



The Link

Hillsmeade Primary School Newsletter

Issue No 4—Wed 21st FEB

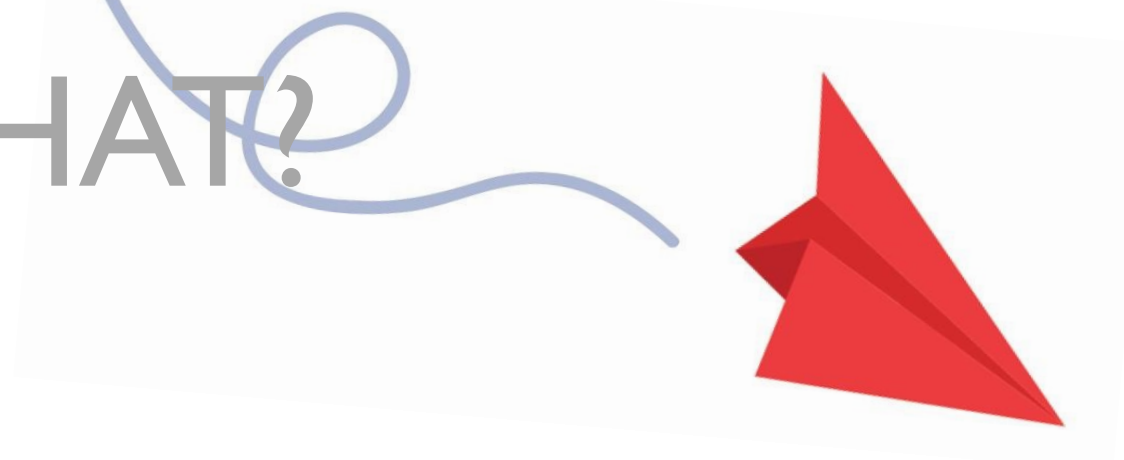
2018

TERM I



WHO? WHAT?

WHEN?



<p>26 FEB—9th MAR Prep Chicken Hatching Incursion</p> <p>28th FEB - Preps attending WED</p>	<p>5th MAR District Swimming Trials</p>	<p>6th MAR</p> <p>ROBO Gals Gr 3</p> <p>Footsteps Dance Gr 3 & 4</p>	<p>8th MAR</p> <p>Prep Picnic 5-6pm on the Oval</p>
<p>7th MAR ROBO Gals - Gr 6</p> <p>Footsteps Dance - Gr 5&6</p> <p>Graffiti Incursion - Gr 5</p>	<p>9th MAR Hillsmeade Cross-Country</p>	<p>12th MAR</p> <p>Labour Day</p>	<p>14th MAR Footsteps Dance - Gr 1 & 2</p> <p>The Flying Bookworm – Gr 1</p>
<p>15th MAR</p> <p>Footsteps Dance - Prep</p> <p>Divisional Swimming Competition</p>	<p><u>22nd MAR</u></p> <p><u>Curriculum Day - No</u></p> <p><u>Students Required at School</u></p>	<p>29th MAR</p> <p>Last Day of Term</p>	<p>16th April</p> <p>Beginning of Term 2</p>

Notices Out: Grand Prix Permission GR 5 - 6 Note—SLIP AND PAYMENT DUE BACK 15th MARCH

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Happy Week 4 everyone. We have had a wonderful week at Hillsmeade, with many exciting things happening over the last few days.

Getting to Know Hillsmeade Expo

A huge thank you to all of the people who attended our 'Getting to Know Hillsmeade Expo' yesterday. It was a wonderful event. A big thank



you to our Teaching and Learning Assistant Principal, Sarah Smith for coordinating this exciting event. It was great to have the opportunity to showcase the wonderful things on offer at Hillsmeade. A big thank you to all staff for taking the time to design the class doors and set up the informative displays in the hall.

Judith Graley visit to the ELC

On Thursday the 15th of February our local MP Judith Graley made a special visit to the Hillsmeade Early Learning Centre. This visit was to announce the continued involvement of the Hillsmeade ELC in the 'Let's Count' initiative.

'Let's Count' is an early mathematics program for children aged three to five, developed by The Smith Family and Professor Bob Perry from Charles Sturt University and Associate Professor Ann Gervasoni from Monash University.

