

News from the Starlight Room

- The Starlight Room educators will be providing 'split' Group Times at 10.30am in the morning for the 'Starlighters', beginning in a couple of weeks' time. This grouping means that the children will work in smaller groups with an educator. These opportunities allow staff to facilitate concentration & language skills and increase learning across a wide range of knowledge.
- During Group Times, the children are joining in with partner and circle games. They are also enthusiastically and confidently participating in dramatisations.
- Our Volcano 'mini project' has created such excitement, as the children have used their creativity, scientific thinking and social skills to learn about eruptions and prehistoric life.



News from the Moonbeam Room

- We have just begun our 'split' group times in the afternoon as well as the morning. These experiences provide opportunities to work in smaller groups. At these times we are focusing on music experiences, such as using instruments and exploring musical concepts, as well as fundamental movement skills.
- We have been investigating the 'water cycle', increasing our knowledge and developing our vocabulary with new words, such as precipitation and evaporation.
- Children will soon be given the opportunity to sign in each day. Children develop skills in writing at an individual pace. They can approach this task at their leisure and will be supported by the Moonbeam educators.
- We will be introducing the children to a 'Protective behaviours' program. This involves talking to the children about who can help when feeling worried, frightened or sad. These people are our 'heroes'. It's fun to trace around our hand and draw these heroes on each finger.



HIGHLAND GROVE

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Newsletter - April 2018

A Reminder that H.G.P is closed on Friday 30th of March and Monday 2nd of April over Easter, as well as Wednesday 25th of April, Anzac Day, There is no charge for Public Holidays. We are open during the rest of the days in the school holidays and would appreciate you letting us know when your child will be absent. Thank you.



Our new H.G.P 'Mission Statement':

We believe that valuable opportunities and experiences in the early years of life are vital to children's learning and wellbeing. We advocate for rich and respectful early childhood programs, practise and communities.

At Highland Grove Preschool, partnerships with families, children, staff and the wider community are at the heart of everything we do.

Thank you so much for your response to our Philosophy Review & Parent Communication Policy. Our updated **Philosophy** will be on display in the foyer shortly.

From Monday 16th April our daily routine will change to the Winter Program, with the children beginning their day playing inside and moving outdoors at 11am .

Kylie's Comments.....

Some of our families have begun to chat about their child's school transition, particularly those going to school in 2019.



It is worth considering that whilst it is lovely for your child to have a familiar face as they transition to school, please do not be too anxious if they will not be going off to school knowing lots of friends.

What is really beneficial is for your child to have developed social skills, such as making friends, co-operating and joining groups. Throughout the year our educators will plan for the continued development of these social skills and facilitate this learning in our warm and secure setting.

Also remember that the 'Head Start' programs offered by each school build familiarity and confidence.

Always ask our Highland Grove teachers and educators for any assistance they may be able to offer.

OFFICE NEWS

Karen is on holidays until the 19th of April, lucky girl! Kylie and Michelle are available for Eftpos payments. All direct deposit payments can please go ahead as usual.



Please remember to let the office know if any of your children attend other care settings, including OOSH, vacation care and LDC.

When your child has their 4 year old immunisation their CCB payment can be affected, so please keep in mind that it is best to have your child's immunisation as close as possible to when they turn four.

A reminder that HGP needs the updated Immunisation Certificate. Thank you.

What's going on at HGP?

- The 'All About Me' forms are being sent home for each family to complete and return to their child's educators. Thank you.
- Mackenzie (who is an additional educator in the Moonbeam Room) has now changed work days due to university commitments and is part of the team on Tuesday and Wednesday. Vicki S (who is also an additional educator) is now part of the Moonbeam team on Monday, Thursday and Friday.
- Tanya will continue to work Mondays until Sarah's return in May, this will provide continuity to those children and their families. (Noeli will continue to teach on Tuesdays and Wednesdays during this time).
- Sarah F (Moonbeam Room teacher on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday) is due back from her Long Service Leave on Tuesday 1st of May.



Child Profiles

Our university trained E.C Teachers and Diploma Trained educators will be writing a 'Child Profile' (Moonbeam Room) or a 'Child In Context' statement (Starlight Room) for each child over the next 6 weeks. These documents record your child's involvement, learning and development at this early stage of the year.

The educators will then comment on opportunities for future learning, whilst referencing the 'Early Years Learning Framework', as well as your own comments made on the 'All about Me' forms.

Further individual documentation occurs via each child's Portfolio, including a 'Profile' at the year's end, which will further reflect your child's learning, individual interests and growth this year.

Please see our teachers if you have any queries about these documents, or anything else regarding Highland Grove.