

Wednesday 9th December No 39

Dear Parents / Guardians

Today we saw all children step up into their new grades with their new group of friends and their teacher. It is quite rare to have all teachers available for this session but we appreciate the new staff members taking the time to come into the school to meet the children. I would especially like to thank our new graduate teachers who volunteered their time to be here. They were supported by one of our own teachers in the classroom today. Our new prep children were very

excited and explored various areas around the junior playground.

Prep B & Prep D children with their teachers Ms Turner and Ms Page.



On an extremely hot evening the Twilight Sports session showcased the talents of students, teachers and parents. Skipping, basketball, badminton, soccer and hula hooping were on offer. Here we have Alexandria and Deman (Chinese Exchange

Teacher) having fun whilst getting a bit of exercise and sunshine. Next year, the event will be back on in term 1 (weather permitting) and I encourage more families to enjoy the event with us.



VPA CHINA STUDENT EXCHANGE 2016

There is an opportunity for seven grade 5 or 6 children to participate in

this exchange program from 11th – 24th October 2016. Last year, I travelled with four children and it is an exceptional opportunity for children to experience the Chinese culture, enhance the Mandarin language learned this year, attend classes in Jinling Primary School in Nanjing, meet children from other schools and perhaps undertake a side trip to visit our sister school in Changzhou. There are restrictions this time around – we must have a teacher to student ratio of 1:7 and there is an Expression of Interest process in place; meaning we might not actually be accepted in the program. After two years of this exchange operating, it has become highly sought after by schools. The cost has been set by the VPA (Victorian Principals Association) at \$2,500 (under 12yrs) and \$2,900 (over 12yrs). If your child is interested in this exchange and has your support, could you please let me know by Wednesday 16th December?



Deborah

It's cool to be at school

December

9th

Prep Information
Night 7pm – 8.30pm

10th

Book Sales 9am – 6pm
Little Day Out **Grade 5**
Preps Picnic Excursion
Big Night In **Grade 1**
5pm – 8.30pm

11th

Free Dress Day
Bring donation for
Christmas Raffle

14th

Grade 6 Graduation
Family photos 4.30pm – 6.15pm
Ceremony 6.30pm – 8.30pm

16th

Big Day Out **Grade 6**

17th

Twilight Christmas
Carols Concert and BBQ.
BBQ. 5pm – 6.30pm
Performance 6.30PM

18th

First Assembly 9.15am
For Raffle Prizes
Second Assembly 1.45pm

**LAST DAY OF
SCHOOL
2.30PM FINISH**

January 2016

21st

Book Sales 8.30am – 6pm

28th

Welcome back all students.

February

4th

Prep Photos

Hillsmeade Fundraising Committee

Think Big, Dream Big

THIS FRIDAY IS FREE DRESS DAY & 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:

Spotlight, Jewels of Eden at Eden Rise, Kerry Lee-Jenkins and Family, Lollipops Playland Carrum DownsC The Pancake Parlour Fountain Gate, Muzz Buzz drive-thru coffee Berwick.

READERS AND LIBRARY BOOKS.

It would be appreciated if you have any readers or library books at home that you return them to school as soon as possible.

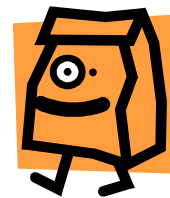


CANTEEN NEWS !!!!

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
Felicity & Bianca



BREAKFAST CLUB.

There will be **NO BREAKFAST CLUB** next week .



NOTICES SENT OUT:

- Lets Go Kids (eldest)

Notices due back :

- Carols by twilight sausage sizzle orders 14/12
- RAFFLE TICKETS 15/12
- HFC Cake stall 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.



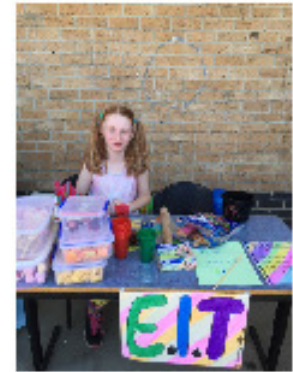
BOOKS SALES 10th Dec

If paying by cash it would be greatly appreciated if you have the correct amount.



MAD DAY

On December 4th, Hillsmeade's basketball courts were converted into a MAD Market Day to raise funds for Grade Six Graduation and Big Day Out. All stalls created a business plan, signage, their products, conducted surveys on the needs and wants of their clients and had to display teamwork in the lead up and on the day to successfully complete their project. The teachers are very proud of all of the 5/6 students and thank all the parents who were involved as well. Here are some pictures of the day.



Some awesome parents working
hard on the BBQ



Delicious donuts donated
by "Baked Creations"



A day for the whole school community



Elia covered in
chocolate icing!



Even the teachers weren't
safe at some stalls!

HILLSMEADE HEROES

Bella Cruize Appleman, Luke Geddes, Garine Nikola, Cooper Savage, Chanelle Anderson, Lauren Ashley, Rameen Hassan, Indianna Beatie, Mia Avery Russo, Gurnal Singh Mundi, Jamie Partridge, Zahra Haidry, Taylor Houndsome, Jalen Bremmer, Amy Winestone, Chaise Amaru, Justin Oral, Hayley Limm, Isla Lewis, Jasraj Hayer, Aban Chaudhry, Aader Nota, Charli Hill, Summer Partridge, Hayden Tate, Achok Pandak, Luka Nitsiopoulou, Indianna Beatie, Chelsea Vella, Lachlan Carruthers, Paige Quinn, Tayte Gehlsen, Bradley Bouwmeester, Raina Liu, Libby Mosely, Shraynik Sivakumar, Malachi Vaeau, Poko Tereva, Redda Ganji, Tharushka Katagoda, Sarah Wel, Stephen Mancini, Momaria Gringi and Wahaj Hayat.

Coaching Corner: Supporting resiliency in children.

Being resilient means to bounce back after something goes wrong or being able to keep going when life is tough. Researchers have described resiliency as the capacity children have to adapt successfully despite exposure to stressors; and the human capacity to face, overcome, and even be strengthened by the adversities of life.

At this time of the year, with many changes for our children just around the corner, how can we, as parents, support our children to resourcefully address occasions, tasks, situations and shifts that are possibly unfamiliar or out of the realm of our expectations?

It is important to remember, everybody can bounce back. Resilience is not an attribute of an individual, but rather a behaviour. Therefore, it is not something that children have or have not, but rather something that everyone is capable of modelling, learning, applying and sharing.

Resiliency is a process that unfolds dependent on the demands and developmental stressors that show up in our everyday lives. Just because a child demonstrates resiliency today, it does not mean that it doesn't need to be worked on, or further developed in 5 years' time or even tomorrow when other variables present themselves.

Behavioural flexibility and adaptational systems such as the ability to rationally solve problems, regulate emotions, form connections with others, and surround ourselves with supportive networks greatly effects our response to external influences. Context or circumstance (environment) is as equally important as a child's personality. Ultimately resiliency is not an attribute of any single individual; it is an attribute of communities, schools and families.



Kelly Utting
Teaching and Learning Coach

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)



Please indicate which school they will be attending.

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Current Grade 2015

Current Grade 2015

Current Grade 2015

Current Grade 2015

(PLEASE PRINT)

Parents Signature _____

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.