The program supports parents and early years educators to develop the maths skills of the children in their care by noticing, exploring, and talking about numbers, counting, measurement and patterns in their daily lives.

To find out more, please visit the below link.

<https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/programs/numeracy/lets-count>



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Berwick Show

It's that time of the year again. The Berwick Show is on Saturday the 24th and Sunday the 25th of February. That is this weekend! The students have been working hard during their Visual Art and Mandarin lessons to create some awesome artworks. Hillsmeade Primary School will have a display to show the community some of the fantastic artwork produced by our talented artists. If you are going to The Berwick Show please take the time to visit the Berwick Show Society Schools Art Display.

<http://www.berwickshow.org.au/>

School Council Elections

Due to receiving more nominations than available positions for 2018, we will need to hold a school council election ballot.

Please see the below details of Parents who have nominated to be on the Hillsmeade Primary School Council.

Keep your eyes peeled for ballot papers, which will be distributed by Monday, 26th February 2018.

2018 School Council Elections Timeline

There are 3 parent positions vacant.

Timeline below follows the DET guidelines for election process.

Notice of election and call for nominations	Monday, 12 February 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertise in Link Issue #2 on Wednesday February 7.
Closing date for nominations	Monday, 19 February 2018
Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be posted	Wednesday, 21 February 2018
Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed	On or before Monday, 26 February 2018
Close of ballot	Monday, 5 March 2018
Vote count	Tuesday, 6 March 2018
Declaration of poll	Tuesday, 6 March 2018
Special council meeting to co-opt Community members (the principal will preside)	Tuesday, 13 March 2018
First council meeting to elect office bearers (the principal will preside)	Tuesday, 13 March 2018

FROM THE PRINCIPAL - NOMINEE STATEMENTS

My name is Kristy Panayiotou. I have a son in grade 3 at Hillsmeade Primary School who started in the ELC when he was 3.

Therefore, I have been part of the Hillsmeade community for approx. 5 years.

Throughout this time, I have seen some fantastic changes in the school and the local community. I have nominated for the role of parent representative at Hillsmeade Primary School as it is a fantastic school and I am keen to be a parent voice, advocate and have a stronger role in the school community.

My background is; I have worked as a division 1 Registered nurse in many various settings including Intensive care, paediatrics, occupational health and wellbeing. More currently, I am working in a secondary school as an adolescent health Nurse. With my experience in this role, I feel I can bring knowledge and advice around these areas to support a guide policy change as well as the wellbeing of the school and local community.

Kind Regards

Kristy Panayiotou

Hi there, my name is Vicky Bartuccio and I would like to be a parent member on the school council committee.

I've been part of the Hillsmeade community since my eldest started at the ELC in 2013 and I now have 2 children attending Hillsmeade Primary School. Throughout the years I have supported many fundraisers because I believe its important to give back to our community.

I currently work in the health sector and my background is in Management, Event Organising and Customer Service. I respect diversity and I believe strongly in Hillsmeade's mission; please help me make a contribution to our growing school community which encourages our children to be the best version of themselves. Thanking you all in advance for your support.

Kind regards,

Vicky Bartuccio

Hi. My name is Erica and my family have been a part of Hillsmeade for ten years now.

I have two children, my daughter who completed all her primary school years at Hillsmeade and is now in High School and my son who is now in grade 6. My family and I love being part of the Hillsmeade community and always enjoy participating in many school events and volunteering our time to help be there for our school .

I have watched Hillsmeade grow each year from strength to strength and am proud that my children have had the opportunity to be a part of Hillsmeade Primary School.

I have been a parent representative on the school council for a couple of years now and would love the opportunity to continue to be a voice for all our Hillsmeade students and families.

Erica Zboril



FROM THE PRINCIPAL - NOMINEE STATEMENTS

My name is Karen Hounsome, I am a proud mum who has been involved with Hillsmeade Primary School for over 10 years with my son James (Sports Captain 2015) and Taylor (School Captain 2018). I have been volunteering my time within the school since James started Prep, everything from reading, sports and art activities even State School Spectacular 2017 and now 2018.

I have watched our school go through many changes over the years of which I am very proud of and now I would like to be a part of school council so that I can be a voice for our students, parents and teachers within our school so that we can continue to experience the wonderful progress within our school for many years to come.

