



# The Link

Hillsmeade Primary School Newsletter

Issue No 6—WED 10th MAR

TERM 1  
2021



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

## WHO, WHAT, WHEN?

WK 7 MON 8th MAR	TUES 9th MAR	WED 10th MAR	THUR 11th MAR	FRI 12th MAR
Labour Day Public Holiday (No school)		Swimming Divisional Trials	Active Afternoons (Register VIA Compass)	Interscholar sports 9:00-11:00am
WK 8 MON 15th MAR	TUES 16th MAR	WED 17th MAR	THUR 18th MAR	FRI 19th MAR
	School tour for prospective families			Interscholar sports 9:00-11:00am Book Club Orders Due
WK 9 MON 22nd MAR	TUES 23rd MAR	WED 24th MAR	THUR 25th MAR	FRI 26th MAR
Parent teacher interviews	Parent teacher interviews	Parent teacher interviews Prep Responsible Pet Incursion	Parent teacher interviews	Parent teacher interviews School Photo Day Interscholar Sports
WK 9 MON 29th MAR	TUES 30th MAR	WED 31st MAR	THUR 1st APR	FRI 2nd APR
		Year 3 Camp Prep Picnic @ 5pm	Year 3 Camp	Good Friday Public School Holidays

Term 1 School Holidays Friday 2nd April — Sunday 18th April

# FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The Link this week has been written by Miss Sarah Smith on behalf of the Principal.

Dear Hillsmeade Community,

Happy Week 7! We hope our families enjoyed a restful break over the long weekend. As always, there is lots happening at Hillsmeade!

## Active Afternoons

Congratulations and thank you to Jeff McGann and Ahmad Chazbek for facilitating our first Active Afternoon on Thursday 4th March. It was a wonderful success and we had a great turnout of over 120 students and their families. This weekly free event supports the DET health and wellbeing priority towards happy, active and healthy kids. Students participated in a range of fun games, physical activities and fitness skills.

A reminder to sign up on Compass for our next Active Afternoon on this Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March.



## Hillsmeade Primary School Council

Thank you again to all of the parents and carers who participated in the 2021 School Council Election Process. Our first meeting was held on Tuesday evening, welcoming new and returning council members. 2021 office bearers are;

President – Megan Shields

Vice President – Kellie Suhr

Treasurer – Kristy Panayiotou



Secretary – Crystal Wells



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### Tutor Learning Initiative

Hillsmeade works in partnership with our students, teachers and families to support the teaching and learning of our students. Below are some of the additional ways we are implementing support:

<b>Tutor Learning Initiative</b> 	<b>Academic Afternoons</b> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Education initiative</li> <li>• Implemented at Hillsmeade as part of a layered and partnered approach to supporting students</li> <li>• Bridging the gap to support students whose learning growth may have been disrupted by COVID-19</li> <li>• Small group support for extra practice, reflection and focus towards students' individual goals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coming soon to Wednesdays after school – event details will be shared on Compass</li> <li>• Opportunity for students and families to attend</li> <li>• Engage in learning practice, reinforcement and revision activities in literacy and numeracy</li> </ul>

### Staff Matter Week

This week the Hillsmeade Staff Matter Team are very excited to present our first Staff Wellbeing Week for 2021 for all teachers and staff to participate. We have planned a range of optional activities to promote work-life balance, workload management, self-care, physical health and mental wellbeing.

The Staff Matter Team's mission is to positively promote, upskill and engage staff in mental health and wellbeing.

Our **vision** is to create a harmonious workplace where staff feel connected, supported and empowered by one another in order to facilitate a positive work/life balance.



### Sun Smart

A reminder that students are required to wear hats when outside for sun and UV protection until the end of April.

### 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

# FULL STEAM AHEAD

Dear Hillsmeade Community,

I am so excited to start our lunch time clubs next week. I will be leading STEAM AGENCY, MATHS CLUB and STEM GEMS. These clubs connect strongly with our school mission, vision, and values. We are strongly committed to improve student outcomes in science and mathematics as we work towards the Education State Targets around 'Learning for Life'.

**STEAM AGENCY**-This club will be running every Monday lunch time with a group of Year 5 and Year 6 students who have been selected through an expression of interest process. Thank you to Mrs Herres who will be supporting me throughout the year.


We are excited to make the skills of the future approachable in a fun way!

