



Canteen will reopen on Thursday 4th Feb.

We will be open Wed-Fri. Year levels can order on any day.

Lunch orders are available on Qkr only (no cash orders). Cut off for ordering is 9:10am

Open for counter sales at lunchtime only.

The Link

Hillsmeade Primary School Newsletter

Issue No 1—WED 3rd FEB

TERM 1
2021



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

WHO, WHAT, WHEN?

WK 2 MON 1st FEB	TUES 2nd FEB	WED 3rd FEB	THUR 4th FEB	FRI 5th FEB
		Preps do not attend		
WK 3 MON 8th FEB	TUES 9th FEB	WED 10th FEB	THUR 11th FEB	FRI 12th FEB
		Preps do not attend		
WK 4 MON 15th FEB	TUES 16th FEB	WED 17th FEB	THUR 18th FEB	FRI 19th FEB
		Preps do not attend	School tour for prospective families @ 10am	Scholastic Issue #1 closes
WK 5 MON 22nd FEB	TUES 23rd FEB	WED 24th FEB	THUR 25th FEB	FRI 26th FEB
	Hillsmeade Expo	Preps do not attend		

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Hillsmeade Community,

Welcome back to our 2021 school year. We hope that everyone has had a safe and restful holiday. We are very excited about the year ahead at Hillsmeade Primary School.

Welcome Preps and New Students and Families

A very big welcome to our new Prep students and new and returning families to Hillsmeade Primary School. It has been wonderful to see so many smiling faces as we begin the school year.

Welcome New Staff

A huge welcome to our new Hillsmeade Primary School staff; Silvia Cancado (ELC), Adrianna Papa (YEAR 1), Belinda Lane (YEAR 1), Rebecca Lark (YEAR 2), Kirsty-Lee Thorpe (YEAR 3), Sabrina Keller (YEAR 4), Madison Percival (YEAR 6). Welcome back from leave Kristen Rennie (YEAR 3), Trisa Kett (YEAR 4), and Tessa Strickland



Assembly

Based on the current DET advice to schools, we will continue with virtual assemblies fortnightly on a Friday beginning this week. These will continue to be shared via a vimeo link with families.



MEET OUR 2021 TEAMS!



Hillsmeade Primary School

Administration 2021

LEFT TO RIGHT: Vicki Cobb, Alan Carter, Stewart Johnson, Allison Jones, Caren Carter



Hillsmeade Primary School

Tutoring 2021

LEFT TO RIGHT: Tessa Brindley, Abbie Green, Jessica Ellis, Rachel Bampton



Hillsmeade Primary School

E.A.L. 2021

LEFT TO RIGHT: Huwella Allgren, Evelyn Schell, Joanne Murray, Angela Cooper



Hillsmeade Primary School

Learning Support 2021

LEFT TO RIGHT: Andrea Garwood, Deane Collins, Aneta Thomas



Hillsmeade Primary School

E.S. - Inclusion 2021

LEFT TO RIGHT: Felicity Pelling, Tara Agnew, Shante Porter, Cheryl Zabdo, Melissa Terrington



Hillsmeade Primary School

Prep Team 2021

LEFT TO RIGHT: Amy Davis, Rachael Dorman, Matthew Barmelzen, Wendy Beards, Sarah Reeves



MEET OUR 2021 TEAMS!



Hillsmeade Primary School

Year 1 Team 2021

LEFT TO RIGHT: Angela Gomez, Adriana Papp, Scott Mason, Rachel Subilla, Belinda Lane



Hillsmeade Primary School

Year 2 Team 2021

LEFT TO RIGHT: Lisa Crowe, Cassandra Rodde, Sarah McGrath, Jenny Ellen, Rebecca Lark



Hillsmeade Primary School

Year 3 Team 2021

LEFT TO RIGHT: Kristy-Lee Thorne, Kristen Rennie, Nicole Page, Alexandra Hope, Michelle Ewing, Amy Moragie



