



The Link

Hillsmeade Primary School Newsletter

Issue No 1—WED 6th FEB

TERM I
2019



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
4th FEB	5th FEB	6th FEB Prep Assessments (PREPS DO NOT ATTEND CLASS)	7th FEB	8th FEB
11th FEB	12th FEB	13th FEB Prep Assessments (PREPS DO NOT ATTEND CLASS)	14th FEB 11:00-3:00 School Swimming Trials Grades 4/5/6	15th FEB BOOK CLUB #1 DUE

Tuesday 19th February

HILLSMEADE

Come along for a fun and informative evening, showcasing our school's vision & values, teaching & learning and community events.

5:00pm – 5:30pm

Viewing corridor displays

5:30pm – 6:30pm

Expo displays in the hall

EXPO



A welcome from our Principal

Hillsmeade Vision & Values

Informative Displays

Chat to our friendly staff and Student Leadership Team



BBQ



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents / Guardians

Welcome to the 2019 school year. I hope that everyone had a safe, happy and restful holiday period. I'd particularly like to welcome our new children in Prep and across other year levels. This will be an exciting year for our school community as we continue on the school improvement journey. Last year, our student outcome priority focussed on writing and implementing our new school mission, vision and values. These priorities will continue to be a focus in 2019. Our commitment to student growth will continue across all areas of the curriculum and there will be a continued focus on social and emotional learning across all year levels.

I'd like to welcome **new staff** to Hillsmeade PS and ELC.

Our **leadership team** for 2019 is:

Jodie Bray (Principal), Shiona Watson (Director ELC / OSHC), Crystal Wells (Assistant Principal - Welfare and Wellbeing), Sarah Smith (Assistant Principal – Teaching and Learning), Stewart Johnson (Business Manager), John Cardamone (Leading Teacher – Social and Emotional Learning) and our Learning Specialists – Jess Szalek (Numeracy) and Dimple Bhardwaj (STEAM).

We are privileged to be supported by our Professional Learning Team Leaders: Katrina Roberts (ELC), Rachel Sutcliffe (Prep), Nicole Page (Year 1), Jess Ellis (Year 2), Tabitha Carter (Year 3), Danielle McKelvie (Year 4), Toni Barker (Year 5) and Travis Cole (Year 6).



Holidays

Over the holidays I was lucky enough to go on a cruise with my family and some friends. It was a wonderful opportunity to relax, spend quality time with loved ones and eat lots of yummy food. I had plenty of time to reflect on 2018 and the wonderful things that took place at our school. This year I look forward to another wonderful year ahead.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to the leadership team and staff who worked so hard over the break to prepare the rooms and the school. We are really proud of the positive and noticeable changes.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Mission, Vision and Values

In 2019 at Hillsmeade Primary School we are continuing to work towards our school mission, vision and values. We look forward to continuing to work in partnership with students, parents and the community to partner in the learning journey.



Hillsmeade Primary School

Growing and Learning Together

Mission

To provide a caring, safe and supportive learning environment for children to grow.



Hillsmeade Primary School

Growing and Learning Together

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.



Assembly

A reminder that currently we will not be running whole school assemblies until the gym maintenance is completed. We are hoping that this will be completed shortly.

FROM MS WELLS

Every Minute Counts!

Hillsmeade Primary School has a strong commitment to maximum student attendance at school. High levels of student attendance contributes to successful relationships between students and their peers and teachers, strong feelings of connectedness to school and increased student learning outcomes. It is also highly important that students arrive at school on time. Many students find arriving late a stressful way to start the day.

Our **classroom doors open at 8:45am** and **learning begins promptly at 9am**.

This year, we will be celebrating student attendance through our Attendance Leader Board, located next to the main office. Each fortnight, we will update the leader board to reflect the percentage of students who have attended school in each year level. The year level with the highest percentage of attendance will be recognised and celebrated at our whole school assembly.

If your child is absent, please notify the school via Compass or by calling the office.



Crystal Wells

Assistant Principal - Wellbeing

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

VICTORIA
AS A LEARNING
COMMUNITY

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!



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Student Illness and 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.

