Dear Parents / Guardians,

What an exciting week we have had at Hillsmeade and a reminder to how quickly the term is going by.

This week we are in week 6 with only nine weeks in this first term.

Staff Mental Health and Wellbeing Week.

Last week was our first staff mental health and wellbeing week. It was a great week of activities designed by Bonnie Arbuckle and her team to promote the importance of positive mental health and wellbeing. Staff look forward to more events next term.

Congratulations to the ELC Well done to Shiona Watson and her team at the Early Learning Centre who were successful with an expression of interest to be involved in the ‘Let’s Count’ program beginning Semester 1, 2017. This program is an initiative through the Andrews Labor Government in their commitment to making Victoria the Education State. The Education State is about giving every Victorian the opportunity to succeed in life, regardless of background, place or circumstance. It is well known that the first years of life are crucial to lifelong learning, wellbeing and success, and the Education State is focused on strengthening early childhood services for children and families. The Let’s Count program is an important step in helping the State to reach its vision for early childhood services for children and families. To find out more please visit the below link.


Internationalising Schools

On Monday the 6th of March, Mrs Bray, Miss Wells and I attended a professional learning day on building globally ready students and internationally minded schools. The Victorian Curriculum outlines that Intercultural interactions have become a part of everyday life in our increasingly multicultural and globalised world. Developing Intercultural knowledge, skills and understandings is an essential part of living with others in the diverse world of the twenty-first century.

Teachers at Hillsmeade are required to deliver the Intercultural capability curriculum to students in the classroom, to assist young people in becoming responsible local and global citizens, equipped for living and working together in an interconnected world.

What does it mean to be globally ready?

A globally ready student:
· has the ability to get along with people who do not share the same cultural commitments and beliefs
· is reflective and has the capacity to recognise that there are other legitimate ways to see the world
· has a deep knowledge of the world
· is curious about global affairs and history
· speaks two or more languages
· is competent in diverse settings and can engage with different beliefs and cultures in meaningful and purposeful ways
· recognises and minimises religious or ethnic prejudices
· is skilled in interpreting, negotiating and managing conflict

Miss Sarah Smith
Acting Assistant Principal Teaching & Learning

Running Club

It was fantastic to see nearly sixty Hillsmeade students, ELC children, and staff on Friday morning! We all enjoyed running, walking, and enjoying each other’s company. We look forward to seeing even more people over the next few weeks on Wednesday and Friday mornings! Also, keep an eye out for the special events that will be coming soon.

Mrs Pilarinos and Mrs Kett.

Just a reminder that this Friday the 10th of March we have our Senior House Sports Cross Country. This event involves students in years 3 – 6. Please remind these students to come to school on Friday in comfortable clothes and running shoes. The cross-country races will begin at 9:30am on the soccer oval. We welcome parents to attend this event.

Dogs on the school grounds

A reminder that there are to be no dogs on the school grounds during the hours of 8am – 4:30pm.

Have a wonderful long-weekend. A reminder that the school will be closed Monday the 13th of March as it is Labour Day.

Jodie Bray
Acting Principal
Think big, dream big

This week we are handing out our Easter Raffle Tickets (The Pink Page).
Each ticket is $1 and again we have awesome prizes on offer.

Our Free Dress Day, to bring your donation, will be held on Thursday 23rd March.

Thankyou to everyone for supporting our fundraising committee.

Have an amazing week ahead.

Inez - HFC President 2017

**Canteen**

**Monday/Wednesday Special**

In addition to the specials on the menu, we are also offering the following:

Pizza or Pasta and a drink (please specify) $6.00

**Canteen Reminders**

All frozen fruit, ice-creams & slushies need to be collected from the canteen at lunch time (they will not be delivered to the class room).

**Hillsmeade School Portal**

We currently have 60% of families active on the Hillsmeade School Portal. The Portal allows parents to access the weekly school newsletter, student learning plans and communicate with the class teacher. If you require another copy of the registration letter these can be provided by the school office.

**Hillsmeade Heroes**

Ana Istratoaie
Sebastian Thompson
Natalie Bartuccio
Daniel Mai
Allen Kang
Taliyah Nguyen
Michael Tantra
Aisha Ashory
Alex Jensen
Jacob Atler
Jack Liberts
Lina Jovchevsha
Kemala Masson
Kohan Jayasekara
Lakeisha Martin
Hamed Naimyar
Cody Scott
Rayhanah Ahmadi
Casandra Istratoaie
Owen Hicklin
Deegan Canty
Owen Dekoning
Jaide Davis
Noori Ali
Brandon Melville
Mandy Wong
Sana Mohebzdah
Guneet Kaur
Theodore Eliadis
Huda Majid
Shae Lewis
Alisina Alizada
Juliana Rentero
Sam Mouette
Alex Poussard
Tyler Mackernes
Maddocks
Hassan Mohammed
Eshjot Kaur

Cloe Donaldson
Darrence Mai
Caitlyn Shane
Levi Cortez
Lucy Pollock
Tyrese Rousetty
Kali Paul
Charley Susan
Mitchell Boucher
Mindara Kottegoda
The Berwick Show was on Saturday the 25th and Sunday 26th February. Hillsmeade Primary School produced the above display to show the community some of the fantastic artwork produced by our talented artists. I would like to congratulate all the students who had their artwork on display. We received a Merit certificate, in recognition of our valuable contribution to the Berwick Show Art Display and Encouragement award, ribbon.

MOTTO: Growing & Learning Together

MISSION: To provide a caring, safe and supportive learning environment for children to grow.

VISION: At Hillsmeade Primary School, we aim to continually grow and learn together by: supporting individual abilities and excellence in academic achievement, celebrating diverse backgrounds and cultures, and becoming global citizens prepared for the needs and expectations of our ever changing society.
BOOK CLUB ORDERS ARE DUE BACK ON TUESDAY, MARCH 14TH. NO LATE ORDERS WILL BE TAKEN.

For your information, it takes approximately 2 weeks after the order has been sent to Scholastic, (in Sydney), for the books to be delivered.