Thanks for reading,

Karen Hounsome

I am incredibly excited about nominating for a parent representative position on Hillsmeade P.S council. I am passionate about helping develop opportunities for all children at Hillsmeade P.S that will enhance their education and provide richer learning experience.

I have been fortunate to be involved in the HFC for the past 2 years and many other events that happen in and around the school, showing the commitment I have in giving back to the kids and the time I am willing to invest in the school. Through this I have developed relationships with many of the other parents and believe that this has given me good insight to what parents would like from the school council and the school as a whole.

I am proud to be a part of the Hillsmeade P.S family and thrilled my two children, Hayley and Adrian attend such a great school. By becoming a parent representative on the school council for the next two years I believe I can offer an enthusiastic and professional advocate for the school community.

Brooke Bryer

Casey Student Leaders Reception 2018

It is very exciting that this year our school captains have again be invited to attend the Casey Student Leaders Reception. Jack and Taylor will attend with Ms Wells, Mr Cardamone and I to hear some wonderful guest speakers. This event will take place at Bunjil Place on Thursday the 22nd of March from 4:30pm – 7:30pm. The special guests include: Sam Webb, co-founder of the not-for-profit organisation Livin, and the Major Cr Geoff Ablett.

A reminder that this Friday afternoon is our first whole select elective session. Students and teachers are excited to begin their new electives for 2018 from 2:30pm – 3:30pm this Friday.

Have a wonderful week.



Jodie Bray
Principal

CLASSROOM READING - Parent Helpers Wanted



You are invited to attend our Parent Helpers Workshop to support the reading program in your child's class. We encourage all parents, grandparents and carers, who are interested in assisting in the classroom, to attend **one** of the following sessions.

Wednesday 28th February

9:00am – 9:30am

Monday 5th March

2:45pm – 3:15pm

Thursday 8th March

9:00am – 9:30am

It is a Department of Education and Training (DET) policy for helpers to provide a copy of their Voluntary Working With Children Check.

Apply online here:

<http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au>

then lodge at a post office (no fee payable).

Please arrive at the school office to sign in and you will be directed to the location.

Sarah Smith

Assistant Principal



Please tick **one** session and return to your child's teacher.

I will attend: Parent Reading

- Wednesday 28th February 9:00am – 9:30am
- Monday 5th March 2:45pm – 3:15pm
- Thursday 8th March 9:00am – 9:30 am

Parent name: _____

Child's name: _____

Class: _____

HFC

The HFC AGM was held on Wednesday 14th February.

Unfortunately, there were insufficient volunteers to form a committee. We thank those that did volunteer their time.

As a result, the HFC will not operate in 2018.

Over the years the HFC have raised many thousands of dollars to build the pirate ship, synthetic grass in the courtyard, the asphaltting of the bike compound and the senior school playground.

They have also organised the school disco, walkathon, Mother's and Father's Day stalls and Easter and Christmas raffles.

The Hillsmeade School Council and entire school community sincerely thank all the members of the HFC who have so generously given countless hours to raise much needed funds and worked tirelessly to organise so many fun activities for the benefit of our students.

If there are any other parents who may be interested in becoming a committee member of the HFC in the future, please see the office staff.

Yours sincerely,

Brooke Gniel (on behalf of school council)

School Council President

ELECTIVES

Junior and Senior electives start THIS WEEK!

Who: this semester students from Year 1 – 6 will be involved in our whole school elective program.

When: on a Friday from 2.30-3.30pm alternate weeks to assemblies

What: Students have been able to select their electives from a wide range of activities offered by our talented teaching team in various areas of the curriculum. Some of these include mindfulness, puppet and book making, using ICT for fun and learning, hoops (basketball), soccer, outside games and trivia competitions.

Why: Hillsmeade Primary School runs a school wide electives program to increase student connectedness to school and develop relationships and resilience across the year levels. This program also allows students voice and choice in their elective preferences.

We are looking forward to a great semester of electives. If you have any questions, or feel you may be able to help with an elective, please speak to your classroom teacher or one of us.

