



**Alkira Secondary  
Open Night 24th  
MARCH  
5:30-7PM**

# The Link

Hillsmeade Primary School Newsletter

Issue No 3—WED 19th FEB

TERM 1  
**2020**



THE FULL CALENDAR AND DETAILED EVENT INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE TO VIEW VIA THE COMPASS APP OR WEBSITE

## WHO? WHAT? WHEN?



| MON   | TUES  | WED  | THUR                                 | FRI   |
|---|---|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| 17th FEB  | 18th FEB  | 19th FEB<br>Hillsmeade Expo &<br>Twilight Sports 5-6:30<br><br>Preps do not attend | 20th FEB<br>School Tour @ 10am       | 21st FEB<br>Electives   |
| 24th FEB<br>Adaption for<br>Survival— Year 5<br>Incursion | 25th FEB<br>NEW DATE Narre District<br>Carnival                           | 26th FEB<br>Preps do not attend  | 27th FEB                             | 28th FEB<br>Whole School Assembly   |
| 2nd MAR   | 3rd MAR   | 4th MAR<br>PREPS ATTEND  | 5th MAR                              | 6th MAR<br>Electives  |
| 9th MAR   | 10th MAR<br>Prep Responsible Pet<br>Incursion<br><br>Gr1 Chicken Hatching | 11th MAR<br>Gr 1 Chicken<br>Hatching   | 12th MAR<br>Gr 1 Chicken<br>Hatching | 13th MAR<br>Gr 1 Chicken Hatching<br>Gr 5/6 Grand Prix<br><br>Whole School Assembly |

# **IMPORTANT SCHOOL COUNCIL NOTICE**

## **SCHEDULE 4: NOTICE OF ELECTION AND CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

As per DET guidelines, an election is to be conducted for members of the school council of Hillsmeade Primary School.

Nomination forms were due to be lodged by **4.00 pm on 19/02/2020 (today)**.

We would like to thank Victoria Bartuccio for her nomination and welcome her as a council member under the parent category.

We would also like to thank Crystal Wells and Dimple Bhardwaj for their nominations and welcome them as school council members under the DET employee category.

**As we have not received any additional nominations, we are now calling for further nominations for the remaining 2 parent positions.**

These nominations are due to the office by **4:00pm on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> of February 2020.**

If we receive more nominations than vacancies, we will conduct a ballot. The ballot will close at **4.00 pm on 02/03/2020.**

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school via Compass and the LINK.

The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

| MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY | TERM OF OFFICE  | NUMBER OF POSITIONS                            |
|---------------------|---|--|
| Parent member       | From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2020<br>to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2022   | 1 – Filled Victoria Bartuccio<br>2 - Vacant    |
| DET employee member | From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2020.<br>to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2022. | 2 – Filled<br>Crystal Wells<br>Dimple Bhardwaj |

Crystal Wells  
Assistant Principal



# FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Hillsmeade Community,

Happy Week 4 everyone. I hope that everyone is having a wonderful week and a fantastic start to 2020 learning. We are so proud of our students start this year.

## MATHS EXCELLENCE

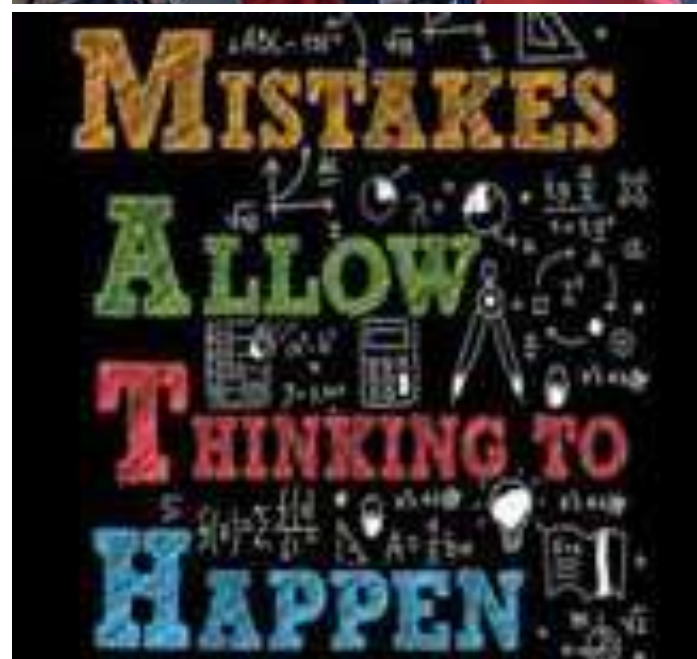
Last Thursday, selected students in Year 5 began extended learning through our Maths Excellence program. During these sessions, students will explore a range of mathematical areas including number and algebra, measurement & geometry and statistics & probability as well as the four proficiencies of understanding, fluency, problem solving and reasoning.

