



*"learning through play"*

## Greenhills Gazette

July 2021

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

### Important Dates

**PICTURE PLATES  
DUE BACK**  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> July

**AVER AND LINE  
FAMILY  
PORTRAIT  
FUNDRAISER**  
*Date Change*  
Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October

### *President's Report*

Welcome back everyone to Term 3.

Unfortunately due to Covid restrictions we have had to cancel our Movie night. We are hoping that we will be able to hold a full kinder event in term 4.

Our Laundry and Gardening roster is up for term 3- please login and volunteer for a spot especially if you haven't had a turn this year. We have been extremely lucky to secure a Bunnings BBQ this year! This is a major fundraiser for the kinder, however we will need volunteers to help us cook and sell the sausages and raise money. The BBQ will be held at the Eltham store on Saturday September 11th from 8am- 4.30pm. We have a sign up sheet on the parents portal where you can volunteer for a 2 hour session. We will need 5 parents per session. Please click on: <http://greenhillspreschool.org.au/bunnings-sausage-sizzle> to place your name down.

Please note that the date for our Aver and Line fundraiser has changed to Saturday October 30th as it clashed with the date we were given for the Bunnings BBQ.

We are currently running the Picture Plates fundraiser. Please pick up a template from kinder if you would like to make a plate. These are due back by Friday July 30th.

Claire Hatty  
President

### *Reminder:*

#### COVID SAFE POLICY

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

## *Educator's Report*

### Swift Parrots

Our first two sessions of Term 3 have begun slowly with less of our friends attending due to lockdown. Hopefully we will be able to return back to kinder soon as we have missed seeing our friends' smiling faces.

A big thank you to Graham (Celeste's dad) for helping us secure our mud pit water tank. Our Swift Parrots had a wonderful session collecting water to use in the mud kitchen. Please remember to bring gum boots and a change of clothes for your child each session. We have a large basket outdoors to store gumboots if you would prefer to leave them at kinder.



We would like to extend a warm welcome to William and Jude who have joined our Swift Parrot group. We are looking forward to sharing lots of fun and learning experiences at kinder with you both.



Our friends are continuing to take turns with our kinder Honey Bear at home. We have enjoyed sharing their experiences and seeing photos of family members too.

We will shortly be introducing our Swift Parrots to the kinder fire pit. Each year around Father's Day, we are very lucky to participate in a special celebration and lantern night at kinder. During lantern night our Greenhills families gather in the evening and walk together around the reserve perimeter with lanterns which the children have decorated.

In preparation for our lantern night we discuss ideas and experiences with fire and include risk and safety aspects. In the sandpit Roseanne and Carol start a small fire (in a wok) using leaves, branches and twigs that the children have collected. Our Swift Parrots sit around

the edge of a safety rope with the fire in the middle. We look forward to sharing this special experience with our Greenhills families.

Roseanne & Carol 😊



## *Educator's Report*

### **Growling Grass Frogs**

In dealing with lock down #5 we have implemented discussions with the children about dealing with frustration and disappointment. Having to recently postpone our dental visits and Melbourne museum incursion, delay our visits to the reserve, put Coach Phil on hold, and not have all our friends attend kinder has proved challenging (not to mention all the changes that children and families have had to deal with at home, such as cancelling birthday parties, family events etc). We believe providing space for children to talk about their feelings helps not only validate how they are feeling, but provides children with an understanding that we are "all in this together." While we always help develop children's emotional vocabulary, it is especially important in the current COVID climate. Some ideas on how to have a safe and reassuring conversation with your child plus links to helpful resources can be found on clicking on the link below:

<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/talking-your-child-about-coronavirus-covid-19?Redirect=1#don't-be-afraid-to-discuss-covid-19-with-your-children>



On a brighter note, to begin our term 3 adventures our kinder friends have enjoyed creating their own cosy cubbies complete with cushions and blankets, and to help combat the chilly mornings we have set up the fire pit and enjoyed our first fire of the year whilst toasting some yummy marshmallows.







Our kinder friends have enjoyed working on dinosaur projects such as creating their own dino clay fossils and working as palaeontologists digging for bones.



"You need to work carefully" suggests Mina

"Look there is something red here" informs Charlie

"It's just like a real fossil" explains Noah

"This is so much fun, we get to dig, dig, dig to get the bones out. It's a dinosaur bone." says Sebastian

We also welcome our new kinder friend Isabella, and her family to the GGF group.





Our kinder friends have enjoyed utilising our new studio easel and drying rack purchased with fundraising money – many thanks to all the families for their contributions to our kinder fundraisers throughout the year so far! Your support is much appreciated.



And big thanks to Graham Cassidy (our maintenance officer) for assembling our climbing dome. Our friends have not only enjoyed challenging their physical skills but have also enjoyed creating different cubbies using large pieces of material over the dome.

Emily, Lyn, Karen, Carol &  
Tianah



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## ***Fundraising Report***

### **Picture Plates**

All information has been emailed out to families. Collect a template from kinder and return them by Friday 30th July.

Don't forget to pay via the picture products website or by direct deposit into the fundraising account.

### **Bunnings BBQ**

We have been lucky to secure a spot at Eltham Bunnings on Saturday September 11.

We will need at least 5 parents per session to run the BBQ. Please click on the following link:

<http://greenhillspreschool.org.au/bunnings-sausage-sizzle>

Password: swiftfrogs1956

Register your name on one of the spots for the day- we will need as many volunteers as possible to make the day a success!

### **Coffee Fundraiser**

We are pleased to collaborate with a local coffee roaster, Love Is Coffee to bring everyone freshly roasted coffee using certified organic, fair trade coffee beans.

There are 4 varieties - Ethiopian, Nicaraguan, Guatemala and Columbian. They come in 250g bags, with the options of whole or ground, and can be ground to your preference (espresso/plunger). Each bag costs \$10, a special price for Greenhills Kinder families and friends (r.r.p. \$12.50). The kinder will earn \$3.50 for every bag sold.

This is a great opportunity to:

- raise funds for the kinder
  - support a small local business
  - indulge in some retail therapy to get us through lockdown,
- all of which are great reasons to grab ourselves a bag or two!

To order, download the order form that was emailed to everyone, return the form via email and pay via direct deposit.

Campaign ends Wednesday 11 August, and orders will collectively arrive after.

P/S: You can meet the owner of Love Is Coffee at the Eltham Farmers' Market every Sunday morning.

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## 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.

#### Can you help?

The committee is in need of a Grants officer and a new Social representative for the Swift Parrots group. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information about the roles, please email [greenhills.kinder@gmail.com](mailto:greenhills.kinder@gmail.com)

## 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

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

### Chia Pudding

- 2 tablespoon chia seeds
- 1/2 cup milk (coconut milk, cows milk)
- 1 teaspoon honey/maple syrup or other sweetener, optional
- 1 teaspoon vanilla essence
- Strawberries or other fruits for topping

### Instructions

- Pour ingredients into a jar and mix well. Let settle for 2-3 minutes then mix again very well until you see no clumping.
- Cover the jar and store in fridge overnight or for at least 2 hours.
- When you're ready to eat it, top with your favorite fruit and enjoy cold!
- (Can also be made with cocoa for a chocolate pudding!)