Carmen Collins (**Junior Electives Coordinator**)

Susan Haworth (**Senior Electives Coordinator**)



FROM VICKI IN THE SICK BAY

Just a reminder that all medication (with the exception of Ventolin) that is sent to school must be accompanied by a signed note that has your child's full name, grade, the name of medication, the dosage and the time to be given. Alternatively a medication Request form is available from the office and this can be filled out.

A reminder that a change of clothes in your child's bag is handy for accidents and wet weather.

All students with Asthma need a current Asthma Action Plan. These can be obtained from the office and are to be completed by your child's GP.

First Aid Officer

Vicki Collie



SWIMMING TRIALS

Sport is back!

Mr. Chazbek and I are excited to kick off the Hillsmeade sporting year with 4/5/6 swimming trials to pick a team for the upcoming district competition. Everyone who was capable of swimming 50m in grades 4/5 and 6 were invited to try out for the district swimming team. 60 students swam on Monday the 19th of February at Kings Swimming pool, just down the road from Hillsmeade.

We all walked down, and thanks very much to Jill Mouette, Natalie Hale, Debra Guzzardi, and Klara Misze Slimonne for helping to supervise on that trip. We also had additional help at the pool from Stephen Alter and Jessica Maas. We welcome several brand new parents to our trials as well.

Due to excellent parent support, our trials went beautifully. Our results were clear thanks to parents at the finish line (and also past students) and it's the first time we have ever walked the pool deck and seen no lost property. There is some new talent from the grade 4's which is very exciting. The grade 6 girls team also demonstrates

Kate Pollock



TEACHER PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE DAYS



In the Education State, we achieve excellence by consistently focusing on improving the achievements of learners across Victoria, whether it is through improving the quality of educational services or changing the way we teach.

The most important thing we can do to improve student outcomes is to develop and improve the skills of our teachers.

The Victorian Government will continue to provide opportunities to develop professional, passionate teachers and principals and equip them with the right knowledge and skills for a modern classroom.

To ensure we support the learning and development of not only our students, but our teachers too, we are committed to providing professional development opportunities for our teaching workforce.

WHAT ARE THE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE DAYS?

As part of the Victorian Government Schools Agreement 2017, teachers will receive one day per term when they are out of the classroom to focus on the improved delivery of high quality teaching and learning.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOUR CHILD

Your child's teacher will spend four days per year further developing their skills in areas that are aligned to the school priorities. Your child will directly benefit from these improvements in their daily learning.

On these days, an alternate teacher will be provided with the learning plan for the day and be well equipped to assist your child with their learning needs.

We are scheduling the professional practice days ahead of time so there is minimal impact to students and, where possible, there is consistency in teaching.

If you would like more information on the professional practice days and when they are planned, please contact your School Principal.

Education State target areas are:

- **Learning for life**
More students achieving excellence in reading, maths, science and the arts.
- **Happy, healthy, and resilient kids**
Building the resilience of our children, and encouraging them to be more physical active.
- **Breaking the link**
Ensuring more students stay in school and breaking the link between disadvantage and outcomes for students.
- **Pride and confidence in our schools**
Making sure every community has access to excellence, in every government school and classroom.



<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/educationstate/Pages/targets.aspx>

KEEPING KIDS ENGAGED IN READING

Keeping our growing readers engaged in quality reading material, on topics that interest them, can be a challenge at times. The following websites offer 'kid friendly' news—for FREE!

Kids News

Australian news in kid friendly language and rated according to difficulty.

Recommended for gr 3-6

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/kids-news>



DOGO News

News from around the world. Great to read together, or independently for very confident readers.

<https://www.dogonews.com>



Time For Kids

While you can subscribe, there is also free content available.

You can select stories according to grade level, from P-6.

<https://www.timeforkids.com>



DROP-OFF, PICK-UP AND PARKING

A reminder for all parents on the parking available around the school for pick-up and drop-off of your children. [This information in on our website](#)

City of Casey Manage the Street Parking

The City of Casey is responsible for all of the parking around the school – it is not managed by the school. There is street parking all along The Promenade, and a carpark off The Promenade in front of the soccer oval (shown in orange on the map).

Types of Parking

There are some **No Parking** bays around the school. [According to VicRoads](#), you should be in a No Parking bay for 2 minutes or less, and you must stay with your vehicle.

The Staff Carpark

There is **no parent parking** in the staff carpark. (Shown in red on the map.)