Our first session included a selection of multi-step worded problems and we unpacked how to understand what the question was asking, using the CUBES strategy. Students were then challenged to solve the problem in different ways and explain their reasoning, articulating their understanding of both their mathematical process and why they chose a particular strategy.

These half hour sessions are treated as an extended workshopping opportunity that is aimed to compliment classroom learning. Students are challenged in different aspects of maths and are asked to complete an extra home task component where they are encouraged to share this question with their teachers and parents and seek any extra support by attending homework club on Monday lunchtimes or Maths club on Tuesday lunchtimes as needed.



Students have been eagerly sharing their learning with their teachers and parents already and taken the time to reflect on their learning and mathematical process in detail. We are already looking forward to our next session!



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### Creating a Thriving and Collaborative Staff Learning Culture

On Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> February, all Learning Specialists got an opportunity to attend a PD on “Creating a thriving and collaborative staff learning culture” at Alkira Secondary College. It was led by Tracey Ezard, who specialises in helping school teams thrive when deeply collaborating together.

A new class and year at school brings new challenges! As teachers, we always show compassion as our students learn and grow. But why don't we do the same for ourselves? This professional learning opportunity highlighted that 'messing up' doesn't mean we fail. We are always learning new things and should show ourselves kindness and pride in our efforts!

*Miss Page*

One of my big takeaways from the PD was the principles of KAIZEN, learning a little bit more each and every day. We all make progress and we are all thriving in a culture of lifelong learning, so even when we feel like we are challenged, we are still learning and growing each day. Keeping a growth mindset and stretching ourselves outside our comfort zone helps us to reach into the learning zone and support our students to be their best at the centre of all that we do.

*Ms Szalek*

'Growing and Learning Together' is our school motto. Our student's futures depend on our collective commitment to ensure all students continue to progress on their learning journey. The Collaboration Continuum gave me joy. Shared responsibility, accountability and a common language enables us all to work together to challenge and support each other. I am looking forward to co-create and innovate collaborative projects and discussions with our leadership, colleagues, students and parents to deliver high quality teaching and learning in every classroom. The buzz in a collaborative space is compelling and energising for sure as it is about what 'We' learnt and what 'We' achieved as a team.

*Mrs Bhardwaj*



“If we create a culture where every teacher believes they need to improve, not because they are not good enough but because they can be even better, there is no limit to what we can achieve.” This quote really stood out to me because as a learning specialist it is our job to build the capacity of our staff. We send this message to our students when we develop their growth mindset. This is the same for adults and I believe our school community values lifelong learning. Our new teachers this year bring their energy and passion to Hillsmeade and I am excited to work with the leadership team to see what else our school can achieve in 2020. *Miss Carter*







### The Literacy Lab

Great news! The Literacy Lab is now located in the library.

Mrs Schultz, Mrs Monrroy, Miss Tooba and Mrs Cooper will be working in the Literacy Lab on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. We are all so excited about taking our intervention sessions in this fantastic new space. Our sessions support students with their literacy, including reading, writing and oral language. The sessions follow the Fountas and Pinnell Levelled Literacy Intervention Program. This scheme is a structured learning program which supports students in developing reading stamina, word attack, comprehension and fluency while working in small groups.