Hillsmeade Primary School

Year 4 Team 2021

LEFT TO RIGHT: Tine Kell, Susan Heworth, Alliegh Peluso, Samantha Aglin, Carrie Floyd, Sabrina Keller



Hillsmeade Primary School

Year 5 Team 2021

LEFT TO RIGHT: Carmen Collins, Hardev Singh, Bryce Turvey, Shondale Ferdnands, Dimple Shandwa



Hillsmeade Primary School

Year 6 Team 2021

LEFT TO RIGHT: Krista Jenner, Michael Davies, Stephanie O'Dea, Madison Percival, Tatisha Carter



MEET OUR 2021 TEAMS!



Hillsmeade Primary School

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.

• Growing and Learning Together •

In 2021 at Hillsmeade Primary School we are continuing to work towards our school mission, vision and values. We look forward to continuing to work with students, parents and the community to partner in the learning journey.



Positive Start

Over the next 2 weeks our classes are engaging in a wide range of activities and lessons around setting up for success in 2021. This focus includes many class discussions around what makes a good learner, what makes a good teacher and connection to our school vision, mission and values. It has been wonderful to visit classes and hear the excitement in the room about 2021.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

- The doors to the classroom will be open at **8:45am** each day.
- Please make sure your child is in class and ready to begin learning by **9:00am**.
- If your child is going to be absent, please notify the school by 'adding an attendance note' on Compass with the reason or calling the main office before **10:30am** on the day.



Things to look forward to in 2021:

Swimming
 Athletics Carnival
 Cross Country
 Hoop Time
 Year 2 Camp
 Year 3 Camp (make up for missing camp in 2020)
 Year 4 Camp
 Year 5 Camp (make up for missing camp in 2020)
 Year 6 Camp
 Active Afternoons
 Tutoring after school
 Electives
 Lunch time clubs
 After school community events

'Every day counts - Attendance Matters'

We are very excited to continue our attendance awards this year! Every month we will be announcing two attendance awards. These will be awarded to the year level with the 'Highest Attendance' and the year level with the 'Most Improved Attendance'.

What is an Attendance Note? An Attendance Note is used to explain when your child is absent or late for school.



Congratulations to Rebecca Borham who welcomed baby Mackenzie this week.

Distancing

It has been so lovely to see parents and carers in attendance on site during drop off and pick up times. Thank you for following the social distancing requirements and the registering of attendance when on site for more than 15 minutes using the QR code.

SCHOOL GROUNDS

School Grounds

Over the holiday break we have had a lot of work taking place across the school grounds. External painting of the portables, Internal painting of the portables, completion of a new play space, painting and staining of seating around the yard, completion of a sports equipment borrowing shed, new carpet in areas of the school, development of an EAL teaching space and cultural library and many other improvements.



FROM MR CARDAMONE

Welcome back Hillsmeade!

A big welcome to our new families. It has been great to see everyone back and settled back in school, it has also been great to see the preps so excited about school. I hope everyone has had a great holiday and were able to spend quality time with family and friends.

We have another big year at Hillsmeade with lots of different events and activities coming up. Please have a watchful eye for these in the link.

In the link I share lots of different information from experts on a range of topics around social and emotional learning and mental health and wellbeing. At Hillsmeade we have a clear purpose and passion to make sure the mental health and wellbeing of our students, staff, families and community are at the forefront of everything we do.

Social and Emotional Learning is embedded at Hillsmeade and we are very proud that we have the opportunity to be able to teach this for a minimum of one hour a week. The content we teach is from the Victorian Curriculum Capabilities, Respectful Relationships, Bounce-Back and from our core values- the IRESPECT values. There are many other aspects that we at Hillsmeade implement to teach and educate our students, such as:

- **Social and Emotional Learning Menu.** The SEL Menu has been embedded at Hillsmeade for a few years now. The menu provides teachers to teach for class and cohort points of need in regards to SEL.
- **Positive Start Program.** This is implemented the first two weeks of the school year. This provides the teachers and students the opportunity to build positive relationships, get to know each other and build a sense of belonging and connectedness to their class.

