



"learning through play"

Greenhills Gazette

October 2018

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

Reminders...

- * Bring labelled sun hat and please apply sunscreen before the session. Greenhills Preschool hats can be purchased at kinder for \$15
- * Please ensure that you sign your child in and out as this is a legal requirement.
- * Please ensure your child's clothing and snack belongings are labelled
- * Please bring your diaries and sign up for parent helper during our kinder sessions (even 30 minutes is worthwhile)
- * Donations of the following would be greatly appreciated:
 - Ribbon
 - Glitter
 - Recycled glass jars (jam size) for our lanterns
 - Boxes – please remember we do not accept toilet rolls or boxes that have had nut products
 - Cardboard tubes
 - Large/small stones and pebbles
 - Wood offcuts
 - Material
 - Old appliances for tinkering
- * **Parents portal** - To sign up for laundry or gardening duty, please:
 1. Go to our website: www.greenhillspreschool.org.au
 2. Click on Portal
 3. Sign in: the password is [swiftfrogs1956](#)
 4. Select which day suits.

Both duties open to all GGF/SP families

President's Report

Hi Everyone,

We recently had an assessment of our kinder by the Department of Education and Training. A very big thank you to Emily and all the other Educators for the fantastic work they do all year and in the lead up to this review. With their hard work and dedication, Greenhills Preschool received a rating of Exceeding National Quality Standards in all 7 areas that were assessed! We know what makes our kinder special but it is also great to have the recognition of an independent auditor. Well done to everyone involved!

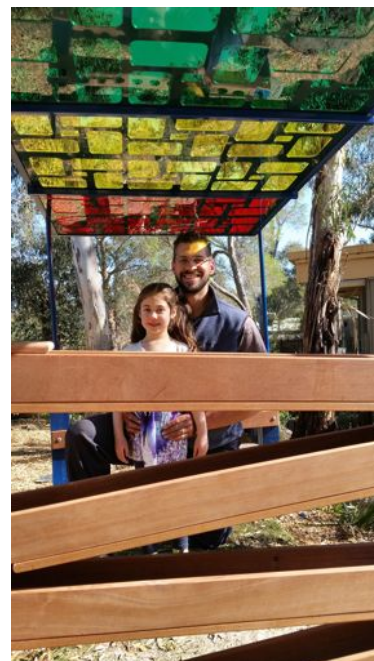
You may have noticed some changes taking place in our outdoor area. Earlier this year, we received a grant from the government to build a sensory garden. Our sensory garden is finally taking shape. We have a structure with a coloured roof, a thongophone instrument and a ball drop. With this grant, we have also been able to update our outdoor mud kitchen. We hope the children will all enjoy using both these new additions this year and in years to come. Thank you very much to Steven (Dad of Gemma in the Growling Grass Frogs) who has worked over many weekends to build this for us.

As the year starts to wrap up, the committee will be holding our last social event on Thursday 13th December- the annual Disco. There will be a BBQ, music and we will draw the Christmas raffle. Please see below for the invitation and RSVP details.

For all families who are returning next year, Greenhills Preschool will be holding our AGM on Tuesday November 13th. As well as receiving information for next year, we will also be electing the new committee for 2019. To those families returning next year, please have a think over the next few weeks if you would like to join the committee. Becoming part of the committee is an opportunity to make new friends, learn new skills, have a say in kinder matters and help Greenhills Preschool flourish. You don't have to have previous experience to be on the committee, we're just looking for people with enthusiasm. Further along in the newsletter we have included a description of the various roles available. If you would like to be involved next year, or would like more information, please email Claire Hatty: greenhills.kinder@gmail.com.

Claire Hatty

President - Greenhills Committee 2018



The new sensory garden is now in progress!