**MATHS CLUB**- This club will be running every Tuesday lunch time and is open to all students. Thank you to Mrs Strickland and Mrs Bampton who will be supporting me in delivering excellence in mathematics. We are determined to consolidate maths concepts, skills and thinking strategies for everyday life.

**STEM GEMS**-This club will be running every Wednesday lunch time with a group of Year 4 female students who have been selected through an expression of interest process. Thank you to Mrs. Ewing who will be supporting me throughout the year. We are so looking forward to empowering our little people with curiosities and wonderings.



- Mrs Bhardwaj



## WHY STEM MATTERS

STEM qualifications and skills are **essential** to Australia's productivity, innovation and success.

**IN THE NEXT 15 YEARS:**

- ✓ some routine manual jobs will be lost to automation
- ✓ current jobs will be transformed
- ✓ new jobs will be created.

**TO BE COMPETITIVE WHEN YOU ENTER THE WORKFORCE YOU NEED:**

**STEM qualifications:** Gaining academic and VET qualifications increases job opportunities

**STEM capabilities:** Curiosity, independent thinking, logical reasoning, collaboration, strong communication, creativity, problem solving, entrepreneurship and digital technology skills are highly desired and transferable.

**HOW THE JOB MARKET IS CHANGING:**

**50%**

of current jobs with skill shortages are in STEM fields.

**75%**

of all new jobs will require skills in STEM.

**IN THE NEXT 5 YEARS**

It is predicted that demand will rise for:

professional, scientific and technical services:

↑ **14%**

health care:

↑ **20%**

**EMPLOYERS EXPECT THEIR NEED FOR STEM PROFESSIONALS TO INCREASE IN THE NEXT FIVE TO 10 YEARS.**

University graduates:

↑ **49%**

VET graduates:

↑ **53%**

**90%**

of jobs will need digital skills in the next 2 to 5 years.

**WHY YOU NEED TO ACT NOW:**

One third of 15 year olds do not have the STEM skills that employers want.

**58%**

of current students under 25 are studying for jobs that will be radically changed by automation.

For more information visit [education.wa.edu.au/STEM](http://education.wa.edu.au/STEM) or talk with your course counsellor.

## Hillsmeade Cross Country

Last Friday the students from years 4 to 6 competed in the annual Hillsmeade Cross Country. We were lucky with the weather this year as the students ran around the school on either the 2km or 3km course. It was great to see many of the students getting into the team spirit by wearing their house colours as they completed the course. A huge congratulations to all of the students who participated.

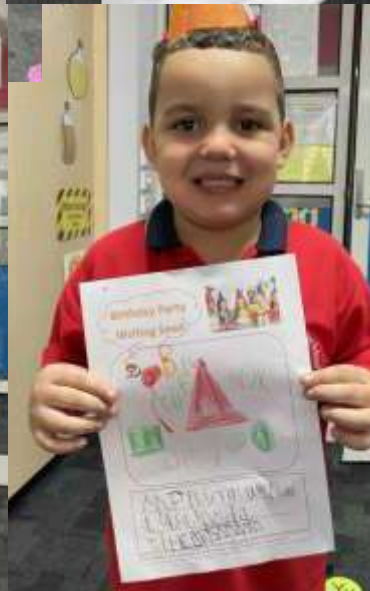
- Mr Jeff McGann

# PREP WRITING SEEDS

## Prep Writing Seeds

Last week as part of the Writer’s Workshop process, students engaged in a hands-on language experience making party hats. A language experience engages and helps students to connect a topic to their own lives and thoughts, building vocabulary and language as the foundation to their writing piece. Prep classes set up a birthday party display to stimulate student conversation and interest in the writing seed.

After brainstorming ideas together, students completed a drawing and were encouraged to label their pictures with initial sounds and share a sentence about their picture. Here are some photos of their amazing work! - Mrs Wendy Beamish

