



*"learning through play"*

# Greenhills Gazette

February 2016

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 and 4.
- 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 next to the Swift Parrot pockets.
- 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.
- We ask parents when packing your child's lunchbox, that nuts are not included. We have serious allergies that exist at kinder and would like to avoid any risk.
- 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.

## President's Report

Welcome parents and friends to Greenhills Preschool for 2016.

This year is full of promise for creating an exceptional space for our little ones to thrive in. Last year the 2015 committee unanimously voted on the cluster management group ECMS (Early Childhood Management Service) to take charge of our kinder. The transition is still in progress and we expect it to be finalised by mid June. We thank you for your patience during this time, as we are all getting our heads around new procedures and policies. If anyone has any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact one of the educators, committee members or ECMS directly.

Last year our grants officer Jamie McGowan applied for a \$10,000 improvement grant from Greensborough RSL and I am please to announce that we were successful in obtaining it. The \$10,000 will be used to build the much needed retaining wall in our outdoor space. The works are being carried out by Ryan Young designs <http://ryanyoungdesign.co.m.au> I have placed the plans up near the entrance door for everyone's viewing. The outdoor master plan is cleverly designed to enable as much community help as possible, giving all of us a chance to be apart of the transformation. The first stage works will be carried out over the

Easter holidays to minimise any disruptions to kinder session times. Committee will continue to apply for more grants through the year to help us complete this project.

We were blessed when we had a change in weather for the best at our welcome picnic. It was nice to see everyone and their families enjoying each others company while sharing a meal. We will be creating more family opportunities through the year and would love for you to be a part of it. Stay tuned!

The working bee on the 20th Feb had a great turnout and most of the action items were completed. This will reflect highly for future prospective parents come Saturday 27th Feb when our kinder is on show for its annual open day.

Have a great week!

*Magdalene Willey*

## GREENHILLS PRESCHOOL OPEN DAY

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2016**

If you can lend a hand on open day, please email [greenhills.kinder@gmail.com](mailto:greenhills.kinder@gmail.com)  
Come and get involved and get to know the kinder community!

## *Educator's Report*

Welcome to Greenhills Preschool 2016

We believe the staggered starts at the beginning of the year have allowed us, parents and the children to interact in a very calm and relaxed atmosphere as we begin our kinder journey into 2016. As we head into the 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.

### *Growling Grass Frog Group*

The children have been very involved in various small group dramatic role play experiences, such as Police Officer & Hospital role play.



Sensory play has also been very popular, with children experimenting with sand, water and dirt. They have been creating potions, mud slides and "swamps". Please remember to pack a spare set of clothes in your child's kinder bag so they can change out of their wet clothes.

At our meeting times we have been involved in discussions with children about how to be safe at kinder, what it means to be a good friend, and our personal space bubble. 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 also creates a sense of belonging to our kinder community.





### *Swift Parrot Program*

The Swift Parrots have moved into full sessions and have been very busy. There has been lots of play, but also many new things to learn about being at kinder – arrival routine, snack time, cleaning up and meeting time. We are delighted at how well they are coping with all of this change, and are enjoying getting to know them better.

A few birthdays have already been celebrated and the children enjoyed using the special birthday 'bits' to create their offering to the birthday child. 'Happy Birthday' has been sung with gusto each time.

Timers have become a natural part of play now, when using the swing. They really help with the difficult concept of taking turns and sharing.



### *Healthy eating at Greenhills*

In our 'Nutrition and Active Play' policy, we encourage families not to pack 'sometimes' foods for snack time, and to provide **water only** in reusable drink bottles. What is 'Sometimes' food? 'Sometimes' foods are often called 'treats' – things such as biscuits, cakes, desserts, potato chips, pastries, fried and takeaway foods, soft drinks and confectionary. They often contain lots of sugar, fat or salt and should only be eaten in small amounts.

We also encourage the packing of nude free snacks/lunch for your children. This is a rubbish free snack in a reusable container (i.e. sandwich wrap, yoghurt pouch) or Mother Earth's compostable containers (i.e. banana). A great way to purchase these items and support kinder is through 'Litter free living' who have great products – please see the flyer attached at the end of this newsletter for more information.



## *Greenhills' Welcome Picnic*

Over half the families at kinder were able to come along last Thursday night for our '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.