- **Circle time.** This provides an opportunity for the class to come together and discuss any issues in or outside of the classroom in a safe space.
- **Zones of Regulation.** Every classroom has the Zones of Regulation display up so it can be seen by all class members. The Zones support students with identifying their emotions and to foster self-regulation and emotional control.
- **Restorative practice** provides an opportunity for students to repair any issues they may be facing with other students. This is done with the support of teachers.



- **National Day of Action Against Bullying.** This day provides an opportunity for all students to discuss bullying and the impact that it can have on all that are involved. There are lesson plans and resources for all classes to follow.
- **Homegroup.** The core purpose of homegroup is to build a strong sense of belonging within the classroom and Building positive relationships between teacher and students. This supports students to also feel connected to school and have a smooth transition every morning.

FROM MR CARDAMONE

- **Calm Space In every classroom.** In every classroom there is a space to give students a clearly designated space to self - regulate their own emotions and to reflect on their actions in a safe place

I hope this provides you with an overview of some of the things we do at Hillsmeade that focuses on social and emotional learning and building a sense of belonging.

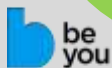
Please let me know if you have any questions.

I hope this is helpful for you and your family.

Thank you.

John Cardamone Leading
Teacher in Social and
Emotional Learning

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



DON'T FORGET!



SCHOLASTIC
Book Club

orders are due:

19th FEB (via LOOP)

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

Karate Classes

****Free Uniform, Free Trial Class!!***

Fridays:

Hillsmeade 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

**Free Uniform with Annual Membership Fee*

www.lionbushido.com

LBKA Centers:

**Forest Hill – Wantirna – Rowville – Glen Waverley – Mount Waverley
Dandenong - Doncaster East**

Fountain Gate – Narre Warren South – Patterson Lakes

For Bookings Phone 9887 4098

FROM THE SICKBAY

Head Lice—Scratching for Answers.

www.health.vic.gov.au/headlice



- Using the conditioner and comb method *every week* is the best way to detect head lice early and minimise the problem.
- Tying back hair can help prevent the spread of head lice.
- Many parents will complain that they are doing the right thing but other parents aren't. Placing the blame will not achieve anything. Instead of pointing the finger, help each other.
- A school with a head lice education program and policy in line with *Scratching for Answers?* is a proactive school attempting to help families address a common health concern.
- The department's head lice management strategy is supported by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

Treatment choices

- Chemical: Treat and comb to remove the head lice and eggs; and repeat in seven days.
- Non-chemical: Use conditioner and comb to remove the head lice and eggs; and repeat every two days until no live lice have been found for 10 days.

ROAD SAFETY @ HILLSMEADE

The beginning and end of the school day are busy times for pedestrians and vehicles outside the school. That's why you need to take extra care in 40km/h school zones.

- Park safely and legally, even if it means walking further to the school gate. Parking signs are planned with children's safety in mind.
- Slow down to 40km/h in the school zone and stay aware of crossings.
- Always park and turn legally around the school.
- Never double park as it puts children at risk.
- Manoeuvres such as U-turns and three-point turns are dangerous.
- Never park in a bus zone or in the school bus bay.
- Make sure your children use the Safety Door (rear footpath side door) to get in and out of the car.
- At a supervised crossing, observe the directions of the school crossing supervisor.
- Model safe and considerate behaviour for your child – they will learn from you.

Remember to always give way to pedestrians particularly when entering and leaving driveways. Don't park across the school driveway or in the staff car park. Be mindful and respectful of our neighbouring properties. This will help keep all children as safe as possible during the busiest times of the school day.