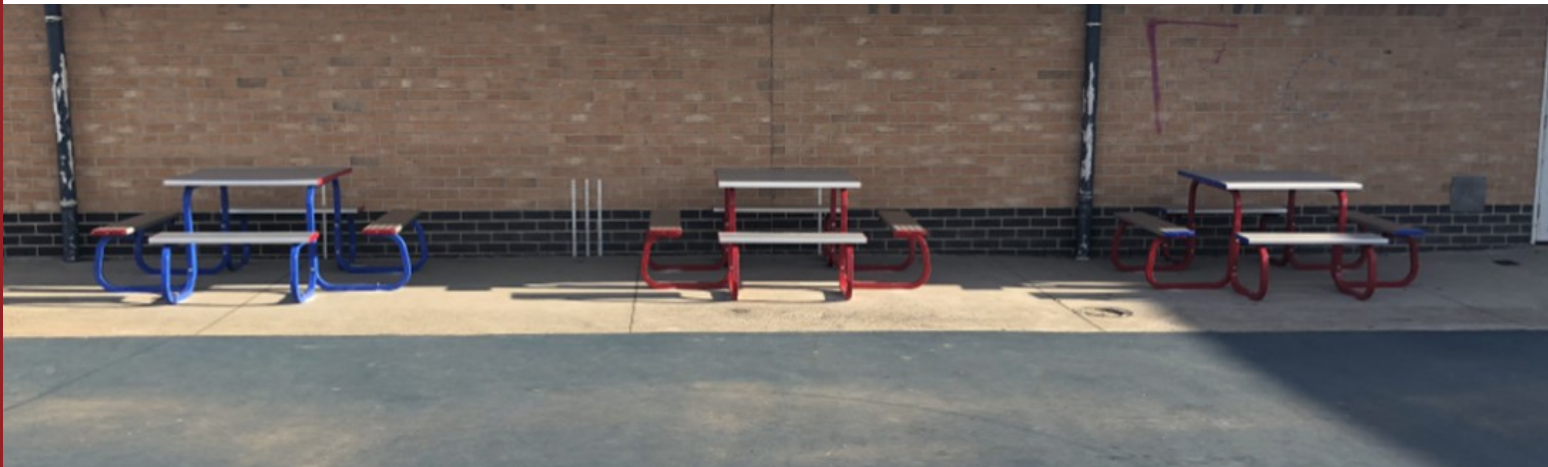
Jodie Bray
Principal



UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENT	DATE	CONSENT DUE
School Swimming Trials	Tuesday, February 14th 2019—11:00 AM to 3:00PM	07/02/2019
Somers Camp	Tuesday, February 19th—10:00 AM to Wednesday, February 27 3:30 PM	(CLOSED)

HAVE YOU NOTICED SOME EXCITING
CHANGES AROUND THE SCHOOL
GROUNDS?



FROM MR CARDAMONE

Welcome back Hillsmeade!!!

It has been great to see everyone settling back into school. A highlight for us has been seeing the preps so excited about starting school. I hope everyone has had a great holiday and that you were able to spend quality time with family and friends.

We have another big year planned at Hillsmeade, with many different events and activities coming up. Please keep an eye out for these in the Link.

This coming Tuesday we will begin Breakfast Club, which will continue every Tuesday from 8:15am-8:40am. We are very excited to make use of our new outdoor tables next to the basketball court as we relocate Breakfast Club to the Canteen and outdoor seating.

Footy Club will also start next Tuesday, from 8:15am-8:40am, meeting on the running track. All students are welcome to come along and have a kick of the footy.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the up and coming Hillsmeade Expo, where we will have lots of different information about Social and Emotional Learning for families.

Crystal Wells and I have changed office spaces this year. We are sharing an office next to the staff room and will continue to offer support to students in our brand new Peace Pod. This will be a positive space for us to support students in developing their social and emotional skills and self-regulation, while being a calming space for students to utilise when they need to take a break.

If you have any concerns, or would like to speak with Crystal or I, please contact the school office. We look forward to another positive and fun year. Thank you.



John Cardamone

Leading Teacher in Social and Emotional Learning

STEAM @ HILLSMEADE

Dear Students, Parents/Guardians and the wider school community,

My name is Dimple Bhardwaj. I am passionate about Science and I am the Learning Specialist STEAM at Hillsmeade. STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths.

I will be leading curriculum planning and implementation in Science across the whole school. In line with our AIP, I aim to work with our PLT leaders and classroom teachers to provide rich authentic learning opportunities for our students to develop them as 21st century problem solvers, critical and creative thinkers.

Through STEAM Agency and STEM GEMS initiative, I look forward to more effective learning that is in tune with real world applications.

