

News from the Starlight Room

- ◆ We have recently been exploring bones and the skeleton. We have used songs, books, discussion and the creative arts during both our Group Times and free play times to explore this topic. The children are enjoying the research involved in acquiring new knowledge.
- ◆ We have a 'Friendship' Tree in our Starlight Room where the children's comments have been added and used to make the 'leaves'. The children have been discussing what friendship is and how to be a friend to others.
- ◆ A Box Construction Learning Centre has been added to our Starlight Room. This area provides opportunity for the development of social skills, imagination and fine motor challenges. Feel free to bring in small or large boxes, cardboard, lids, bits and bobs. Thank you.



News from the Moonbeam Room

- ◆ The Literacy Learning Centre has certainly been frequented, with children writing letters and enjoying copying words. To support the children's interest and skill development, the educators have introduced picture word cards, which are being used both during free play times and have also been included in some of our group times, activities include finding a picture word card to finish the sentence.
- ◆ Our 'Pet Photo Gallery' is underway with staff and children bringing in photos of their pets to include on the wall. The teachers are also tallying how many of each pet our room has, to encourage maths skills.
- ◆ Our Numeracy Area is a popular addition to the Moonbeam Room. Children are being supported to count in '2s' and '5s'. They are also enjoying sorting the fruit counters, developing skills in visual representation and one to one correspondence. If you have ideas of how you use maths at home, please write in on our 'Let's Count' Parent Communication Sheet by the sign-ons. Thank you.



HIGHLAND GROVE

PRESCHOOL • EST. 1988

Newsletter -July 2017

- The weather is cool and our playground can be fresh. Please remember to send along a **warm jumper or jacket for outside play.**
- If your child is going to be **absent from preschool** during the school holidays, please just let us know.
- **S.I.D.S- 'RED NOSE DISCO'.**– This annual evening was a huge success. We raised \$500.00 for this excellent cause. Thanks to all the staff, families and children who were able to come along to this fun night.



Kylie's Comments:



NBN television visited Highland Grove on Thursday 15th of June to speak to educators and do some filming. Some of the Moonbeam Staff and children even found themselves on television! A preschool mum, Rebecca, who is an educational consultant with 'Stone and Sprocket' kindly helped us out on the day.

The purpose of this visit was to assist in informing the wider community about the recent Harvard University study regarding the increased responsiveness of children's brains in the first 5 years of life, and the importance of our relationships and interactions during this time. In our role as early childhood educators, it is imperative that we are responsive, reliable, predictable and fully engaged with your children to support their growth and development. A job we very much enjoy!

Management and staff at Highland Grove are currently reviewing our communication with families. (Thank you for your feedback in our earlier survey). We are always looking for ways to share our program, policies, practices and your child's learning with you as efficiently and effectively as possible. Stay tuned!

Our next area of focus; Quality Area 6; Collaborative Partnerships with Families and Communities.

The Standards which we actively and consistently work to embrace (from the Federal Government's 'National Quality Standard') for this Quality Area are as follows;



6.1– Respectful supportive relationships with families are developed and maintained.

6.2– Families are supported in their parenting role and their values and beliefs about child rearing are respected.

6.3– The service collaborates with other organisations and services to enhance children's learning and wellbeing.

6.4– The service participates in the community.

HGP staff and management are currently focusing on how our centre can continue to provide education and support, as well as build the important partnerships with families which are valued so highly at Highland Grove.

STAFFING NEWS

Michelle will be away on a fabulous holiday for 2 weeks from Monday the 17th of July and Tanya is replacing many of her days.

The Moonbeam Room now has ISS workers (Mackenzie and Vicki S) working the entire day, rather than just 5 hours. Mackenzie will also be swapping from the Friday to the Wednesday at the end of this month, due to his university commitments. Vicki S will then join the Friday team.

Kylie is in the 3rd year of her 'Masters in Early Childhood' through Macquarie University. The study is challenging, inspiring and has excellent value for her role in leading Highland Grove Preschool.

HGP Pumpkin Patch;



Welcome to baby Coby. He is a younger brother for Connor, Oliver and Bailey (in the Starlight Room).
Congratulations to Rochelle and Michael.

What else is going on at H.G.P!

- Preschool Fees have increased to \$85.00 per day from Monday 3rd of July.
- Our preschool **car park** is a busy place! We inherited small spaces, sorry about this. Please be aware of littlies as you move slowly through this area, and please be aware of others who are waiting for a park as the space is somewhat limited. Thanks so much.
- Moonbeam families, please write your child's name on the coloured paper placed on the Rainbow Room glass doors. These lists ask **'Which school is your child attending in 2018?'**. Thank you.
- **Re-enrolment:** Families with a child returning to HGP for 2018 will receive a form shortly to indicate day preference, work/study status (which can be applicable to days allocated) and the year your child is likely to start school. Please complete and return to the office by Fri. 28th of July. Thank you.
- Some families are presently thinking about when their child is going to start school and where they will be in 2018. Be sure to have a chat with your child's teachers for input if we can be of assistance.
- Please let your child's teachers know if, or when, your preschooler has their 4 year old immunisation. Updated Immunisation certificates are required for the office. Thank you.

Did you know.....

- The Highland Grove Preschool **WEBSITE** has our Newsletters available for you to read at your leisure, as well as an Information Booklet attached if you would like to check any policies or practices.
- We have a **Parent Library** on the shelf across from the entry with books and DVDs available for borrowing. Please see Kylie, Karen or Michelle in the office for assistance.
- The majority of our art and craft program occurs in the morning between **8.30 and 10.20am**. This is also a lovely time for children to establish social connections for the day.

