Big Night In Grade 1

5.30pm-8.30pm

Little Day Out Grade 5

Preps Picnic

11th

Free Dress Day

Bring donation for

Christmas Raffle

14th

Grade 6 Graduation

6.30pm-8.30pm

16th

Big Day Out Grade 6

17th

Christmas Twilight

Carols Concert and

BBQ. 5pm-6.30pm

Performance

Commences 6.30pm

It's cool to be at school

Hillsmeade Fundraising Committee

Think Big, Dream Big



Today you should receive all the Christmas Fundraising info.

Free Dress Day Friday 11th December and bring a donation for the Christmas Raffle. All our raffle prizes are made up from items donated to the school and we ask that on this day children bring an item. If you have several children at the school & ELC consider buying 1 bigger item rather than several small ones. Any cash donations are used to purchase gift vouchers for prizes & the school prefers that cash donations be sent to the school office.

Christmas raffle - There will be in excess of 150 prizes to be won including:

1st prize – an Apple iPad Mini 2, 16GB from The Good Guys using our “Cranbourne cash”

2nd prize - a Huffy Green Machine GM 20inch

Tickets are to be sold for \$1 each or 3 for \$2. The ticket butts, cash and unsold tickets need to be returned to school no later than **Tuesday 15th December**. Please ensure that you clearly write your NAME & PHONE NUMBER on the tickets, as we may need to contact you to pick your prize up. The raffle results will be announced at First Assembly **Friday 18th December, 9.15am**. More ticket books available from the school office.

A BIG THANKYOU to the mums who have stapled together raffle ticket books Jill, May, Marchelle, Stacey & Aimee **Christmas Twilight Carols Concert & BBQ Thursday 17th December** BBQ from 5pm – 6.30pm. The canteen will be open for drinks, ice-creams & treats. Performances commence at 6.30pm, including school choir.

This year sausages will be *pre-order and pre-pay* so please find your order form.

Pre-order and pre-pay must be in no later than Monday 14th December.

Cake stall: we are again calling all bakers to donate an item to the Christmas cake stall.

Please find more information about the upcoming Christmas events & all paperwork with this edition of The Link. More copies available from the office.



Thank you to LOLLIPOPS in Carrum Downs who have kindly donated several free passes for Christmas raffle prizes.

LJ Hooker – Casey Central Hillsmeade-only Christmas colouring competition – 3 different age categories and several Westfield gift vouchers to be won. **For extra copies of colouring sheet & to hand them in, go directly to LJ Hooker's office at Casey Central – not to the school office.**

Breakfast Club

Portables near junior playground
(next to Ms Crowe's room)

Tuesday **8.15am-8.45am**

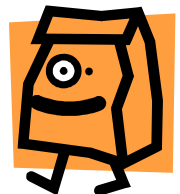


CANTEEN NEWS !!!!

Please Note: The last day for canteen lunch orders will be Friday 11th December.

Over the counter snacks will be available on Monday 14th to Thursday 17th December.

The canteen will be **CLOSED** on Friday 18th December.



NOTICES SENT OUT:

- Year 6 Graduation & Big Day Out
- HFC The Delicious Cake Stall
- Carols by Twilight Sausage sizzle order form

Notices due back :

- Grade 6 tops 26/11
- Grade 1 Big night in 4/12
- HFC Cake stall 17/12
- Carols by twilight Sausage sizzle orders 17/12

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.



TERM 4 2015:
5th October—18th December
(2.30pm finish)

RACV

Human Powered Vehicle Energy Breakthrough 2015

On Wednesday 18th November, 3 teachers, 22 students and their dedicated parents, made the trip to Maryborough for the 2015 RACV Energy Breakthrough Human Powered Vehicle Event. The country town was bombarded with 12,000 students, teachers and families as the event celebrated its 25th year running. The students had worked extremely hard not only in electives, but also before, after and during school to make sure that they were ready for the event. Thursday 9am saw the students in scrutineering ensuring that they knew the rules, the flags and that their vehicles were safe to ride. Throughout the day the students had to present their 'Energy Breakthrough Journey' to judges and where they were given scores based on their knowledge of the environment, their HPV's and how the program promotes healthy living and a sustainable future. At 12pm Friday, the nerves were high and adrenalin was kicking in as the race started on the Holden Track. The students raced until 8pm where they were given a compulsory break until 6am the next morning. Having had a feel of the track and knowing what to expect, students challenged themselves and pushed to achieve personal and team goals. The students finished at 12pm Saturday. The excitement and feeling of achievement gave everyone big smiles. When all the scrutineering, presentation and race scores were compiled together, our three teams finished at 59th, 62nd and 71st.

A massive congratulations to the three teams. We couldn't be any prouder of you all for the effort you put in and behaviours and support we observed across the three days. This event could not have happened without the support of parents. On behalf of Rob Kay, Tegan Aoun and myself, I thank all the parents who spent endless hours on the weekends to build our vehicles, who stayed up late to make minor repairs, who got up super early to cook us breakfast and who stood on every corner with loud voices to cheer our riders on.

On behalf of the Hillsmeade Primary School HPV team we would like to thank our 2015 sponsors and other contributors:

- LJ Hooker Narre Warren South
- The Sign & Badge Centre
- Totally Outdoors
- M & K Peach Bricklayer Builder
- LJW Electrical
- Hillsmeade Fundraising Committee

We are very excited to start thinking about our theme, presentations and teams for 2016!

Ms Barker



HILLSMEADE HEROES

Oliver Lucas, Danny Cannen, Shiraz Hameed, Jaylina Van Sanden, Riley Naeaa, Keping Wang, McKenzie Tabaone, Eve Kararsivoudis, Abby Riddiford, Florence Inthavixay, Pavanveer Singh Arora, Chlowe Kerr, Mostafa Mohammadi, Dane Male, Nelofar Karimi, Alfie Weinstein, Caelan Landwehr, Chloe Hulme, Chevyann Senior, Navya Bhardwaj, Tyra Feldman, Braydon Bousfield, Caitlyn Shane, Keira Catheray Harvey, Christian Sakal, Mustafa Jaffan, Lucas Lappin, Mindara Kottegoda, Sherry Cui, Tyson Waters, Jacob Schaefer, Gemma Mouette, Kira Emery, Jasmine Belot, Kevin Wu, Ava Hume, Vini Tuaeopepe, Amish Chopra, Patience Siaea, Allanah Delacy, Kiarah Taing-Sun, Sanah Amin, William Lewis and Molly Harlen.

Grade 6 Graduation December 14th.

On the night a professional photographer will be in attendance for family photos from 4.30pm until 6.15pm in the library. An envelope outlining costs for those photos will be sent home (envelopes will be available on the night) Photos are optional.



Asthma Kids



Hi, I'm Chester!
Join me on the
Asthma Trail at
asthmakids.org.au

Our new Asthma Kids site helps children and their parents/carers learn more about asthma in a fun and engaging way.

Monthly prize draws!

On successful completion of the trail, children can enter a monthly prize draw to win a Grit scooter and helmet or a voucher for Spencil stationery!



To find out more about asthma contact your Asthma Foundation on 1800 ASTHMA (1800 278 462).



HILLSMEADE PRIMARY SCHOOL CO OPERATIVE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM for the above will be held at the school on Thursday 26th November, 2015 at 3.45pm.

All welcome.



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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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.