



*"learning through play"*

## Greenhills Gazette

June 2021

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

### Important Dates

#### **MOVIE NIGHT POSTPONED**

Date to be confirmed  
– details will be  
emailed.

#### **LAST DAY OF TERM 2**

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June

#### **FIRST DAY OF TERM 3**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July

#### **AVER AND LINE FAMILY PORTRAIT FUNDRAISER**

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>  
September

More details to come  
in Term 3.

### *President's Report*

As we come to the end of yet another lockdown, I'd like to thank our wonderful Educators who have kept our kinder open and running safely as they did all through 2020. If any families are finding these times difficult financially, please reach out to us, or to our friends at Greenhills Neighbourhood House who have food relief every Thursday and Friday morning in the green room-right next to kinder.

With the cold weather well and truly upon us, there are plenty of Greenhills Preschool jumpers available if you'd like to purchase one. As the children still play outdoors during winter, please remember to pack warm clothes, beanies and a change of clothes in case they get wet and muddy.

Unfortunately we have postponed our movie night scheduled for June 25<sup>th</sup>. This is due to the current Covid restrictions on group gatherings. We are hoping to hold it early in term 3 so keep an eye on your emails over the holidays.

Claire Hatty  
President

### *Reminders:*

#### **COVID SAFE POLICY**

In the interest of the health and safety of our community, please be sure to keep your children home if they have any signs of being unwell.

#### **HEALTHY LUNCHBOXES**

To ensure our children have the energy to play all day and form positive and healthy eating habits, we encourage you to pack healthy snacks and lunches for them. This includes fresh fruit, vegetables and other nutritious selections.

## *Educator's Report*

### Swift Parrots

During our two week lockdown our group has operated with fewer children in attendance. Our Swift Parrots have displayed wonderful independence skills during changes to routine, saying goodbye to family at the gate and making their own way inside the playroom. We shared a social story about adults wearing masks to protect us all. Our Swift Parrots were very knowledgeable regarding COVID 19 and were able to share information in a group. Some of the comments regarding where and why we wear masks included Celeste who shared with us 'wear in supermarket', Reuben 'Wear everywhere because coronavirus' and Logan 'It gives you a cough.' We emphasised the importance of personal hygiene, 'catching our coughs', using a tissue and washing hands thoroughly.



Our Swift Parrots have been excited to share their adventures with Honey bear in a small group. Having photos has helped to prompt each child's discussion and to help their friends ask questions. We have also reinforced our packing up routine, showing our Swift Parrots the 'finish cloth' to help them contribute to looking after our kinder environment.





As our Swift Parrots continue to learn and develop we have observed more collaboration and group play occurring. During our home time routine we introduced a simple group game 'Doggy doggy' where we take turns being the 'doggy' in the middle with the bone hidden behind one of our friends' back. We were impressed with how our group was able to keep the surprise from the doggy, take turns, patiently wait and follow instructions.



As always, please let us know if you would like to have a chat regarding your child's participation in the program and we can organise a phone call during the current restrictions.

Roseanne & Carol 😊



## *Educator's Report*

### Growling Grass Frogs



During our recent working bee, our mud pit was widened to allow for more mud play! Our kinder friends have enjoyed utilising the extra space and using our new metal shovels and rakes to dig, move and smooth over the dirt. Mixing sand and water to create “cement” has also been popular and we have had many builders enjoy using the bricks to create structures such as “walls” and “drive ways.”



This recent burst of cold weather brings a timely reminder to please make sure your child has a warm jacket and beanie for kinder. We ask that you please pack some spare clothing for your child (in the event they get wet) and provide a wet bag / plastic bag for their wet clothing. If your child is not dressing themselves at home, you might like to start practicing this skill together. Learning to get dressed builds your child's confidence and independence. Getting dressed is an important skill for children to learn – but it can be hard.

Click on the link below for some ideas to help children with this task:

[How to get dressed: teaching your child | Raising Children Network](#)

We need donations of spare clothes to keep at kinder (including socks, jumpers and tracksuit pants) if you have any old clothes / clothes that no longer fit please donate them to kinder so we can fill our spare clothes drawer. Also, a reminder that if your child goes home in spare kinder clothes, to wash and return the clothing for us to use with other children when needed.

Recently we have observed the children's block building designs becoming more intricate and detailed. Friends are working collaboratively together to work on a design and are practicing their negotiating and turn taking skills during the building process.







