

Dear Parents / Guardians

This afternoon 4pm – 6pm, we are having our Twilight Sports / Sports Field Opening event. The build up to the completion of this project has us all extremely excited and we are thrilled to be able to celebrate with the children and families tonight. Tuff Turf, the company who worked with us to develop the sporting field will join us in these celebrations and have donated sausages and bread for the event. We've also been fortunate enough to have Coles donate fruit (an offer made after their successful working bee last week). On behalf of our community, I would like to thank both organisations for their generous donations. Our canteen will be open for refreshments too. Come along and celebrate with us. Take a look at our new facility now...

In preparation for tonight, we also had the basketball courts' line marking repainted to spruce things up. The transformation is something all the kids are talking about and I wanted to thank those parents who have supported us with paying the voluntary component of the school fees. These funds have certainly been used for maintenance throughout 2015 and will be ongoing this year. We cannot keep upgrading the facilities without parent support. On this note, a huge thank you to the Hillsmeade Fundraising Committee for purchasing the AFL and soccer goals to finish off the field.



The closing date for nominations for Parent & DET representatives on School Council was Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. We are not required to have a voting process this year due to the number of nominations received. Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March will be a meeting to elect office bearers.

Victoria as 'The Education State' (you may have noticed this slogan on new number plates) is our government's new vision and direction. The department has developed a new Framework for Improving Student Outcomes with six initiatives to help schools lift student achievement, wellbeing and engagement. In 2016, all schools were required to select one or two of these initiatives to focus on through our Annual Implementation Plan. Hillsmeade selected:

- **Building practice excellence**
- **Setting expectations and promoting inclusion**

Our priorities to address these two areas are the development of a consistent Instructional Model for all teachers (using the same model and language) and continuing with the implementation of the KidsMatter Framework and in particular, introducing the Bounce Back program in all classrooms. Our weekly staff meetings are used for professional learning in both of these areas. Please talk to your teacher if you would like to know more.

Deborah



## FEBRUARY

**24th**

Twilight Sports/Oval Opening

4-6pm

**25th**

Graffiti Education Incursion Grade 5

**26th**

Whole School Assembly 2.45pm

Grade 3 item

**29th**

Body Investigators Grade 3

## MARCH

**1st**

School Tour 10am

District Swimming

(Selected Students)

**2nd**

National Young Leaders Day

**3rd**

Prep Family Picnic

**9th**

Prep Pet Incursion

**11th**

Free Dress Day

Whole School Assembly

2.45pm Grade 2 item

**14th**

Public Holiday (Labour Day)

**17th**

Hands on Science Grade 4

Survivor Day Grade 5 & 6

**18th**

Hands on Science Grade 4

Cross Country Grade 4,5 & 6

**23rd**

School Tour 10am

**24th**

LAST DAY OF TERM 1

2:30pm FINISH

**25th**

Public Holiday (NO SCHOOL)

Good Friday

**Preps** Will attend school full time starting Monday 29th of February

# IT'S COOL TO BE AT SCHOOL !

# Look what's going on at Hillsmeade .....

## Happy Hub has reopened for 2016!



Relocated to the library, Happy Hub is a place where students can play games, relax with a book or spend some quality time chatting with their friends in a comfortable environment.

### Hillsmeade Fundraising Committee

#### *Think Big, Dream Big*

We are selling **Zooper Doopers** at lunchtime on **Tuesdays** for **\$1** each.  
We have reusable wet-suit holders to stop little hands getting cold for **\$1.50** with a zooper dooper. Both are available from the HFC room from 1.40pm.  
Kids please remember to put your wrappers in the rubbish bin.



#### Events for Term 1.

Raffle tickets out: **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March** (1 book per family).