Here are Steven and Gemma (from the Growling Grass Frogs) building a structure with a coloured roof, a "thongophone" instrument and a ball drop. Stay tuned for more developments. Thanks guys! 😊

IMPORTANT DATES

Melbourne Cup Public Holiday: Kinder will be closed on Tuesday 6th November
Returning Herb kits: Please start to return your bags this week. Final date for collection is Thursday 8th November

AGM: Tuesday 13th November

Disco: Thursday 13th December

Last week of term:

Swift Parrots: Last kinder session will be on Tuesday 18th December

Growling Grass Frogs: Last kinder sessions will be Monday 17th & Tuesday 18th December

Clean Up Day: Wednesday 19th December – we ask families to lend a hand to help with our end of year clean up. Jobs will be listed on the parent portal shortly.

End of Year Greenhills Preschool Celebration: Thursday 20th December. All families are invited to spend time together as a kinder community to celebrate the end of the kinder year. Invites will be distributed into your kinder pockets shortly.



HELP NEEDED!



We still have some availability on the laundry and gardening rosters as well as parent helpers for this term. Please consider putting your name down to help before the year finishes.

Towards the end of the year, we will be sending out a list of jobs that need to be completed before we finish for the year. This may be jobs that can take 30 minutes at kinder to do and can be done at drop off or pickup, or jobs that can be done at home, like extra washing.

Please help us get the kinder clean and tidy for the Christmas holidays by volunteering.

Greenhills Preschool is Cluster Managed by ECMS since 2016. Can you help in 2019?

The role of the Parent Committee is to help the Preschool run smoothly, raise funds and be a support to the Teachers and Staff to ensure the best outcomes for our children. We are looking for a new team for 2019! Please read the role descriptions below and help to make your kids' kinder the best it can be!

PRESIDENT

- Chair committee meetings
- Cheque Signatory (Fundraising Money Only)
- Follow up on outstanding business from meetings
- Staff contact
- Liaise with ECMS

SECRETARY

- Record & distribute committee meeting minutes
- Collate agenda items and distribute agenda items for committee meeting
- Email meeting reminders
- Communication between staff and community – sending out emails and Newsletters.

VICE PRESIDENT

- Support the President in their duties including chairing committee meetings in President's absence
- Support the committee in ensuring all tasks are completed timely.

TREASURER

- Authorise payment from Pre-School Fundraising accounts
- Cheque Signatory
- Collect monies from kinder/Banking and pass on documentation to ECMS contracted book-keeper
- Collate monthly financial report for presentation to committee (ECMS contracted bookkeeper will forward on to you)

FUNDRAISING TEAM x 4

- Each member can run one fundraising event for the year or tasks can be shared between members
- Assistance from both committee and non-committee members (as required)

I.T PERSON (website and Newsletter)

- Collate monthly newsletter
- Update Website where necessary
- Assist Staff with any IT issues

GRANTS

- Responsible for applying for any relevant grants associated with the kinder from previous templates.

MAINTENANCE OFFICER

- Organise 2-4 working bees
- Liaise with council or tradespeople regarding any maintenance issues
- Report back to committee regarding any issues

SOCIAL CO-ORDINATOR

- (1 x3 year old group and 2 x4 year old groups)
- Arrange social gatherings for parents and/or children outside of kinder ideally once a term (example coffee, playground etc.)
- Be the contact point for your group back to the staff or committee

If you would like to volunteer or know more, please email greenhills.kinder@gmail.com.

Educator's Report

Growing Grass Frogs

It's hard to believe we are in the middle of our last term of the kinder year!!!! Such an exciting time for all our kinder friends as they consolidate their time at kinder and look forward to new adventures ahead. Our kinder friends have started chatting about "big school" and many have visited their nominated schools and have begun their primary school orientation programs. Transition and Learning Development Statements have been completed and are currently being submitted to the various primary schools. In our Kinder program, we help children "know about school" through the following strategies:

- Read stories and have discussions about school
- Invite school students to kinder to interact with our kinder friends and talk about school
- Provide school uniforms in our dress up area to encourage children to role-play and act out school scenarios
- We will visit Greenhills Primary school to provide children the experience of a school environment (where children can find out about and see the playground, classrooms, and toilets and learn about the routines of school).

