

Dear Parents & Guardians

What a fantastic day the children had yesterday thanks to our wonderful Hillsmeade Fundraising Club parents. The Mother's Day stalls were full of goodies for mums and grandmothers. Children had money in their hands, excitement on their faces and the atmosphere in the room was full of jubilation. **I wish all of our mothers and grandmothers a very happy Mother's Day on Sunday.**



I'd like to welcome Karen Kenny to our front office. Karen was our successful applicant for the recently advertised Office Administration position and has over 13 years' experience working in schools. Starting on Monday, Karen has settled in very quickly. Please say hello to her if you are in the office.

This week our professional learning sessions after school have included a session on 'Giving and Receiving Feedback' and another on Module 2 of the KidsMatter Framework. Our staff meetings are no longer just administrative detail but rather focus on providing opportunities for our teachers to improve on their professional practice. Other sessions this term have included: 'What does our hour of reading look like?' and using the Hillsmeade Instructional Model in a writing session. Over the remainder of this term, we will share knowledge and skills for teaching mathematics and using ICT in the classroom.

Preparations are underway for the Grade 4 and Grade 6 camp, both of which occur later this year. By organising them earlier, we are providing time for families to pay off the camp to allow children the opportunity to participate in these experiences. The planning for our Study Tour to China in October is also well underway with all passports finalised.

Our page 3 this week Highlights on our Grade 3 -6 Elective Program. The aims of this program are to improve student connectedness and engagement, to provide opportunities for children to develop their resilience and to provide opportunities for teachers and students across the year levels to develop relationships with children other than those in their class. I particularly loved this shot of Ms Ashneigh Hughes with the children in the gardening project.



Have a fantastic weekend and I'll see you all when I return from my holiday.

Deborah

Wednesday, 4 May 2016 No 12

MAY

6th

Interschool Sport
(Select Students)

9th

Bounce Back Parent Information
Afternoon 2:30-3:30

Evening 5pm -6pm

10th-12th

NAPLAN Testing Grade 3 & 5

13th

Assembly 2.45pm

16th

Interschool Cross Country
(Selected Students)

19th

Bedtime Stories 5:30-6:30pm

20th

CURRICULUM DAY

31st

Mandarin Night 4pm

JUNE

13th

Public Holiday **NO SCHOOL**

16th

Aquarium Excursion (Grade 1)

21st

School tour 10am

TERM DATES 2016

Term 2 11th April—24th June

Term 3 11th July—16th September

Term 4 3rd October—20th December

ELECTIVES

Photography



Hoop Time



Production



Design, create & Building



DIY Craft



SELF PORTRAITS



YOGA



FORENSIC SCIENCE



Movie creator



Gardening



Giant Weaving



Shocking Science



Glee Club



Indoor Ball Games



READING WITH YOUR CHILD AT HOME

Reading is an extremely important skill to master. Children learn about the importance of reading by watching family members read for a purpose and for pleasure and being encouraged to read at all opportunities.

What you can do at home to help

- Read aloud to children. It helps them to learn the language of books and encourage them to enjoy reading.
- Provide a wide range of reading material for your child to access, both fiction and non-fiction.
- Make a special time and place for reading with your child, away from interruptions.
- Listen to your child every day, even if it's only for a short time.

Hints for listening to your child read

- Before reading, talk about the cover, the title, the pictures, and discuss what the book may be about.
- During reading, discuss what has been read up to that point, predict what will happen next.
- After reading is finished, talk and ask questions about the story.
- When reading a harder book together, take turns. Beginning readers can read the repetitive parts and more experienced readers can read a paragraph or a page.
- On finding an unknown word:
 - look for a clue in the picture or the words
 - look at the first letter and think about what the word could be
 - ask "Does this make sense?"
 - try to sound out the word
 - if necessary tell your child the word



Praise your child for trying even if mistakes are made.

What to read

- Tell and re-tell stories of all kinds including favourite stories, fairy tales, movie plots.
- Read recipes while you cook together.
- Read comics, magazines, short stories, poems and rhymes, including nursery rhymes.
- Read the TV guide before watching a program.
- Look at letterbox leaflets
- Read directions and signs when driving and shopping.
- Read and write notes and letters to family members.

NSW Department of Education and Training

Andrea Garwood - Classroom and Specialist teacher

MANDARIN NIGHT



Tuesday 31st of May
(Week 8)

4:00pm Junior Corridor for
Chinese activities
4:45-5:45pm Sports Hall for
performance

*Hillsmeade Primary invites
all the students, families and
friends to experience the
Chinese culture and hope to
see you there!*

Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge

The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is now open and Hillsmeade Primary School is excited to be participating.

As of 2016 schools do not need parents permission for students to take part in the reading challenge so as a school we will be registering each child and we strongly encourage students to complete the Challenge.

As you can imagine it will take a little while to register all students so we ask you to bear with us for a little while until we can complete this task. Your child will soon be issued with a User Name and Password so that they can enter the books they have read. In the meantime please keep a record of the title and author of the books that have been read. The Challenge is for children to read a set number of books by 9 September 2016. All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier. If you would like your child's name to appear on the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge online Honour Roll, please sign this form and return it to your school by the end of June.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Definitions: *Department* refers to the Victorian Department of Education and Training, *Person* refers to the child/adult listed below in the consent declaration.

Privacy Protection

The Department takes its privacy obligations seriously and any personal information collected or used by the Department will be handled in accordance with the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic)*. This law sets out what we must do when the Department collects, uses, handles and destroys personal information. Personal information includes personal details such as an individual's name and school that could be used to identify an individual.

Collection, use, disclosure and storage of personal information

If you provide your consent your school will collect and disclose your child's first and last name, and the name of the school to the Department. The Department will then: Publish your child's name on its online Honour Roll located at: www.education.vic.gov.au/prc at the completion of the Challenge with no other identifying factors such as early childhood setting name.

Accuracy, access to information and withdrawal of consent

The Department will endeavour to ensure that any personal information held about your child is up to date and accurate. You can access, correct and withdraw personal information held by the Department by written request in accordance with the Department's Information Privacy Policy located at:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Pages/privacypolicy.aspx>

Consent may be withdrawn at any time by writing to the Department's Privacy Unit on: privacy.enquiries@edumail.vic.gov.au.

If you have any questions about this form, or if you need more information, please contact the PRC Challenge Coordinator at the Department readingchallenge@edumail.vic.gov.au or (03) 9637 3624.



Yes I consent to my child's name appearing on the online Honour roll

Name of child.....

Parent Signature.....