



"learning through play"

Greenhills Gazette

February 2017

Find us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/GreenhillsPreschool>

Reminders...

- Please have your children arrive at kinder **with sunscreen on as well as a sun hat** throughout Term 1.
- Ensure that you sign your child in and out as this is a legal requirement.
- All items need to be labelled with your child's name.
- Please sign up for Parent Helper, Gardening and Laundry on the rosters located near the sign in book.
- Please ensure you only leave kinder with the child you are collecting and be vigilant about keeping the gate closed.
- If you are going to be late at pick up time please call the kinder to inform Educators
- **Please see the Educator's Report for more Reminders**

Donations of the following would be greatly appreciated:

- Shells
- Boxes (small and large)
- Cardboard tubes
- Vases
- Wood offcuts and wire

Hello, and welcome!

Firstly, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Jacqui Armstrong and I am the new President of the Greenhills Preschool Committee for 2017.

I would like to take this opportunity to say welcome to all the new and returning families of Greenhills Preschool. We hope that all of your children are settling in well, and that you as parents are enjoying the community atmosphere that our preschool has to offer. This year, we find our preschool fully run by ECMS (Early Childhood Management Service), and as an Incorporated Committee we are looking forward to working with them.

Over the summer there had been a few storms, which lead to our first Working Bee. This was organised by Graham Cassidy, who is in charge of maintenance this year, and he ran it very efficiently and smoothly. A big THANK YOU to everyone who turned up and helped out – we got all the jobs done! Keep an eye out for the next couple of Working Bees as we will be endeavouring to have them on different days of the weekend. Many hands make light work!

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the Welcome Picnic, but I was told that it was a beautiful

afternoon, and that it was great to see so many families sitting and eating together, and meeting others. We hope you all had a great time. We will be creating more family opportunities to get together so keep a look out for our social or fundraising events. Our aim this year is to try to promote Greenhills Preschool, as the numbers are down on last year.

You might also be noticing some of the teachers wearing *Protect our Preschool* t-shirts, or flyers around the school. Please take time to read this and get behind our educators as they are trying to save the 15 hours of Government-funded preschool programs. It has only been a trial for a couple of years, and we might not be able to offer 15 hours next year!

I would like to take this opportunity to put an invitation out to those of you who are interested in coming to a committee meeting. If you would like to attend, the next committee meeting is Tuesday 7th March. You are more than welcome.

Important Dates...

Family Portraits Day

Saturday 25 March

**Session Times available
between 9am and 4pm**

Greenhills Preschool Open Day

On Saturday the 25th February, Greenhills Preschool opened its doors for our Open Day. It was a little bit of a slow start, but by mid-morning there was an influx of people looking at our fantastic area and facilities. Emily and Karen were both there to answer any questions thrown their way regarding the 3 and 4 year old programs. We were all very pleased to see that by the end of the morning there had been around 35 Families who had visited the kinder.

A big thank you to those of you who helped with packing the show bags, putting the signs up, and just helping on the day by talking to prospective parents.

Hope to see you all around Greenhills Preschool.

Jacqui Armstrong (President)

Educator's Report

Growling Grass Frogs

A very warm welcome to our 2017 children and families. We are filled with excitement and anticipation about all of the growth and wonderful learning experiences that we will share throughout the year at Greenhills Preschool.

As we head into the middle of term, our kinder friends are starting to become familiar with kinder routines, new faces, and names. This will create a very strong foundation, which will assist the children to develop a sense of belonging and security in their kinder environment.

Our digging pit has proved a popular area with children turning over the dirt and splashing in muddy puddles.



We believe play is an intrinsic tool children use to become active, passionate learners who enjoy gaining knowledge and information by discovery, investigation and invention, in their own way and at their own pace.

The very best way to give children what they need is an environment that is interesting to explore, that is safe and is filled with people who will respond and support the child's emotional needs.

There are already many varied interests emerging within the Growling Grass Frog program ranging from: collecting bugs, bird watching, spending time on the swing, visiting the reserve, creating in the studio, and jumping on the crash mat.



We have also implemented the “Who is here today?” board, where children sign into kinder each day they arrive by placing their photo on the board. This is helping the children understand who they will see on each kinder day, and it also creates a sense of belonging to our kinder community.



We look forward to getting to know your children and family throughout the year. Please remember if you have any questions, queries or ideas please come and see us for a chat.

Emily, Karen, Tracey and Debbie

Swift Parrots

Welcome all our friends and families to Swift Parrots. It has been so wonderful to meet our new friends and see how well they have settled into Swift Parrots. The first few weeks have been about learning lots of new things: routines, snack time, wearing a hat outside, and lots more. It has been amazing to watch how well everyone has adjusted to all these new expectations.



Life at kinder has been so busy already, with so many new things to play with and areas to explore. It has been great to watch the interaction between all our friends, whether it is playing cars, in the studio or outside, and how much fun they are having. Due to some beautiful weather, water play has been a big hit, particularly with our sink or float experience, in the sandpit, or by using water to cook up a storm in our outdoor kitchen.