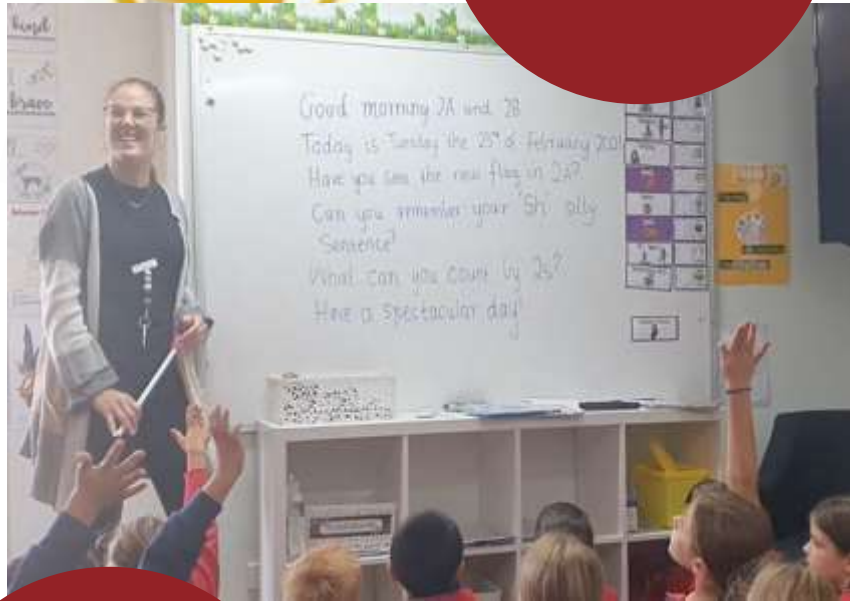


# WRITING @ HILLSMEADE

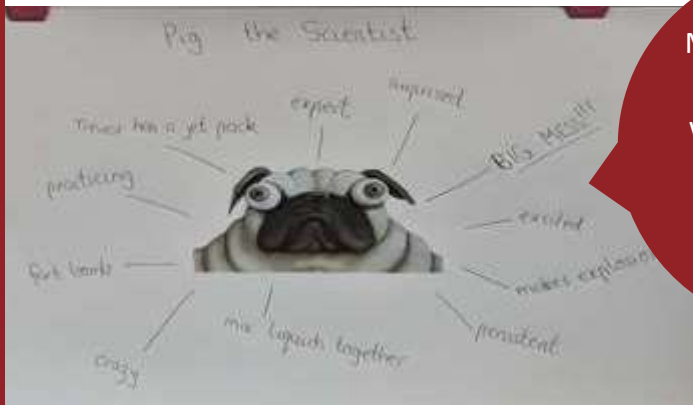
Across Hillsmeade, teachers and students are working collaboratively to set up the routines of our daily writer's workshop.

## Mini-Lesson

This is a chance for our teachers to shine! Teachers show what good authors do by modelling writing skills and strategies. They show their students examples of mentor texts. These are real books where authors use an effective writing craft. Teachers engage their students in shared and interactive writing, and they encourage young authors to discuss possible writing ideas and ways to edit and revise writing. Mini-lessons have a whole class focus that is data-informed and consistent between classes at each year level.



Miss McGrath is writing a letter with 2A. She looks very happy with her student authors!



Ms Lark helped her student's record writing ideas using the prompt: *Pig the Pug*

## Writer's Notebook

All classes at Hillsmeade use a writer's notebook. This is a place for teachers and students to record ideas for new writing topics by unpacking 'seeds.' Seeds are thinking prompts such as photographs, artefacts, songs or videos that inspire ideas for writing. Teachers also model multiple writing strategies in the class writer's notebook for students to use as support when needed throughout the year.



Students can revisit the class writer's notebook to look at different literacy skills and strategies.

Students in Year 2 to 6 have their own writer's notebook. With guidance from their teacher, students independently seek writing seeds to unpack in their writer's notebook.



Miss Elkin is supporting the authors in her class during a writing conference. She is showing them different ways to create a narrative.

## Writing Conference

In small focus groups, students meet weekly with their teacher to practise like-ability needs. Teachers read student writing before the conference so they can celebrate the success of their student authors and highlight a new writing goal to work towards.

## WRITING @ HILLSMEADE



### Independent Writing

Students practise a wide range of writing strategies and skills in a variety of different ways. Hands-on activities and work towards ongoing writing pieces encourage our students

Students are independent during the writer's workshop. They spend time everyday building their writing stamina.

Writing goals set high expectations of our students authors who always strive to improve.

**My writing goal is**

**to:**

**Make sure my ideas are in the right order.**

**I can check that my ideas are in the right order and make changes if they are not.**

### Reflection

Teachers and students work together to reflect on what good writers do every day. Together, we are always looking for ways to improve our learning!

Students continuously reflect on their writing goals. They are provided with opportunities to share their progress with their teacher and peers. In Years 3 to 6, students complete their reflections in their conference journal.

### Writer's Gift

Each year at Hillsmeade, teachers support their students to create a writer's gift to be shared with families and carers at the conclusion of the year.