2019 is going to be a busy year. Look out for more information on Science Talent Search, ICAS Science, Science Expo, STEAM challenges, Engineering Design Process, 3D printer, Virtual Tours, Guest speakers and our STEAM room as we travel.

Dimple Bhardwaj

STEAM Learning Specialist



"I have no special talents. I am only passionately curious"

- Albert Einstein



STEAM Agency

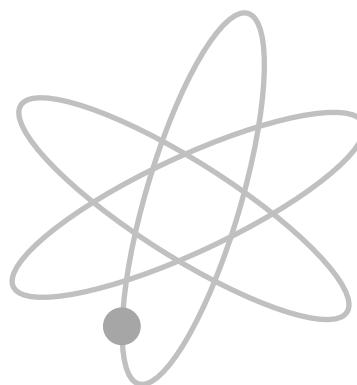


STEAM education is the learning of **science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics** in an interdisciplinary or integrated approach.



I can:

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



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



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



NUMERACY TIPS



DOING MATHS TOGETHER AT HOME *(from birth to Year 2)*

Developing numeracy skills early gives children an important foundation for their learning and development. It helps prepare them for daily life, including general problem solving and handling money.

Playing games

Making maths fun and interactive by playing games will help engage your child.



Here are some ideas:

- Play 'I Spy' or other games to help your child identify shapes, numbers and patterns.
- Board games are a fun way to involve the whole family with maths. Help your child when rolling dice to count, move, and stop after moving the number shown on the dice.
- Card games such as UNO, Snap or Go Fish allow your child the opportunity to identify, say aloud and match colours and numbers.
- When using dice your child may count all the dots on the die face to determine the total number. Over time they will begin to recognise automatically the value on the die face without counting.
- The Victorian Maths Challenge is a fun and engaging way for families to engage in real life mathematics and explore problems together: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/events/vmc>
- Play number games online with your child. Here is a short list of good websites to help begin your online search for resources:
<https://fuse.education.vic.gov.au> (select Early Childhood or Primary Students tabs)
<http://education.abc.net.au>
<http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html>

EXPLORING NUMERACY WITH YOUR CHILD *(from Years 3-6)*

Family participation in learning is one of the most accurate predictors of a child's success in school and beyond.

Providing opportunities to discuss and engage in mathematics supports your child's learning in and out of school. Your child will also begin to connect the importance of maths with their everyday activities, such as navigating public transport, comparing and choosing the best item to buy in stores, setting a budget, and cooking.

Watching the weather

Because it changes daily, the weather can be a great topic to discuss maths with your child.

Try these activities:

- Visit the website <http://www.bom.gov.au/vic/>
- Ask your child the difference between each day's minimum and maximum temperatures. Do they notice a pattern or trend in the weather changes?
- Find a seven-day forecast, then record the actual temperature for each day and compare. Ask your child if the forecast was accurate. Ask them what similarities and differences they notice.



Use the information on the weather website to explore differences in weather between your area and other areas. Ask your child how much rain you get compared to other areas. Ask your child to identify differences in temperature between your area and other areas. Who might be affected by an increase or decrease in rainfall?

Jess Szalek

Numeracy Learning Specialist

FROM THE COMMUNITY

**In 2019 the canteen will be
open Wednesday to Friday.
Closed Monday and Tuesday.**

Attention School Bankers

School Banking will commence this week on Tuesday 5th February. School Banking will be done on every Tuesday of the school term. Bankbooks are to be handed into the classroom teacher or main office by recess on Tuesdays to guarantee processing of your child's deposit. Any new students wishing to open bank accounts for school banking can do so with the Commonwealth Bank either online or at any branch. Any queries please ask at the office.

Thanks, Jill and Nat
(School Banking Coordinators)



ENGLISH FOR PARENTS

- Learn to speak, read and write English and have fun in our new class
- Join in with other parents from the school

MONDAY 1.00PM TO 3.00PM

Class dates: 4th February to 2nd December
Hillsmeade Early Learning Centre
82 The Promenade
Narre Warren South

**CHILD MINDING
AVAILABLE**



Full fees: \$178.80
Concession fees: \$110.00
For bookings and enquiries
call Clea on 9704 7388

PROUDLY BROUGHT
TO YOU BY



**Narre Community
Learning Centre**
developing community through learning & support

WWW.NARRECLC.NET.AU



PARENTS BUILDING SOLUTIONS

For parents, step-parents, grandparents & carers
of children aged 3 - 13 years



Join us in an interactive program to share experiences and ideas, and learn strategies to support your child

ARE YOU TIRED OF YELLING?

