Dear Parents / Guardians

As we continue the countdown until the last day of school on Friday 18th December, there are still many administrative matters to finalise before the holidays. As our student enrolments continue to increase, we are still in the process of recruiting new teachers to Hillsmeade PS. This process takes time due to the department’s recruiting guidelines. I am hopeful that we have all teachers assigned to our 38 grades for 2016 before the end of the year.

Wednesday 9th will see the whole school involved in a transition day where the children go to their new 2016 grades. Where possible, the teacher will be with them during this three hour event. As mentioned above, we are not able to have all of our teachers in place and I know that you will support us with this. The process to allocate students and teachers to grades in a school of this size is complex, time-consuming and thorough. Our teachers know the students; they know how they learn, how they interact with other children and how they will be best placed for their continued educational improvement journey. Although I have received letters from parents requesting friendships and/or teachers for 2016, this is not always possible, nor preferable for the child’s best interests whilst at school.

Hillsmeade PS would like to say a big thank you to Jack Croucher from the Berwick Woodworkers Club for contributing his time and efforts in creating this new sign for our school. The ‘welcome’ sign recognises 24 languages spoken by our families. We would also like to thank Sue Causon for the design and her liaison with Jack to make this project a reality. Keep a lookout for our next exciting and creative initiative recognising our wonderful, multicultural school.

Recently, a family returned school books accumulated over the years as part of the ‘take-home’ reading program. When we counted them, there were over 200 books at an approximate cost of over $2000. These are valuable resources that the school has not been able to use for other children’s reading program. **Please, if you have books at home: under the bed, in the cupboard or on the bookshelf, I urge you to return them to the school.**

As you can see from the list of upcoming events on this page, we are in for a very busy end of year. We welcome all families to our Twilight Sports, the Twilight Christmas Carols and the End of Year Assembly. All students must be collected at 2.30pm on Friday 18th December. Please put this into your diaries.

Deborah
Hillsmeade Fundraising Committee

Think Big, Dream Big

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.

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 choirs. This year sausages will be 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. Forms & raffle ticket books are available from the school and ELC offices.
Thank you to the following businesses who have donated items for the Christmas Raffle: Coles Casey Central, Kmart Fountain Gate, Lunar Drive-In Dandenong, Margaret Kavanagh.

JO-ANNE BOWES, OWNER AND CREATOR
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/STEMCREATIONSAU

LJ Hooker – Casey Central Christmas colouring competition - 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

NOTICES SENT OUT:
• Mad Day all students (Preps - grade 4)
• Family Sports Afternoon 8th December (eldest)
• Prep Picnic 10th December
• Little Day Out grade 5
• Get Active Sports (eldest)

Notices due back:
• Grade 1 Big Night In due 4/12
• Grade 5 Little Day Out due 8/12
• Preps Picnic due 9/12
• HFC Cake stall 17/12
• Carols by twilight Sausage sizzle orders 17/12

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.
Thanks

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)
We love Mandarin

In the Asian Art Elective and Kung Fu Panda Club, we have participated in many fun activities!

Ink Blow Painting

Asian Shadow Puppet Show

My Little Chinese Book

Making Kites with Chinese Writing

爱

Love
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)

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<th>Current Grade 2015</th>
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(PLEASE PRINT)

Parents Signature

Please indicate which school they will be attending.

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