This carpark is at capacity, and teachers need to be able to park there to get to classes.

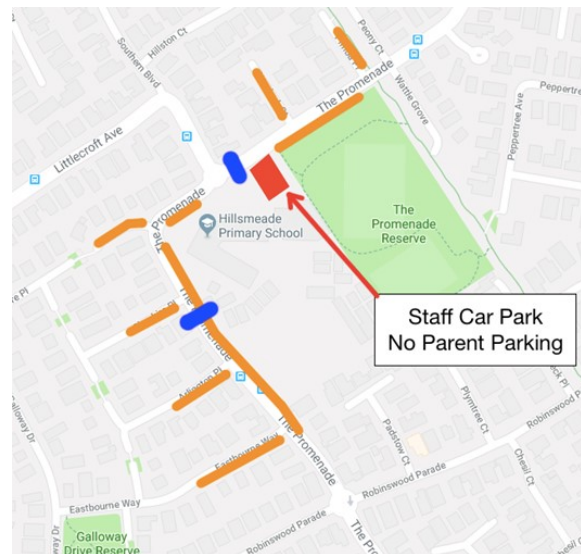
The staff carpark is also a no-child zone in the school, so please do not walk your children through the staff carpark.

Walking and Riding to School

Where possible, we encourage children to walk and ride to and from school accompanied by their parents. [The Department says:](#)

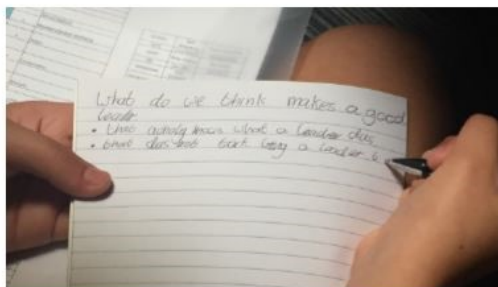
them to the main school office directly so that we can sign them in.

If you need to pick your children up early then please notify us in advance and we will arrange to have your child waiting in the school office. This is especially important during recess and lunch breaks, because your child will be out in the playground and won't hear announcements to come to the office.



A peek inside Student Leader Learning

By Jack Winestone & Taylor Hounsome



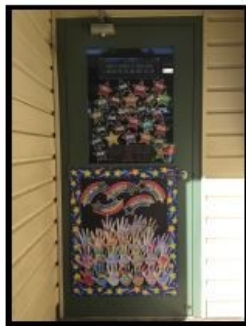
Every Monday and Friday, the student leaders have a leadership meeting in the library. We have been learning about how to inspire people and how to identify the leadership qualities that we have.

Our favourite quote from our leadership meetings is “You have to be close enough to relate to them, but far enough ahead to inspire them”.

We are looking forward to having more of these meetings in the future.

If you have any questions, or want to talk to us about our leadership learning, please feel free to come to us.





HILLSMEADE EXPO DOOR DISPLAYS

HILLSMEADE HEROES!

GRADE 1

Zaara Ramic and Josh Bouwmeester 1A

Erica Lim Heang and Lachlan Dykes 1B

Chase Denholm and Ella Tate 1C

Lida Nabizadah and Zaine Bader 1E

Emanuel Pyndiah and Max Holbrook 1E

Mia Quint and Tatum Varova 1F

GRADE 2

Abid Saeedi and Casandra Istratoaie 2A

Kehan Jayasekara and Erin Buckley 2B

April Moulette and Munroe Watts 2D

Ben Greene and Tilly Chambers 2F

Ashlee Langlois and Kobe Jackson 2G

GRADE 3

Moniel Shah and Izzy Toland 3A

Sam Lappin and Lara Nittoli 3B

Bradley Bouwmeester and Lilly Dillon 3C

Ruby Pollock and Romeo O'Connell 3D

GRADE 5

Mark Abbott and Elyas Hosseni 5A

Kashav Sankar and Olivia Berry 5B

Nicholas Bene and Shaelee Doyle 5C

Hussain Qand Agha and Kira Browne 5D

GRADE 4

Varun Mothiravally and Denise Vargas 4A

Sanitago Giannaras and Emily White 4B

Seth Milne and Daniel Guzzardi 4C

Ilir Saliu and Mia Jenkin 4D

Damien Smart and Zahra Haidary 4E

GRADE 6

Aban Chaudhry and Elizabeth Watts 6B

Jordan Coldebella and Keira Catheray Harvey 6D

STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT A TEAR FREE SCHOOL DROP OFF

There's lots of advice out there on how to deal with it – but understanding your child and working on some common sense strategies to deal with it is sometimes the best approach.