STOP!

one step back from the kerb

LOOK!

continuously both ways

LISTEN!

for the sounds of approaching traffic

THINK!

whether it is safe to cross and keep checking until safely across

STUDENT ILLNESS & ACCIDENTS

At this time early in the school year I'd like to remind parents about the necessity to keep us up to date with phone numbers and emergency contact details. If your child is ill at school, or suffers an accident, then staff will give immediate care and appropriate first aid. However, it is necessary on occasions to contact parents and we are often frustrated by out of date information that delays this process. **Please make sure you notify the Office of any changes to yours or your Emergency Contact details.** Obviously in extreme cases we may also deem it necessary to call an Ambulance before consulting parents and you need to be aware of this. Please also keep the Office informed of any change in medical issues faced by your children as this helps us to make the best choices for their welfare.

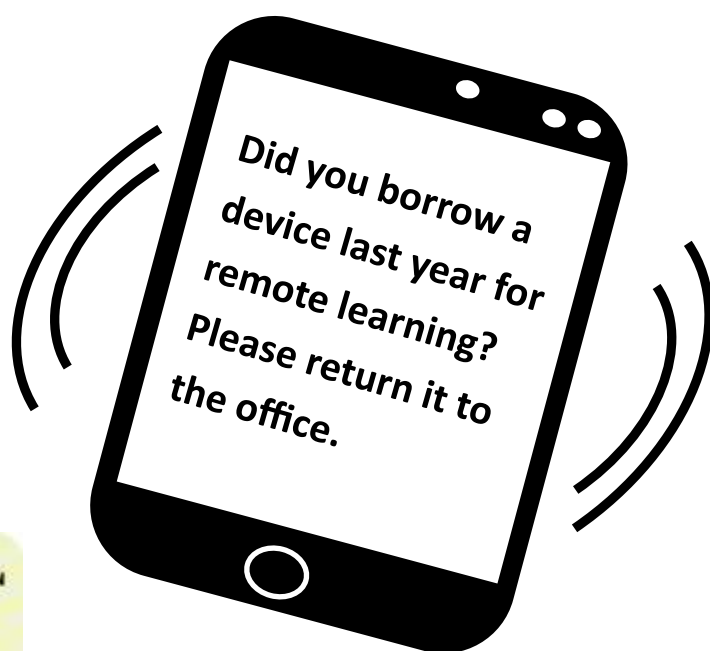
Parents and guardians should also be aware that they are generally responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any Ambulance transport costs. Most medical costs will be refundable by Medicare. If you are a member of an ambulance or health insurance fund, you may also be able to claim transport or other expenses from the fund. **The Department of Education and Training (DET) does not hold accident insurance for school students.**

Is other Insurance available? Yes.

There are commercial providers of insurance for students and they can be found Online or through your Insurance Broker.

Students, Parents & Staff Personal Property

On a similar topic, personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. Please note the Department of Education and Training (DET) **does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools** and it will generally not pay for any loss or damage to such property.



CSEF (CAMPS, SPORTS, EXCURSION FUNDING)

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 18th of June 2021.

Please email us for an application form, or collect one from the front office. We will need to make a copy of your health care card.



In primary school, some students **miss** on average **3 weeks** of school **per year**. That's **half a year** of school by the end of **year 6**.



EVERY DAY COUNTS

Primary school attendance

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child's education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

Why it's important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early

Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It's vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they're ill. It's vital that they're only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

It's vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided.

"Day off" – Think twice before letting your child have a "day off" as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent's permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don't fall behind:

- Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

- Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child's school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. A School Attendance Officer is a Department of Education and Early Childhood Development Regional Director who has authority to follow up attendance issues. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you're having attendance issues with your child, please let your classroom teacher know so we can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:

www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/behaviour/Pages/studentattendance.aspx



EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

Just a little bit late doesn't seem much but.....

He/She is only missing just....	That equals....	Which is.....	over 13 years of schooling. that's....
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly HALF A YEAR
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 minutes per week	Nearly 2.5 weeks per year	Nearly 1 YEAR
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 AND A HALF YEARS
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Nearly 2 AND A HALF YEARS



Did you know your child's best learning time is the start of the school day?

That's when every minute counts the most!