Pieces of writing are filed into a display book to show the development of student writing skills over twelve months. Past feedback from parents and carers has indicated that the writer's gifts are very significant and appreciated!

**Miss Nicole  
Page and  
Squiggle the  
Writing Puppet**



## FROM MR CARDAMONE

Good afternoon Hillsmeade,

I hope this week has been a positive one for you and your family. Last week I shared what the Zones of Regulation are and information about the blue zone.

### Don't forget breakfast club every Monday and Tuesday 8:15am-8:40am at the canteen

This week will be a focus on the yellow zone. *The **Yellow Zone** is also used to describe a heightened state of alertness and elevated emotions; however, one has more control when they are in the Yellow Zone. A person may be experiencing stress, frustration, anxiety, excitement, silliness, the wiggles, or nervousness when in the Yellow Zone.* <https://www.zonesofregulation.com/learn-more-about-the-zones.html>

We educate students to know, no zone is “bad” and that they are all normal feelings. We focus on strategies that can help us when we are in the yellow zone. Although some strategies will work for us differently, there are some common strategies that work for lots of students when they feel in the yellow zone, such as:

- Playing outside
- Five senses exercise
- Talking to trusted adults
- Breathing exercises
- Drinking water
- Taking a break

The zones language is used every day in all classes to build emotional literacy, the Zones of Regulation is unpacked through the positive Start Program and students have an opportunity to design and come up with strategies that they can use to support them to self-regulate. Please find some information on the zones from the official Zones of Regulation website below.

### Goals of The **ZONES** Curriculum

Teaches students

- Identify their feelings and levels of alertness
- Understand their feelings in context
- Effective regulation tools
- When and how to use tools
- Problem solve positive solutions
- Understand how their behaviours influence others' thoughts and feelings

And ultimately move towards Independent Regulation





# FROM MR CARDAMONE

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of March is **The National Day of Action Against Bullying**. Hillsmeade has promoted and engaged with this day for a number of years now.

Bullying can affect children’s social and emotional development and can impact their learning outcomes. We would like to show that the Hillsmeade Community is a No Bully Zone!

We are offering all classes lessons plans, posters and an opportunity to link with lessons from KidsHelpLine that has a focus on bully prevention and upstander promotion.

If you would like to know more about the zones or in particular the yellow zone and how you can use this framework at home, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,  
**John Cardamone**  
Leading Teacher in Social and Emotional Learning

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



## PREP RACV INCURSION



**"I learnt how to stop, think and listen if you're crossing a road."**  
- Jireh Prep D

## 2021 Photo Day

### Online Only Order Instructions

Dear Parents and Students,

#### Hillsmeade Primary School PHOTO DAY IS 26/03/2021

School photo orders will be taken via our online system only this year.

If you have not yet received instructions on how to place your order online, it is important that the order instructions (below) are followed. All student's photos are taken regardless of purchase.

**\*\* IMPORTANT PLEASE NOTE – ONLINE ORDERING FOR SIBLING PHOTOS WILL CUT OFF ON 25/03/2021 \*\***

#### ONLINE ORDERING Your child's school photos are now available for secure online purchase only

##### 4 EASY STEPS TO ONLINE SCHOOL PHOTO ORDERING

Step 1: Click Here - click on this link if you are using a supported device.

- OR - Go to [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au) before photo day and enter your school code [LG3 X97 85R]

Step 2: Enter your student's details.

Step 3: Choose the package that best suits your needs (all orders will be returned to the school for collection)

Step 4: Pay for the photos via the shopping cart (upper right corner of the page)

**\*\* Online Orders will attract a \$1 service fee.**

Please Note: If you miss photo day, portrait and group packages can still be ordered online for 7 days afterwards with no late fees. After that time, late orders will require separate processing and handling and therefore will incur a \$15 late fee per package.

#### FAMILY / SIBLING PHOTOS

##### EASY ONLINE FAMILY / SIBLING PHOTO ORDERING

- Go to [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au) before photo day and enter your school code [LG3 X97 85R]
- Family/Sibling photo orders online close on 25/03/2021

Please Note: A portrait and a class group photograph will be taken of every student at the school, regardless of purchase. Photographs of your children taken as part of a class group are only permitted to be distributed within their own class. Your child's name will appear on the class group photo. If you Do Not wish your child to be photographed, please contact your school office with your instructions prior to Photo Day.

Please feel free to contact us via email or phone should you have any queries regarding your child's school photo order.

