



"learning through play"

Greenhills Gazette

October 2015

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President's Report.

Wow! Who can believe we have reached Term 4 already?! It's so wonderful to observe how much the children have grown and to see the established friendships at this time of the year, not only amongst the children, but parents too. I'm sure that many of the friendships that have been formed this year will continue for many years to come.

As many of us begin transitions for prep and start to prepare our children for the year that lies ahead, it is important not to wish away the last term of kinder. Your child's kinder year is such a special time. It really is the one opportunity where your child is supported to explore their interests, consolidate social skills and is provided with long periods of time for uninterrupted play. Let's take the time in the remaining few weeks to treasure the kinder experience. I don't know about you but my kinder memories are some of my fondest. I'm sure your children's will be too.

AGM

On Tuesday 10th of November we are holding our Annual General Meeting. As an incorporated association as part of our constitution we must hold an annual meeting and complete a number of tasks such as consider our financial position and elect roles for next year's committee.

It is important for all families to attend this meeting, not only to show your support to the teachers and committee that have worked hard to ensure the kinder runs smoothly all year but this is also a key opportunity to hear about

the future management of Greenhills preschool. This year we have found it extremely difficult to fill the positions on the committee and due to financial pressures as a result of legislation and award changes, we have explored the possibility of cluster management. The cluster management subcommittee will report their investigations, findings and decision at the AGM to inform families of next steps for the kinder. Session times will also be provided for 4 year olds for 2016 at the AGM.

Information about committee roles will soon be available. Please consider nominating yourself for a position on the committee. It really is a rewarding experience, an opportunity to meet some great new people who are committed to providing a high quality preschool. Most roles only take up a small amount of time and it is true, many hands make light work.

This year we also have a special guest speaker who will be discussing preschool speech development which is a topic that is extremely relevant for families. Our educators will also put together a photo presentation of experiences the children have taken part in throughout the year to introduce Greenhills to new families but to showcase all of the wonderful learning your children have taken part in this year at kinder. Come along and look out for your child in the presentation!

WORKING BEE

Don't forget our last working bee for the year on Sunday 25th of October! This

will be the last opportunity to attend to get your maintenance levy refunded. It is a great opportunity to pitch in and work together to make sure our kinder is tidy and ready for action in 2016!

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR

Look out for information about our kinder disco that will be occurring this term. We are looking forward to a night of disco lights, music and funky dance moves so we can boogie the night away! I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the hard working and dedicated people who have made up the Greenhills parent committee this year. It has been a challenging year but I have felt supported and very lucky to have such a committed bunch of parents doing their bit to ensure the kinder runs smoothly. Thanks guys! You know who you are!!

Cheers,

Shannan Mudie
President

Save the Date

- Greenhills Preschool End Of Year
Celebration Wednesday 16th December
9 to 12 Eltham Lower Park

Reminders...

- Working Bee Sunday the 25th of October
8am - 12pm

- AGM - Tuesday the 10th of November

Educator's Report.

Fire Walk

What a fabulous night and a great turn out, with 43 families attending. Feedback from families was very positive:

"Such a special time with kinder friends and family"

"We loved the fire walk!"

"It was wonderful and I know my family treasured the experience together"

"Lachie loved cooking marshmallows with his Dad and Grandparents"

"It was the best night of his life" as told by Louis (Alicia's brother)

"So great to get Dad into kinder!!"

"A big thank you to the teachers and all others involved for organising such a great night for everyone to enjoy. It was lovely to be outdoors as the night fell roasting marshmallows and getting to know some kinder families better. It reminded me how important it is to take time out to enjoy the simple things in life"



Community quilt

We have been delighted with the response by families to our 'Kinder Community Quilt' which grew out of our visit from Thomas and his Possum Cloak. There are drawings, tapestry, paintings, sewing, flags, jewels, letters and much more...the ideas are endless.

Here are just a few of the many we have received so far, which you might use for inspiration! The educators have been very inspired and will be completing their additions very soon.

The quilt pieces are lovely depictions of our families and the important things in their lives. We can't wait to see them all sewn together and displayed. If you have the skills and time to put this quilt together please speak to one of the educators.

Thank-you to Jayson (Jordan's Dad) and Monty (Ash's Dad) for sharing their skills and knowledge with our kinder friends. We encourage family members to participate in our program to help contribute to children's learning and development experiences. If you would like to share a skill, hobby or interest with our kinder friends there is still time! Some ideas include: cooking, sewing, painting, dancing, reading stories, puppets.... Any suggestions will be welcomed & we will be pleased to discuss them with you.





Swift Parrots

We headed out into the reserve on our first Friday back at kinder with two parent helpers (Rob & Rachele) to search for nature's 'treasures'. We found lots of things feathers, leaves, flowers and 2 caterpillars – very hairy caterpillars! We also played tag and hide'n'seek.