Congratulations to Amelia Klat for her award winning book mark design. Local MP Gary Maas presented Amelia with a certificate and prize for her efforts. Keep an eye out for her wonderful book mark.



When three technology obsessed youngsters visit their grandfather, he becomes increasingly frustrated with their disdain for anything other than their phones and the internet.

He reveals a pair of very unusual seven-sided dice that he explains was given to him in the Far East by a wise old mystic.

Despite Grandad's stern warning not to touch the dice because of their magical powers, mischievous Marney scoffs at the idea and rolls the strangely-shaped dice.

Grade 4, 5 and 6 students participate in the School Production as part of the Arts Curriculum.

Performed at Bunjil Place Theatre,  
Narre Warren

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> July 7pm

## FROM MR CARDAMONE



Dear Hillsmead hope the week has been a positive one so far.

**Don't forget to sign up for our parent workshop later this term!**

We are very lucky to have back Beth Johnson presenting What is

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)?

There will be discussion time, opportunities to share successful strategies you use at home and share questions or challenges you may be experiencing.

This was a full house last year!!! **Please register for the seminar** with your name (and anyone else you are coming with) on Compass or at the front office by March 16<sup>th</sup> **9704 6313** or [hillsmeade.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:hillsmeade.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au).

**Please see the attached brochure for more information.**

This week I would like to share some information on building positive values in our children. We know how important this is every day for our children to understand. Yes, it takes lots of time and it's a journey, a very important one at that. There's lots of ways we can do this and how this looks from family to family will be different. Please find below a list of things we can do from Andrew Fuller **to build positive values in our children.**

**"How parents can build positive values in their children:**

- Be involved in community clubs and organisations thereby modelling that it is important to make a contribution
- Talk to your children about people who have made a difference to your life and how life would have been different if that person hadn't been involved
- Demonstrating positive values such as love, trust, honesty and forgiveness, integrity and compassion

- Ask your children to talk about people they look up to or admire and their heroes famous or not
- Look at the values of those they admire and discuss how those values may shape what they do and are
- Discuss your families core beliefs: the importance of helping others, reducing poverty and hunger, increasing justice and equity in the world, standing up for what you believe in, telling the truth, forgiving yourself and others when you make a mistake, taking responsibility for what you do
- Explain the importance of integrity - being able to live by clear personal values
- Talk about restraint - being able to say 'no' to negative peer pressure
- Give your children the opportunity to talk about what they believe is important and fair in the world
- Talk about your family values and discuss what would happen if there were no positive values, if everyone just looked out for himself or herself
- Give your children a sense of their own personal power to create positive change in the world by asking them to intervene to help students who are lonely, bullied or marginalised at school
- Encourage your child to give someone they meet a genuine compliment".

You can find out more at <http://www.resilientyouth.org.au>.

If you have any questions, please let me know  
Thank you.

**John Cardamone**

**Leading Teacher in Social and Emotional Learning**

**Social and emotional learning... 'It's everyone's business!'**



# PROJECT MAGNET

## PARENT WORKSHOP



## ‘What is Autism and ADHD?’

Hillsmeade Primary School is excited to announce our next parent workshop, What is Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)? presented by Dr. Beth Johnson and Ms. Rachael Knott

**What:** This workshop will explore what Autism and ADHD are, how they are diagnosed, support and treatments available, and current research.

**When:** 19<sup>th</sup> of March 6:30pm – 7:30pm (seated by 6:20pm)

**Where:** Hillsmeade Primary School staffroom

**About the MAGNET Project:** The MAGNET Project is a federally funded research program aiming to reduce time to diagnosis for autism and ADHD. They need 1000 families from across Victoria who have a typically developing child, or a child with ASD and/or ADHD to take part in this important research. The MAGNET project team will be working with Hillsmeade Primary School throughout 2020. All families will receive a clinical report once they have participated.