[info@advancedlifevic.com.au](mailto:info@advancedlifevic.com.au) or 03 9852 1133

Advancedlife Team

LATITUDEPAY

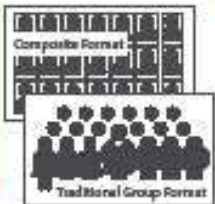
latitudepay.com

Shop now.  
Pay over 10 weeks.  
No Interest. Ever.

**advancedlife**  
school photography & print specialists

### Deluxe Package

**A**  
PACK  
**\$55**  
\$5.50 per week  
LATITUDEPAY



Your school has chosen either the composite or traditional group format for your packages



Perfect for 10x8" Frames

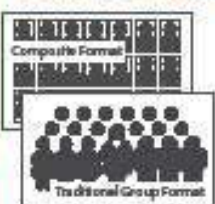


**NEW**  
48 Personalised Stickers

package includes high res digital portrait image

### Value Package

**B**  
PACK  
**\$50**  
\$5.00 per week  
LATITUDEPAY



Your school has chosen either the composite or traditional group format for your packages



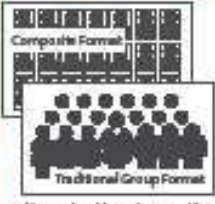
Perfect for 10x8" Frames



package includes high res digital portrait image

### Regular Package

**C**  
PACK  
**\$48**  
\$4.80 per week  
LATITUDEPAY



Your school has chosen either the composite or traditional group format for your packages



Perfect for 10x8" Frames



package includes high res digital portrait image

### Basic Package

**D**  
PACK  
**\$44**  
\$4.40 per week  
LATITUDEPAY



Your school has chosen either the composite or traditional group format for your packages



Perfect for 10x8" Frames



package includes high res digital portrait image

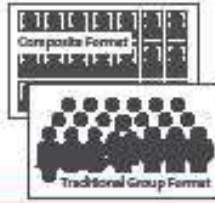
### Option E - Portrait Only \$28



package includes high res digital portrait image

\$2.80 per week  
LATITUDEPAY

### Option F - Group Only \$29



package does not include a digital image

\$2.90 per week  
LATITUDEPAY

Your school has chosen either the composite or traditional group format for your packages.

### Personalised Mugs \$19



Available online only

\$1.90 per week  
LATITUDEPAY

Also available for order online

STICKERS



**\$10**

### NEW Personalised 48 Sticker Set

Our personalised sticker set features a range of 48 fun stickers many personalised with student name and/or image

Stickers set included in Package A or available to order online

BONUS SIBLING OFFER



Have more than one child at your school? Order any A-E package online and order a b&w sibling at no charge. See reverse for further details.

Flyer Code 3PODOP



## PARENTS BUILDING SOLUTIONS ONLINE

**FREE - interactive sessions for parents, step-parents, grandparents and carers living in the Southern Region**

Join us online to share experiences and ideas, and learn strategies to support your child/ren. Attend one or both sessions

**Monday 1st March 2021 1.00-2.30pm**  
**ENCOURAGING GOOD BEHAVIOURS**

- Practical ideas to encourage the behaviours you want to see in your child.

### ZOOM Platform

You will need access to a computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone and an internet connection. Support to access Zoom is available

**Monday 15th March 2021 1.00-2.30pm**  
**DEALING WITH FEELINGS**

- Struggling with your child's temper tantrums?
- What can parents do to calm the storm?

### BOOKINGS AND ENQUIRIES

Sandra Phillips at ParentZone  
Call / text 0447 500 355 or email  
sandra.phillips@anglicarevic.org.au

**PARENTZONE**

anglicarevic.org.au

BETTER  
TOMORROWS



## YEARS 5-6 PARENT & CHILD ONLINE WORKSHOP

Do you need help talking about bodies and puberty with your child?  
Do you want to be the 'go-to' person when they have questions?  
Do you wonder what to say, how to say it and when?

If you answered 'Yes' to any of the questions above, then our 60-minute parent and child online workshops are for you. Children need lots of positive and age-appropriate information about how their bodies will change as they go through puberty. There's lots of misinformation out there, so it's more important than ever for children to feel they can go to their parents with questions.