We also had lots of families arrive with a donation for our sensory garden. Much fun was had planting these with the help of parents. We are looking forward to watching them grow.



Thank you also to the families who have brought in tissues, sponges and A4/A3 paper. These are items that we use a lot at kinder and we appreciate your generosity!

*Jo, Emily, Karen, Tracey, Stephanie & Joanne*

## Greenhills Fundraising

The Greenhills Fundraising Team are excited to be continuing to raise money for the refurbishment of the outdoor play space. Some of the events we are planning this year include a Children's Movie Night, a Shopping Evening at a local clothing store, Bunnings BBQ, and a Kinder Disco as well as others that will be announced throughout the year.

We will also have a series of ongoing fundraisers including the Stuck On You labels which you should have received a flyer about in your child's kinder pocket. When you visit [www.stuckonyou.biz](http://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 written in a lowercase, rounded, blue font. A small registered trademark symbol (®) is located at the top right of the word 'you'.

At Greenhills we are trying to reduce lunchbox waste and one excellent way to do this is through the use of reusable food wraps and bags. Litter Free Living ([www.litterfreeliving.com.au](http://www.litterfreeliving.com.au)) has an amazing selection of lunch boxes, food wraps, reusable sandwich bags and reusable fridge bags. Check out their website and when you order, enter the code "GREENHILLS" to receive a 10% discount as well as a 20% commission for our preschool fundraising! See the flyer below for more details.

The logo for 'Litter free living' features a small green leaf icon above the word 'Litter'. The words 'free living' are in a simple, lowercase, sans-serif font, while 'Litter' is in a larger, bold, uppercase, sans-serif font.

Please take the time to "like" our Facebook page: [Fundraising for Greenhills Pre-School](#) so you can stay up to date with all our fundraising events.

We are also urgently looking for more people to help out on our Fundraising Team this year. If you are able to spare some time we would love to have you! Contact Amanda ([amanda.furber@live.com](mailto:amanda.furber@live.com)) if you want to be involved.

*Amanda Furber*

## *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.

**Kaye Hoverd**

0417 325 577 | [kaye.hoverd@fletchers.net.au](mailto:kaye.hoverd@fletchers.net.au)

**Daniel Stiglich**  
0408 521 004

**Matt Fleming**  
0414 434 105



MASSIVE WAREHOUSE  
CLEARANCE

**SALE!**

2<sup>ND</sup> March till 4<sup>TH</sup> March  
9am till 5pm

243a Lower Heidelberg Road, Ivanhoe East

**SAVE BIG ON**

**Energizer. Kodak**

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**and much more!**





## Greenhills Preschool Fundraiser

Help us to reduce waste and raise money for our preschool. When you shop at Litter Free Living using the code **GREENHILLS** you will receive a 10% discount plus 20% of your sale will go back to our preschool.

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*\*BONUS\* receive a 10% discount when you enter **GREENHILLS***

*\*BONUS\* Spend over \$50 and use the code **GREENHILLS** and you will automatically receive 1 small reusable zip-fresh snack bag (durable, reusable zip-lock bag)*

*\*BONUS\* Once 5 sales with the code **GREENHILLS** have been placed our preschool will receive a free Litter Free Living product for us to giveaway*

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We are endeavouring to reduce litter in our preschool through reducing lunch box litter.

Litter Free Living offers a range of reusable lunch products which keep food fresh and eliminate the use of plastic wrap and zip lock bags.

Litter Free Living reusable food wraps and bags are lined with waterproof material which allows for easy cleaning and keeps food fresh. To clean just wipe, rinse or wash in the washing machine and reuse.

These products are durable and long lasting and reduce the impact on our landfills. They are great for sandwiches, wraps, popcorn, crunchy crackers, crumbly cakes and juicy fresh fruit.

Litter Free Living have researched and tested the materials used and they are non-toxic, PVC free, BPA free and phthalate free.

The stainless steel bento lunch boxes making packing litter free lunches simple.

A variety of household reusable products are also available.



*Litter Free Living Reusable Sandwich Wrap Set*

Please shop at [www.litterfreeliving.com.au](http://www.litterfreeliving.com.au)

Enter **GREENHILLS** at checkout to help reduce your impact on the environment and raise funds for our school