You can find out more about the MAGNET Project at <https://www.monash.edu/turner-institute/research/project-magnet> for more information or register at <https://tinyurl.com/monashmagnet/>

**Why:** Hillsmeade Primary School is partnering with the Turner Institute of Brain and Mental Health, Monash University and Monash Children’s Hospital to support the Monash Autism/ADHD Genetics and Neurodevelopment (MAGNET) Project. In exchange, the MAGNET team are giving back to Hillsmeade and the City of Casey community through workshops for families with information about the latest scientific research.

Through these workshops, we hope to not only strengthen our partnership with families but also the connections between the families and Hillsmeade. There will be discussion time, opportunities to share successful strategies you use at home and share questions or challenges you may be experiencing.

Please register for the seminar with your name (and anyone else you are coming with) on Compass or at the front office by March 16<sup>th</sup> 9704 6313 or [hillsmeade.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:hillsmeade.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au).

**Cost: NO COST**



## FULL STEAM AHEAD IN THE STEAM ROOM



Dear Hillsmeade Community,

Look at Mrs Ewing's curious **Little Scientists** who were exploring and investigating in our STEAM Room last week. Spectacular effort for grabbing every opportunity to discover the joy of STEM!

Our STEAM Room was buzzing with some **STEMSational teachers** as well!

These teachers came bright and early to our Maker Space on Thursday to attend a STEAM Snapshot PD.

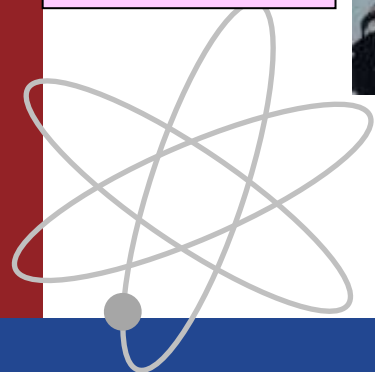
They passionately modelled the curiosity and wondering they would like to see in their students!



**Dimple Bhardwaj**  
Learning Specialist  
STEAM and Year 5  
Classroom Teacher



"The future belongs to the curious. The ones who are not afraid to try it, explore it, poke at it, question it and turn it inside out."







AROUND THE  
GROUNDS @  
HILLSMEADE P.S.





## FROM THE COMMUNITY

### School Banking

Dear School Bankers,

We have started distributing our 2020 information and redemption leaflets. Students in grades Prep,1,2,3 and 4/A-D should have already received a copy from their classroom teacher. We are currently awaiting a further delivery of leaflets and hope to have these distributed to students in Grades 4/E,5 and 6 by the end of the week.

If you have not received one by the end of next week and would like one, the office will have spare copies available for collection.

- School Banking Coordinators Jill & Nat

### School Production Audition Update

Thank you to all the students who have auditioned so far for the

Lead/support roles for 'Let The Games Begin'. Due to the overwhelming response we

are now holding call back auditions for some students to audition again.

The cast list is to be finalised by the end of the week and all students who auditioned will be notified as to whether they have received a role.

### C.S.E.F.

#### Do you have a health care card?

You may be eligible to apply for the CSEF (Camps Sports Excursion Fund) which gives each student \$125 per year to go towards Camps, Sports, Excursions and Incursions at Hillsmeade Primary School.

**Applications must be submitted by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> of June 2020.**

Please see the office staff for further information and application forms.



### BYOD PROGRAM

Thank you to all of the families who attended our BYOD information session at the end of 2019. We will be holding another information night later this term. In the meantime, if you have already purchased a device, we ask that you please keep them at home. As discussed at the information evening, term 1 is a time for setting up our systems, building staff knowledge of the device management software and ensuring everything is in place to ensure a successful BYOD program. We will notify the community, via the LINK and COMPASS posts, when we are ready for the students to bring in their own devices to be set up with the management system. Thank you for your patience and support as we roll out the BYOD program.



# Writing is Creating in Prep



Children's experiences with writing and creating texts is an important avenue for self-expression in early childhood and the start of formal schooling. Their written expression begins with speech, drawing, music, and dance.