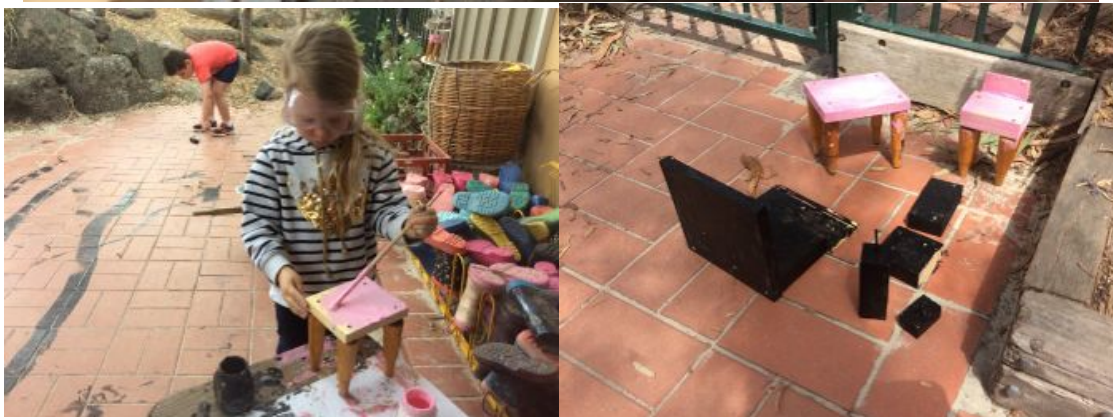
Our excursion dates will be Mon 3rd & Wed 5th December (more information will be sent home to families closer to the date).



Sarah and Ben (former Greenhills Preschool students) chat to our friends about school and answer a range of questions including:

*Why do you have to wear a uniform?
Do you have fun at school?
Do you have to sit with your hands in your lap?
Is lunchtime when you get to play?*

Woodworking has again become popular and we have begun testing out our new electrical drill. Many enthusiastic friends have enjoyed drilling holes in various shaped wood pieces and creating mini furniture for their soft toys. If you have any wood off-cuts you would like to donate, please let us know. A big thank you to Gemma's Pa John for donating some clamps for our woodworking station.



To help extend on our interest in woodworking we are creating birdhouses with boxes from the studio and we invited Bunnings to come to kinder and help us create a new wooden birdhouse for our resident magpies.

We hope to visit the reserve more often this term and provide children with the time for continued exploration and discovery. On our last visit we observed the children's increased confidence in climbing the branch of the fallen tree and we all worked together to create our very own stick tepee. We hope to explore additional parts of the reserve; such as finding the amazing stick tepee that was constructed last year, discovering the Eltham Cooper Butterfly habitat and also counting how many steps lead us to the top of the reserve. We will indeed be busy!



The great interest this term so far has been sensory play. We have had many, many requests for chalk, flour, shaving cream, slime – any ingredient really that can be mixed, coloured and moulded with little hands.





If you have any ingredients in your pantry that might be past their use by date and you think would be a good addition to our sensory play, please let us know!



Josie: "I love mixing ingredients together because it's fun!"

Brodie: "I love the way it feels gooey in my hands..."

Once again thank you to our family members who spend time with us at kinder sharing their skills and great ideas. We love your participation in the kinder program and believe that working together in partnership provides our kinder friends with rich learning experiences.



Yat's Mum, Catty, spends time with the group creating little Chinese character books.

Kris, Jude's Mum, reads us Jude's favourite story *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish*.

Swift Parrots

Term 4 has gotten off to another busy start for our Swift Parrot friends. Pete the Parrot is finishing off his visits to the children's homes and our book bag is also nearing its completion. Both of these exercises have resulted in an increase in confidence and enthusiasm for sharing ideas and thoughts in front of the group as well as some wonderful listening and communication skill development.