You may have already heard all about Coach Phil from your child. Phil from Kidzplay has been setting up some fun and challenging sporting games and experiences for the children to enjoy at Greenhills. After Coach Phil says goodbye and has left for the day we often hear one of the children shout “Let’s play Coach Phil” and the children take turns in pretending to be Phil and providing instructions to the rest of the group!



Kindergarten is the time when children are developing their social skills and gaining an understanding of how to interact positively with peers within a busy group environment. We have been having discussions with the children about personal space and have created our own booklet for the children to take home and read with their families. It has been great for us Educators to hear the children referring to the concept during their play and asking friends “not to pop my bubble.” We have also been listening to a song by Pevan & Sarah called "Don't pop my bubble"- see the you tube link below to listen to the song at home:

<https://youtu.be/E6ynJBfYVRE>

Emily, Lyn, Karen, Carol and Tianah



## *Working Bee*

Thank you to the families who attended our working Bee in May. We were very lucky to get this in before lockdown.

We were able to extend the mudpit and tidy up the tanbark around the step areas which are now looking great!

Thank you to Graham Cassidy (maintenance officer), Emily and the Leone, Magro, Killmister, Beveridge, Stewart and McCarthy families who helped on the day.



# Fundraising Report

## General

Thanks to all who participated in our Mother's Day Raffle. We raised a total of \$184!

Regretfully, we are unable to run our wine fundraising campaign due to the COVID lockdown. Hopefully, barring any (further) unforeseen circumstances, we should be able to do that later in the year.

## Greeting Cards

Due to not meeting the minimum order after the original deadline, we had decided to extend it to 14<sup>th</sup> June. To those who have ordered, we appreciate your patience. You should receive your orders before the end of this term.

## Upcoming Fundraising Events for Term 3

Picture Plates templates will be available on the first week of term 3. Drawings will be due back by Friday 30<sup>th</sup> July. More details to come via email.

Movie Night- postponed. Keep your eye on emails over the next few weeks for details of the new date

## Save the Date

Family portraiture photoshoot - Saturday 11 September

## Scholastics

Did you know that by ordering books via Scholastics you are also raising money for our kinder? So far this year, we have raised over \$80 for our Educators to spend on books and resources for the kinder! Flyers will be placed in your child's pocket throughout the year, orders can be placed on line and then the books are delivered straight to kinder.







# **Book Club**

**Dear families,**

The best gift any parent can give a child is the love of books and the joy and benefits of independent reading for fun. Children who read at home, or are read to, have a head start on reading success in school.

Our class is participating in **Scholastic Book Club** this year. Up to twice a term, during the school year, I will send home the Book Club catalogue with a different selection of books offered for all ages.

You'll find award-winning books and bestsellers, as well as old and new favourites. I recommend them because the books span a wide range of children's reading levels and interests and are inexpensive (some books cost as little as \$2).

It is easy to order. The **Book Club LOOP** platform for parents allows you to pay by credit card. Your child's order is submitted directly to school and the books will be delivered to class. You can place your child's order at [scholastic.com.au/loop](https://www.scholastic.com.au/loop) or by using the **LOOP** app, which can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play.

Owning your own books is something special! I hope that you will encourage your child to order books this year. Each order helps earn free books and teaching materials for our classroom, however there is never any obligation to order. I know of no better way to encourage reading than to allow children to choose the books they want to read.

Sincerely,

Greenhills Pre-School



## Parent Involvement

### Parents Portal

To help the kinder run smoothly, we need parents to help with laundry and gardening.

Laundry: collecting the washing at the end of the week, washing and drying these at home then returning them the next week.

Gardening: collecting the key for the gate from Educators at the end of the week. At a time that suits you over the weekend, come in for an hour to weed, sweep and tidy up outside.

To sign up for these duties, please visit the parents portal on our website:

1. Go to our website: [www.greenhillspreschool.org.au](http://www.greenhillspreschool.org.au)
2. Click on Portal
3. Sign in: the password is **swiftfrogs1956**
4. Select which day suits you to do either the laundry or gardening

Both duties are open to all families

### Parent helper

Put your name down to help out at a session (you don't have to stay for the whole session) and remember grandparents and other family members can help too! Do you have a special skill (music, cooking, sewing, science etc?), Let the educators know, the children love having a family member come in to share their time with everyone.

Please remember that anyone helping at sessions will need a valid working with Children card.

## Uniform

We currently have optional hats, t-shirts and jumpers available to buy.

T-Shirts: \$20

Hats: \$20

Or both T-shirt and Hat for \$35

Jumpers \$35 each.

Sizes 4 and 6 tops are available.

Please put correct money in an envelope with your name and items clearly labelled. Educators can help with the purchase of uniforms at any session. Envelopes can be placed in the fundraising box near the Educators office.