Our highly skilled Prep teachers are using well known stories and rhymes to engage their students in literacy learning. Teachers encourage students to respond to familiar texts through oral language experiences and a variety of fine motor activities. These opportunities support students in building strength for pencil grip and using their critical and creative thinking skills to be enthusiastic authors!

Congratulations to our Prep teachers on the wonderful work they do in building student engagement in literacy....and of course to our very clever Prep students!





# Writing Competition

We are enthusiastic about good writers at Hillsmeade!  
To celebrate our student authors, we have 15 double passes to the 2020 ICC Women's International Cricket Final on Sunday 8th March to be won. Students need to respond to the following prompt in 100 words or less:

*Who is your favourite sportsperson and how do they show our IRESPECT school values?*

All entries should be sent to the Office by Wednesday 26th February. Winners will be announced at Assembly on Friday 28th February.

Happy Writing!



*Good writers do good thinking!*





## FROM THE COMMUNITY

## Parent Child Program

# MOTHER GOOSE

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February- 27<sup>th</sup> March

School terms

**Time: 9.15am- 10.30am**

**Age: 2- 4 years**

**HILLSMEADE EARLY LEARNING CENTRE**

**82 THE PROMENADE**

**NARRE WARREN SOUTH**

**FOR ENROLMENTS**

**Phone: 9704 6313**

Enjoy rhymes, songs and stories with your child and meet other parents.

## Private Instrumental Music Lessons

**What:** This year we are offering Private Instrumental Music lessons for keyboard, drums, guitar and voice. Guitar will also include bass guitar.

**When:** Lessons re held in class time and last for 30 mins. They will be taken by specialist music personnel: Mr Andrew Schmidt (keyboard & vocal) Mr Jesse King (guitar) and MR Sean Kelly (drums).

**Cost:** \$28 for a 30 minute private one on one lesson.

**How:** If you would like your child to take part in the instrumental music program, enrolment forms can be collected from the school office.

**If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Scott.**



## Upcoming Events

| Year Level                          | Name                                       | Date                               | Cost    | Due Date                     |
|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| Grade 4, 5 & 6<br>Selected Students | Narre Warren District<br>Swimming Carnival | Rescheduled to<br>Tuesday 25th FEB | \$10.50 | Friday 25th<br>February      |
| Grade 5                             | Adaptations for<br>Survival Incursion      | Monday 24th<br>February            | \$8.00  | Thursday<br>20th<br>February |
| Grade Prep                          | Responsible Pet<br>Incursion               | Tuesday 10th March                 | \$ NIL  | Tuesday 3rd<br>March         |
| Grade 1                             | Chicken Hatching                           | Tuesday 10th—Friday<br>20th March  | \$9.00  | Wednesday 4th<br>March       |
| Grade Prep                          | Grade Prep Family Picnic                   | Wednesday 11th March               | NIL     | Not Required                 |
| Grade 5/6                           | Grand Prix<br>Excursion                    | Friday 13th march                  | \$9.50  | Wednesday 26th-<br>February  |
| Grade Prep                          | RACV Safety Squad<br>Incursion             | Wednesday 18th March               | NIL     | Not Required                 |



**\$10.50**



**\$12.50**



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## FREE KIDS DENTAL

(Medicare Bulk Bill for eligible children under the Child Dental Benefits Scheme)



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## Players Wanted

Berwick Springs Football Netball Club are seeking players who are interested in playing football in 2020.

- U8 Born 2012 up to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2013
- U10 Born 2010
- U11 Born 2009
- U12 Born 2008
- U14 Born 2006
- U15 Born 2005
- U18 Born 2002


### Girls

- U10 Born 2010 & 2011
- U12 Born 2008 & 2009
- U14 Born 2006 & 2007
- U16 Born 2004 & 2005

Contact our registrar  
[registrar@berwickspringsjfc.com.au](mailto:registrar@berwickspringsjfc.com.au)


Please the office  
team if you would  
like to place an ad  
in the newsletter.







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FOR 2020**

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