Up at our swings there is always a buzz of excitement. Due to only having two swings and a group of friends wanting their turn, taking in turns is an important skill to learn. So, the timers have come out to show our friends whose turn it is next. We really look forward to seeing what new adventures are ahead in the next few weeks

Debbie and Karen



Reminders

- Please have your children arrive at kinder with sunscreen on as well as a sun hat throughout Term 1.
- Ensure that you sign your child in and out as this is a legal requirement.
- All items need to be labelled with your child's name. You can take advantage of our fundraising labels through 'Stuck On You'.
- Please provide a family photo for our photo board.
- Please bring your diary and sign up for Parent Helper, Gardening and Laundry on the rosters located near the sign in book.
- As children may be involved in messy play, it is advised they wear old clothes to kinder, and have a change of clothing.
- Remember to check your child's pocket for kinder, social and fundraising information.
- If you are a parent on duty, it is also important that you become familiar with the information in the 'Welcome Pack for Parent Helpers' located under the sign in book.
- Please ensure you only leave kinder with the child you are collecting and be vigilant about keeping the gate closed when entering and departing the kindergarten.
- If you are going to be late at pick up time please call the kinder to inform Educators.

Birthdays

Birthdays are a very special and exciting time for children. We celebrate each child's birthday by singing Happy Birthday and decorating the "birthday table." We do not encourage the handing out of gifts or treats.



Donations

Our kindergarten utilises a lot of materials that are generally considered to be throw away items. Some are things you may have at home (and want to be rid of) and others are items such as natural materials that may be collected on a walk. As we are non – profit organisation we would greatly appreciate any donations or collections. The list includes but is not limited to:

Shells, vases, stones, trays, buttons, ribbon, wool, beads, sheets, wire, boxes, cylinders.....

Goodbyes

Dear Families,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone I have worked with over the past two years, for letting me into your children's lives, and enriching my own life too.

It has been a wonderful journey which I will continue to treasure as I work as an Early Childhood Teacher.

I wish you all a wonderful year at Greenhills, and your children a memorable childhood.

Regards,

Joanne van den Broek



Greenhills Welcome Picnic

We had the perfect weather to meet new friends, reconnect with old friends, and get to chat with you all. It was lovely for us to relax and spend some time outside of our normal kinder routine.



The Educators

Greenhills Fundraising

Family Portraits with Aver & Line

Our first fundraising event for 2017 for Greenhills Preschool has been organised. It is a fundraiser with Aver & Line Photography (some of you may remember this fundraiser from last year). This is a great opportunity to have some beautiful family photos taken.

Our session is at Greenhills Preschool on **Saturday 25th March** with session times **between 9am and 4pm**.

For those families that are interested in taking part in this fundraiser, each family pays a \$15 sitting fee (which is refunded to the kinder). This gives you:

- 20 minute portrait session
- 20 minute viewing/selection session
- 8"x 12" print of your choice
- 'mini glass bottle' frame and print

There is then the *obligation free* option to purchase photo packages/digital files.

An online booking page has been set up:

- Go to averandline.com.au/book and enter the guest area password: **hooray2**. (Please note that the email you received does not direct you to the correct site, so make sure you use this address/link).
- Click on **The Session**, over on the right hand side of the page.
- Select **Greenhills Pre School** from the list. You'll get sent to a page that shows the times you can book in.
- Select a session time. There are sessions available from 9am to 4pm.
- The \$15 sitting fee is also to be paid online.

Bookings must be made by Wednesday 15th March.

All the information is included in the flyer below, but if you have any questions at all, please feel free to ask the Fundraising team – Melissa Moore, Jemma Rossel and Kristie Marciano. You can also email Melissa: melissa.moore@live.com.au

Stuck On You Labels

Our Stuck On You labels fundraiser is still in progress. These labels are a fantastic way to keep track of your child's belongings and reduce the ever growing pile of lost property at Kinder! When you visit www.stuckonyou.biz to order from a fantastic range of kids' labels and gifts simply enter the code "GREENHILLSPRESCHOOL" for us to get up to 20% commission!

The logo for 'stuckonyou' is displayed in a blue, lowercase, sans-serif font. A registered trademark symbol (®) is located at the top right of the word 'you'.

Newsletter Advertising

We are still selling advertising space in the Greenhills Newsletter. If you, or anyone you know, owns a business that may be interested in advertising in our Newsletter, which reaches all Kinder families as well as prospective families who may be perusing our website, please contact melissa.moore@live.com.au to get further details on the newly revised prices.

Facebook Page

Please take the time to “like” our Facebook page – “Fundraising for Greenhills Pre-school” to keep up to date with our various events.

Uniforms

Our new purple and green uniforms, in line with the kinder colours, have arrived they look awesome!

They are up on display at kinder, so check them out next time you're in.

It's \$15 for a hat \$20 for a t-shirt or \$30 for both.

Please see the Educators if you would like to purchase something.

The Fundraising Team



FAMILY PORTRAIT

FUNDRAISER WITH

AVER & LINE.

children's photography specialists

BOOK TO RECEIVE for \$15

- 20 minute portrait session
- 20 minute viewing / selection session
- 8"x12" print
- Glass bottle frame + print of your choice
- Complimentary retouching (Remove unwanted dribble or bumps!)
- Opportunity to purchase the BEST value packages & lowest cost options!

We also have the best value digital files available!

Greenhills Pre School Family Portrait Fundraiser
The easiest way to have boutique portraits, book now to secure your session!

WHEN: Saturday the 25th of March
WHERE: Outdoors at the pre school
TO BOOK: head to www.averandline.com.au/book
enter the password **hooray2** and select your pre school + session time
then pay your \$15 online
BOOK BY: Wednesday the 15th of March
CONTACT/QUESTIONS: the pre school on (03) 9434 3379

www.averandline.com.au contact@averandline.com.au 1300 557 446 (03) 9995 3586

Friends of Greenhills Pre-School

Trades and Services 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.

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