**Free dress day & bring an item for Easter raffle Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March.**

Raffle tickets due back no later than: **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.**

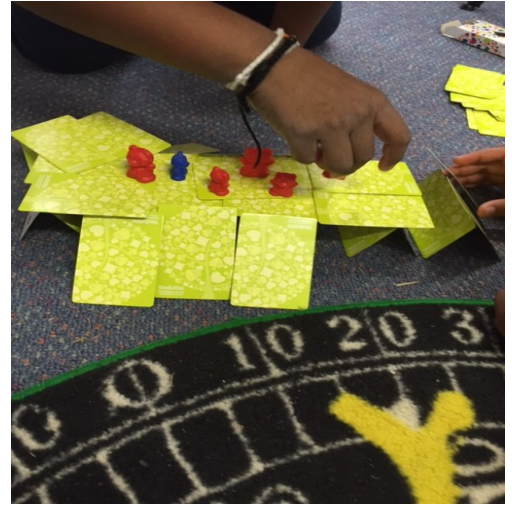
Raffle draw at assembly Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March, in gym, all welcome.

#### Diary dates for Term 2.

Car Boot Sale on Sunday April 17<sup>th</sup>, 8am-1pm, in the teachers' car park.  
Details of booking a car space will follow. Start cleaning out the garage!!!!

Mothers Day stall: Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, Volunteers required.

# Electives



**The Grade 3-6 began the Elective Program last week. There were many subjects that the students could choose to do. Sport and Science were very popular as was Drama, Portrait Drawing, Yoga, Forensic Science and Photography. These areas of learning are only a sample of topics offered.**

**The Electives run each fortnight and are a way for students to interact with students from year 3-6 to develop resilience and collaboration skills.**

**Feedback from the students is that it was a huge success.**



## CSEF

"The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities. Eligible students will receive \$125 per annum which will be paid directly to the school. Eligibility will be subject to the parent's Centrelink Health Care Card being valid on the first day of term one or two. A copy of the concession card is required with each application. Parents are encouraged to lodge the application form by **29 February 2016**, so that payment can be made from March. Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from [www.education.vic.gov.au/csef](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef).



## SCHOOL BANKING

School Banking is on a Tuesday.  
For further information please speak to office staff.

### NOTICES SENT HOME:

- National Young Leaders (student leaders)
- District swimming (selected students)
- Casey Manor elective (Selected students)
- Prep Photos

## TERM DATES 2016

Term 1 27th Jan—24th March  
Term 2 11th April—24th June  
Term 3 11th July— 16th September  
Term 4 3rd October—20th December

### Breakfast Club for 2016

Every Tuesday between 8.15am to 8.40am at the courtyard outside the library.  
For those who are new to the school, there is no cost for Breakfast Club.



## CANTEEN NEWS !!

The new term 1 menu for 2016 is printed on grey paper. Please see the canteen or the office if you require a copy.

**Please Note:** There is a pricing error on the new term 1 2016 menu, Mini hotdogs are now \$2.00. We apologise for any inconvenience.  
Wholegrain wraps are now available.  
Please request with your order if you would like your child's wrap to be made with these.  
600ml bottles of plain mineral water are now available for \$1.

## HEAD LICE FACTS

A female louse will lay between three to eight eggs (nits) per day on the hair. The eggs are attached to the hair fibres within 1.5 cm of the scalp, and rely on warmth from the head to hatch. Head lice do not have wings or jumping legs, so they cannot fly or jump from head to head. They can only crawl.

People get head lice from direct head-to-head contact with another person who has head lice. This can happen when people play, cuddle or work closely together. Head lice are most common among children and their families. If your family has head lice, tell anyone who has had head-to-head contact with them, so that they can check and treat their family if needed. There is no need to treat the whole

family, unless they also have head lice.

Concentrate on treating the affected person's head. There is no evidence to suggest that you need to clean the house or the classroom. The only linen that requires changing is the affected person's pillowcase.



The itchiness may not disappear immediately after treatment. Persistent itch is not a reason to repeat the treatment.

## MUSIC LESSONS

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



### EXCURSION DUE DATE :

- ◆ District Swimming (Selected Students) Due 29th Feb
- ◆ Hands on science grade 4 due 10th March
- ◆ National Young Leaders Day due 27th March

## 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.*