"Seeing the excitement going to the reserve creates is fantastic" Rachele

"I love the reserve it is the best" Rowan

"I loved finding the caterpillars and the feathers" Hayley

There was lots of interest in bees and caterpillars so we read some books about both of them when we returned. We are hoping to find out some more about both these insects in the coming weeks.

Growing Sunflowers from seed

Building on our understanding of living things we are growing some sunflowers from seed that will be transplanted into our kinder once they get big enough.

These are being grown in snap lock bags taped to the window so the children can clearly see the seed germinating, with its roots and stem erupting from the seed.

Growling Grass Frogs

We have installed a 'banana hammock' in our relaxation area for the children to use when wanting some time on their own. Kinder can be a very busy place with lots of activity, so providing an area where children can relax their mind & body is an important part of helping children develop self regulation skills. The hammock is "like a big hug" and many friends have commented on how cosy they feel once wrapped up in the material.

Discussions with children about "transitions" has started to take place, with many children chatting about visiting their nominated schools for orientation. On Wednesday 11th Nov & Thursday 12th Nov we will be walking to Greenhills Primary School during our kinder sessions. The purpose of the excursion is for the children to visit a local primary school and gain an awareness of the school environment to aid in the transition from kindergarten to school. Excursion notices will be distributed into pockets soon.



World Teachers Day

We were all surprised and delighted with all the lovely gifts and cards that arrived with our friends on Monday for World Teachers Day. We would like to thank you all for acknowledging our work with your children and celebrating such an important day.

Cup Eve

You will have all received an email regarding our arrangements for Cup Eve. If you haven't already indicated whether your child will be attending on the sheet provided please make sure you do as soon as possible.

Rosters

As mentioned previously there are new rosters for Term 4. Please consult your diaries and see if you have some time to spend as parent helper or for laundry/garden duty.

Donations

We are after a couple of bigger pre-loved items so if you or any one you know has updated to a newer version and is looking for a home for their old one please think of us.

Food processor - We have been doing lots of cooking at kinder and would love to have our own food processor so we don't have to keep borrowing one.

Monitor - There are lots of times when it would be really beneficial to show the children a youtube or other media to support their learning. When reflecting on this we felt that a monitor in the kinder room with a USB port would be perfect.

From the Fundraising Team.

BUNNINGS BBQ

We had a vey successful day at Bunnings and would like to thank the parents who volunteered on the day. We raised \$1870!! Also a big thank you to Berties Butchers, St Helena who supplied our sausages at a great rate, Bakers Delight Greensborough for bread donations and Bakers Delight Eltham.

WOOLIES EARN AND LEARN

Wow!! 8700 stickers collected. A big thank you to our kinder community for getting behind this program. Our Educators have already purchased a selection of new resources for the children – here are some of the items that we will soon see in use...



VIP TOY SHOPPING NIGHT

Tuesday 27th October, 4-8pm \$10 a ticket. Huge discounts on popular brands including Matchbox, Barbie, Transformers, John Deere, Disney, Peppa Pig, Mattell, Hot Wheels, Little Tikes and lots more. Tickets still available – bring grandparents, friends and family!!

TOY CATALOGUES

Chalk and Parent Direct Catalogues are due back Friday 30th October, or earlier if you've completed your orders already. There are extra catalogues available if needed.

Upcoming social events .

An extra social get together during this term in week 3 has been organised for the Friday 23rd October at 10:15 at Skaterz Rollerskating rink in Eltham. This is a FREE skating lesson!

Below is some information from skaterz about this free lesson for the newsletter.

Lesson information:-

- Tots on Skates runs every Wednesday & Friday morning during the school term
- The lesson starts promptly at 10.30am so 10.15 arrival please
- Lesson runs from 10.30 to 11.30am (30 mins skills, 30 mins games, dancing and free skating)
- Skaterz Café is open for snacks, hot food and of course, coffee!
- Mention Greenhills Preschool on arrival to receive your free lesson
- We also have a 2 hour skate session following the lesson should any parents like to skate for just \$5 (tots skate free)

Please let me know if you and your child will be attending the skating session on this day so that I can let the staff at Skaterz know by Fri 16 October katiegees@yahoo.com.au

Thanks,

Kate Hoseason

Great news! Telstra Kids grant.

We are delighted to announce our success in applying for a \$1,200 grant from Telstra. Telstra Kids funds the little things that can make a big difference to kids' lives, helping kids to play and learn. Our Telstra Kids grant will be used to buy education outdoor toys.

Huge thanks to Anthony Willey from Telstra, & Magdalene Willey who is Christian Willey's Mum (3yr old), for applying for the funding for us. We are very excited to share in the million dollars the Telstra Foundation provides each year to help kids across Australia to connect to their local communities.



Friends of Greenhill's PreSchool

Trade and Service Directory

FLETCHERS



Has Buying, Selling or Leasing Real Estate crossed your mind, but you're not sure where to start?

If I can assist with any questions you may have or point you in the right direction, then please don't hesitate to give me a call. I would love to hear from you.

Kaye Hoverd

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