Try these tips to break the crying at drop-off cycle:

* Explain beforehand your drop-off procedure so she is completely aware of what will happen. And then tell her when you'll be back, and from where you'll be picking her up.

* Involve your child's class teacher in the process as she will be left with your crying child.

* Don't hang around at school or prolong the goodbyes. You may need to run through the pick-up process again.

* Try to appear relaxed with a happy or calm expression.

* Set up a reward chart in which your child works towards something special, putting a sticker on each day she separates from you without too much trouble.



Hillsmeade Primary School

- ▶ Current Enrolment 866 students in the Primary School
- ▶ Current Enrolments 135 children in the Early Learning Centre
- ▶ Over 165 families accessing After School Care each week
- ▶ 92 staff
- ▶ School Council President Brooke Gniel



Mission, Vision & Values



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.



PLTs @ Hillsmeade Primary School

Professional Learning Teams are year level based teams at our school that work collaboratively to plan quality teaching programs. The teams work from a data informed perspective to grow student learning outcomes.



Each team:

1. Has a focus on improving student learning and student experiences
2. Involves collaborative teams
3. Engages in collective inquiry into best practice and current reality
4. Is action oriented
5. Has a commitment to continuous improvement wherein members collectively:
 - a. gather evidence of current levels of student understanding,
 - b. develop strategies and ideas to build on strengths and weaknesses in that learning,
 - c. implement those strategies and ideas,
 - d. analyze the impact of the changes to discover what was effective and what was not, and
 - e. apply new knowledge in the next cycle of continuous improvement
6. Focuses on results aligned with goals for student learning

FROM THE COMMUNITY



Testimonials from Parents

"The kids love it, the variety of activities that are offered are great fun."

"Stage Creation staff provide a fun and safe environment for my child to try new things."

"We are so amazed at how much our sons confidence, self esteem and personal development has grown."

"Stage Creation gives all students equal opportunities to express their talents and interests."

*Innovative Performing Arts Training
Designed to Develop Confidence,
Self-Esteem and Communication
Skills in All Students*

PH: 0490 119 594
Email: stagecreation1@hotmail.com

Venues: Croydon, Chirside Park,
Cranbourne (New Venue Opening 2018)

"First 2 weeks try any Classes for Free"

Stage Creation:

Caters for both boys & girls
Doesn't require expensive

Costumes/Uniforms
Medals awarded to all Students/Trophies Most Improved Students

Our commitment is to ensure that All students develop their unique talents & the confidence they need to succeed in school & life

When your child comes to Stage Creation, you can be assured he or she will not get lost in the crowd. You see, we understand that each person is amazingly unique.

Due to ongoing success, Stage Creation is offering classes in your area for ages 3yrs to Adults

Classes with lessons in:

- Drama
- Singing
- Movement (various dance styles taught in this class)
- Tap
- Hip Hop
- Classes from only \$4.50 to \$6.00
- Adult Classes - Drama, Singing, Movement, Hip Hop, Tap
- Classes from only \$6.00 to \$8.00
- Private Lessons – Singing, Acting, Movement (various styles)



**Sport
Fitness
Confidence
Self Defence
Discipline
Fun
Friendship**

Karate Classes

Free Uniform – Book in early!!

Fridays:

Hillsmead Primary School

The Promenade, Narre Warren South

Juniors, 7 to 13 years, 6:30pm to 7:45pm
Teenagers & Adults, 6:30pm to 8:30pm



LION BUSHIDO KARATE ACADEMY

www.lionbushido.com

LBKA Centers:

Forest Hill – Wantirna – Rowville – Glen Waverley – Mount Waverley
Dandenong - Doncaster East
Fountain Gate – Narre Warren South – Patterson Lakes

FREE Trial Class – Phone 9887 4098

If you would like to place an advert in The Link, please contact the friendly Office Team.