### What you and your child will learn:

- the changes of puberty and how to manage them
- names and functions of reproductive body parts
- body safety and the importance of trusted adults

### Choose one of the following dates:

- Wednesday 17 March 7pm AEST
- Thursday 25 March 7pm AEST
- Monday 29 March 7pm AEST

Places are limited

Cost: \$25 (per family)

[Register here](#)

**\*\*Age: Year 5-6 children (10-12 years old)\*\***

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=723760&>

For further information, email us at [info@sexeducationaustralia.com.au](mailto:info@sexeducationaustralia.com.au), send us a message via our [website](#) or [Facebook page](#), or call Jenky on 8029 9681.

## A NOTE FROM SICKBAY

Parents and carers are urged to keep young children at home if they are sick amid a rapid rise in outbreaks of viral gastroenteritis.

Viral gastroenteritis is highly infectious.

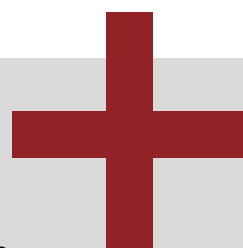
Symptoms include nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, fever, abdominal pain, headache and muscle aches, with more severe outcomes in the elderly and very young.

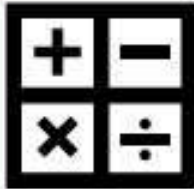
Symptoms can take up to three days to develop and usually last between one or two days, sometimes longer.

Washing hands with soap and water is one of the most effective ways of preventing the spread of infection. Alcohol-based hand sanitisers are not effective against many common viruses that cause gastroenteritis.

Children in childcare or school, as well as staff, who develop vomiting or diarrhoea should stay at home until at least 48 hours after their symptoms have stopped, since they will still be infectious.

If symptoms are severe or they persist, or you are concerned, see a GP for advice. - **Vicki Collie First Aid Officer**





# MATHS CLUB

When-Tuesday Lunch  
Where-In the EAL Room

What are we striving to achieve?

**Excellence in Mathematics!**



JOIN US  
FOR:

Speeding

Salute

Skip

Counting

Dice Games

Bingo

Connect 4

Fun!



Mrs Strickland, Mrs Bampton  
and Mrs Bhardwaj



# STEM GEMS



Empowering girls in science, technology,  
engineering, art, and mathematics.



Learning for All



STEM GEMS seeks to ignite girls' interest and spark their enthusiasm in science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics while building core life skills of self-confidence, self-esteem, curiosity, problem solving and risk taking.

**Robotics**

**Coding**

**Collaborating**

**Inventing**

**Creating**

**Reflecting**

**Designing**

**Experimenting**



When: Wednesday Lunch

Where: STEAM Room



# STEAM Agency



STEAM education is the learning of **science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics** in an interdisciplinary or integrated approach.

I can:

- Research
- Plan
- Design
- Create
- Reflect
- Collaborate
- Think creatively
- Teamwork
- Observe
- Wonder
- Ask questions
- Problem solve
- Improve
- Discover
- Challenge myself
- Persevere



When: Monday Lunch

Where: STEAM Room

# ACTIVE AFTERNOONS @ HILLSMEADE PRIMARY

We are looking forward to our second Active Afternoon this Thursday 11th March. This supports the DET health and wellbeing priority towards happy, active and healthy kids.

This is a free event for our school community promoting physical activities. Students will participate in a range of activities including netball, volleyball, cricket and t-ball. Cricket Australia is supporting this event by supplying cricket equipment and training staff.



**2021 SEASON**

**PLAYERS WANTED FOR ALL AGES  
INCLUDES U14S & U16S GIRLS TEAMS**



**TRAINING AT STRATHAIRD RESERVE,  
COMMUNITY PARADE, NARRE WARREN SOUTH**

**All skill levels welcome with no experience needed**

**Emphasis on fun and development**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT**

**CLUB REGISTRAR: COLLEEN BRENNAN - 0417 552 993**

**CLUB EMAIL: [registrar@narresouthlions.com.au](mailto:registrar@narresouthlions.com.au)**

**PARENTS/CARERS  
ARE REQUIRED TO  
ATTEND AND MUST  
SIGN OUT THEIR  
CHILD AT THE END  
OF THE EVENT.**

All students wishing to attend the Active Afternoon will need to register on Compass prior to Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March. Students are to meet Mr McGann and Mr Chazbek at the shade sails next to the basketball court at 3:45pm where the roll will be marked via Compass.

The event will conclude at 5:45pm where all students will need to be signed out of the event.

**Please contact the office team by email to place an advert in the newsletter.**

[hillsmeade.ps](mailto:hillsmeade.ps)

[@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:@education.vic.gov.au)