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## Health Reminder

Please be aware that it is important to keep children at home when unwell. Our COVID safety plan states that we must exclude from kinder:

Any staff, child or visitor who has a temperature over 37.5 degrees

Any staff, child or visitor who indicates any of the following:

- Fever
- Chills or sweats
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath
- Runny nose
- Loss of sense of smell or taste
- In certain circumstances headache, muscle soreness, stuffy nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea may also be considered symptoms of COVID 19.

Children should not attend kinder, even if they have the mildest symptoms. Or if they are indeed unwell. Please remember to inform Educators if your child has undertaken a COVID test and please email the test results to: [greenhills@ecms.org.au](mailto:greenhills@ecms.org.au)

We understand that this can be frustrating as we begin the kinder year but we appreciate your cooperation in following our guidelines and the Victorian government directive.

To stay up to date with events and fundraisers, please Like us on facebook: [Greenhills Preschool | Facebook](#).

And while you're on the internet, why not give us a review on google? (reviews help us to be visible to other parents searching for kinders in Greensborough)

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## Recipe Corner

### Beetroot Carrot Chocolate Mini Cake

#### Ingredients:

150g self-raising flour  
1 Tablespoon cocoa powder  
90ml vegetable oil  
150g brown sugar  
2 eggs  
100g milk chocolate chip  
180g beetroot and carrot - finely  
grated/processed



#### Method:

1. Preheat oven to 160C.
2. Sift flour and cocoa powder together. Set aside.
3. Whisk oil, sugar, eggs and flour mixture until combined.
4. Mix in chocolate chip and beetroot-carrot.
5. Dollop batter into lined or greased muffin pan, or any decorative pan you have.
6. Bake in the oven for 10-15 minutes, depending on the size.

Cakes are done when a skewer inserted into the middle comes out clean. They freeze well and make delicious, semi-healthy lunchbox treats.

Do you have a favourite lunchbox recipe to share? Please email us your recipes at [greenhills.kinder@gmail.com](mailto:greenhills.kinder@gmail.com)

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## Sponsor Appreciation

In empathizing with the many businesses that are negatively impacted by the COVID lockdown, we would like to again acknowledge those that have generously donated to our raffles in Terms 1 and 2. Please support them in any way you can. If nothing else, even a small gesture such as liking their FB page does make a difference.

Jets Gymnastics Eltham

<https://www.jetsgym.com.au/jets-eltham/>

<https://www.facebook.com/jetseltham>

Bellarine Railway

<https://bellarinerailway.com.au>

<https://www.facebook.com/TheBellarineRailway>

Total Bliss Beauty

<https://www.totalblissbeauty.com.au>

<https://www.facebook.com/TotalBlissBeautyTherapy>

Alive Yoga & Pilates

<https://www.aliveyogapilates.com.au>

<https://www.facebook.com/aliveyogapilates>

Enibot

<https://www.enibot.com/the-vaccine-chase>

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**JETS**  
**GYMNASTICS**





# STEAM TRAIN TRIPS... *ALONG SWAN BAY*



Trains depart Queenscliff 11.00am 12.00pm 2.15pm  
- 45 minutes return -

## FAMILY TRAIN SPECIALS

Easter Bunny \* Magic Show & Workshop \* Teddy Bear \* Halloween \* Santa

NEW

## HERITAGE TRAIN EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

Footplate Rides & Intermediate Driver Days \* Advanced Driver Experiences

A colorful illustration for the 'Day Out with Thomas' event. It features Thomas the Tank Engine and his friends at a fairground with striped tents, balloons, and children playing. The text 'THOMAS & FRIENDS DAY OUT WITH THOMAS' is in a red box on the left. In the center, it says 'ALL ABOARD! FOR FAMILY FUN WITH THOMAS & FRIENDS™'. At the bottom, a red banner reads 'JANUARY \* APRIL \* OCTOBER' and a yellow banner reads 'QUEENSCLIFF STATION'. The hashtag '#DAYOUTWITHTHOMAS' is also visible.

**THOMAS & FRIENDS**  
**DAY OUT WITH THOMAS**

**ALL ABOARD!**  
**FOR FAMILY FUN WITH THOMAS & FRIENDS™**

**JANUARY \* APRIL \* OCTOBER**

**QUEENSCLIFF STATION**

**#DAYOUTWITHTHOMAS**



Visit the website for information and bookings for our Scenic Trips, Family Specials and Events, Steam Train Driver Experiences and more. Personalised gift vouchers are available on the website.

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