How to get kids to listen, without having to yell

DEALING WITH ANGER

Helping parents, and kids, deal with anger and frustration

RESPONDING TO BEHAVIOUR

Better understand why children behave the way they do

STRATEGIES THAT WORK

How can parenting be easier and more fun!

DATES: Tuesday mornings
19th February to 26th March
(6 weeks)

TIME: 9.30am – 11.45am

WHERE: Rangebank Primary School
14-36 Lesdon Avenue
Cranbourne

COST: FREE – Bookings Essential
Refreshments provided

BOOKINGS AND ENQUIRIES:
Sandra Phillips at ParentZone
03 5945 2000 or call/text 0447 500 355
sandra.phillips@anglicarevic.org.au



03 5945 2000
anglicarevic.org.au

BETTER
TOMORROWS

BLACK SATURDAY 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Narre Warren
South



Saturday 9th February 2019

10.00am

Amberley Park Shopping Centre
Cnr Seebeck Drive and Ormond Road Narre Warren South
Memorial Park Bench Area — Opposite IGA

All members of the community, family, friends, bereaved, volunteers are invited to come along to reflect on how far we have come since the Black Saturday tragedy.

A special memorial Ginkgo Biloba Tree will be planted behind the Memorial park bench which will in future provide a sheltered spot for members of the community to sit and reflect.

Remembering the Tragedy of 2009 and Celebrating the Aussie Spirit

Special thanks to Hampton Park Community House, Seebeck Developments and Affirm Welding for their support



Stage Creation:

Caters for both Boys & Girls

Doesn't require expensive
Costumes/Uniforms
Medals awarded to all
Students

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



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, Cranbourne

"First 2 weeks try any Classes for Free"

If you would like to place an advertisement in the newsletter please see the friendly office team.

FROM THE COMMUNITY

Monash Health Dental Services provide dental treatment under the guidelines of Dental Health Services Victoria. We provide dental care to eligible health care or pension card holders and their dependants.

Anyone experiencing an emergency problem should contact 1300 icare (1300 342 273 Option 3) where they will be placed through a triage system. Depending on the outcome of the triage options will be provided for care.

If you require general care (non emergency care) call **1300 342 273 option 3** to be placed on our waiting list.

Berwick: 28 Parkhill Drive

Cranbourne: 140-154 Sladen Street

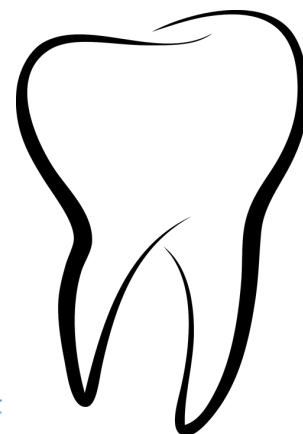
Pakenham (Children Only): 6B Henry Street

Dandenong: Ground Floor, 122 Thomas Street

Dandenong Hospital(Children only): 135 David St
Next to emergency department

Kingston: Kingston Centre
400 Warrigal Road, Corner of Warrigal Road & Heatherton Road

Springvale: 55 Buckingham Avenue



Who is eligible to use this service?

- All children aged 0 – 12 years
- Young people aged 13 – 17 years who are health care or pensioner concession card holders or dependents of concession card holders
- All children and young people up to 18 years of age, who are in out-of-home care provided by the Children Youth and Families Division of the Department of Human Services
- All youth justice clients in custodial care, up to 18 years of age
- Adults aged 18 years and over, who are health care or pensioner concession card holders or dependents of concession card holders
- Refugees and asylum seekers
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders



For Students aged 8 to 12 years Only.

**TO BE HELD AT CRANBOURNE PUBLIC HALL
HIGH STREET, CRANBOURNE.**

On Friday 15th, February, 2019.

NO PASSOUTS. POLICE IN ATTENDANCE.

Parents to collect from the hall at end of Disco.

Times from 6.00 to 9.00PM Cost \$ 8.00

DOOR PRIZES TO BE WON ON NIGHT.

Any enquiries to Mark Townsend 0438 097 046

Ballet, dancing, gymnastics,
acting, singing, confidence,
coordination

Regency
CALISTHENIC
COLLEGE

Come & try for free!

Contact Sue:

0407 056 801 / sue@regencycalisthenics.com.au

www.regencycalisthenics.com.au

If you would like to place an advertisement in the newsletter please see the friendly office team.