Extending on this group's love of both story telling and listening to stories we have introduced a story table which enables the children to re-enact well known stories, supporting creativity and literacy skills whilst doing so. Goldilocks and the 3 bears has been on offer as well as the 3 Billy Goats Gruff both of which we have listened to in audio form and shared during group time using props.



We have been learning about absorbency using a range of materials after the interesting water bead experiment last term. The children enjoyed a collaborative dripper art experience in the studio area using big sheets of absorbent paper.



Wild Action will be visiting the Swift Parrots on Thursday November 8th bringing a range of baby Australian animals for the children to meet and learn about. This promises to be an educational, interactive and fun hour complimenting the strong interest the children have shown in birds, reptiles and other animals.

Diamond Valley

Foodshare



Christmas Appeal



Each year at Greenhills we like to support a local community service 'Diamond Creek Food Share'.

It is a voluntary group who provide emergency food parcels to families in our local community who are experiencing financial hardship. Diamond Valley have supported disadvantaged locals since 1992. They depend entirely on the generosity of local individuals; schools, kindergartens, churches and business to kindly donate groceries, toiletries and Christmas goods to help fill the food parcels.

Suitable items can include:

*Cans of spaghetti, soup, vegetables, fruit, tuna, baked beans

*Packets of pasta, rice, sugar, flour, noodles

*Long life milk and juice

*Cereals, biscuits, lollies

*Tea, coffee, Milo

*Pasta sauces, cake mix, jams, vegemite

*Toiletries, toilet paper, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, shampoo

*Christmas goods, fruitcake, puddings, tinned ham, bon bons, shortbread etc.

Look out for the donation baskets at kinder.

Fundraising

Uniforms



Don't forget, as the weather warms up at the end of this term and for Term 4, our purple and green kinder t-shirts and hats are available.

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.



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 <http://www.stuckonyou.com.au/> to order from a fantastic range of kids' labels and gifts, simply enter the code "GREENHILLSPRESCHOOL" for us to get up to 20% commission!

Litter Free Living Fundraiser

Help us reduce waste and raise money for Greenhills Preschool. When you shop at the Litter Free Living Online Store, using the code GREENHILLS, you will receive a 10% discount PLUS 20% of your sale will go back to our preschool!! This fundraiser will run all year.

www.litterfreeliving.com.au

Herb kits

Please return your sold or unsold bags by Thursday November 8th. When returning your bag, please ensure that your name is clearly marked inside to help us keep track of orders. Payment can be made via direct deposit (preferred option) to our bank account:

Greenhills Preschool

BSB: 033 053

Account number: 545224

Please use your child's surname and HERBS as the reference.

Alternatively, cash can be left in the fundraising box using the envelope supplied in the bag.

COMING SOON: Christmas Raffle!

Kinder Disco 2018

It's nearly time for the Greenhills Preschool Annual Kinder Disco!

Come along for a fun night filled with awesome dancing and great music! Request a favourite song below and listen out for it on the night. There will be a sausage sizzle provided. Please fill in your details below, tear off the slip at the bottom of this sheet and return to the Fundraising box with your payment - either by direct deposit (preferred method) into the Greenhills Preschool Bank Account (BSB: 033053, ACC: 545224, description: disco and child's surname), or cash in an envelope with your name on it, See you there!

Date: Thursday 13th December 2018

Time: 5:30-7:30pm

Where: Greenhills Preschool

Cost: \$20/family

RSVP: Friday 30th November 2018

Kinder Disco 2018

Family name:	
Child's name:	
Number attending:	Adults: Child:
Song request:	
Dietary requirements:	
Payment:	CASH / ONLINE (circle one)

Thank-you to the businesses that have supported us in 2018



Jessica Higgins – founder of Miller and Me
(www.millerandme.com.au), a store filled with handmade jewellery and accessories
(follow on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/millerandme.com.au)



<http://clayoven.com.au/>

19 Greenhill Rd., Greensborough VIC 3088



www.watermarcbanyule.com.au

Yours sincerely,
The Fundraising Team