

## News from the Starlight Room



- ◆ The Starlighter's self-help skills are so impressive. They are displaying independence as they care for their belongings, manage their routines and open their own packaging at lunch time ('pinch, pinch, pull!!!).
- ◆ We have been exploring beat and the tempo (speed of the music) in the Starlight Room. The introduction of a wide range of musical instruments has been received with much enthusiasm, both in Group Times and during free play sessions.
- ◆ What began as a keen interest in crocodiles, is blossoming into a project around reptiles. Educators have provided experiences in creative arts, literacy and movement to support the children's learning. The Tuesday children constructed and painted a wonderful crocodile from recycled materials. We now plan to research and create more reptiles, read some interesting books and sing some more songs and rhymes in pursuit of this topic of interest.

## News from the Moonbeam Room



- ◆ Our Mathematics and Numeracy Area is a new addition to the Moonbeam Room. Children are being encouraged and supported to count, add and subtract and recognize numbers. Available are objects for both counting and sorting, where the children have the opportunity to develop 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.
- ◆ We continue to reflect upon our afternoon play session in the Moonbeam Room and have recently purchased a Visual Art Diary for each child. During our indoor/outdoor play time, educators are intentionally supporting children's engagement with these books to benefit self expression and the development of fine motor skills. The afternoon program also incorporates fundamental movement games, project work and rich, exploratory play.
- ◆ We are currently reviewing our 'Sustainability Strategy', and the children are getting involved. Educators are supporting children as we work on our worm farm and care for our pets and garden. Conversations are flowing regarding caring for our environment and how we can contribute.



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### Newsletter -July 2018

- *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 over \$500.00 for this excellent cause. (After taking out the cost of the DJ). Thank you so much to all the staff, families and children who were able give of their time and to come along to this fun night and support SIDS.*



### Some exciting news for our HGP Team:

Tarn (who works with the Moonbeamers on Fridays and has been part of the HGP team for over 20 years) has become 'mother of the bride' for a 2nd time! Tarn and Tony's daughter, Emma was married last week and the family celebrated such a beautiful and happy day.

Congratulations!



Our Vicki M (Mondays and Tuesdays in the Moonbeam Room) has just become a grandmother for the 3rd time. Baby Oliver was born on Wednesday 27th of June. Congratulations to Amanda, Chris and the entire family on this special news.

### Quality Area 6; Collaborative Partnerships with Families and Communities.

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.



**We are now completing the review of our 'Family Involvement and Communication Policy'.**

**(Thank you for your feedback to our earlier survey). HGP staff and management value so highly the important partnerships with our families at HGP and 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. The reviewed policy will be displayed in the foyer shortly.**

### Assessment and Rating Visit:

Highland Grove has been notified that on Tuesday 10th July we will be visited by Natalie, a representative from the Department of Education and Communities, to perform an Assessment and Rating visit.

The HGP team look forward to showing this visitor how we embrace our place within the local community, our warm inviting setting, educational program and most importantly, our partnerships with our children and families.

### HGP Pumpkin Patch;

The 'patch' is quite full this month! Welcome to baby Zoe. She is a gorgeous younger sister for Mila (in the Starlight Room). Congratulations to Shannon and Michael.



A big welcome to baby Brody, a darling little brother for Savannah and Isabella. Congratulations to Nikki and Mark and whole family.

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

- We are reviewing our '**Sustainability Strategy**' and have sent it home with each family. Please make any comments directly on the document and pop in the box in the foyer. Or simply chat to one of our staff. Thank you again for your support.
- 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 2019?**'. Thank you.
- **Re-enrolment:** Families with a child returning to HGP for 2019 will receive a form shortly to indicate day preference and the year your child is likely to start school. Please complete and return to the office by Tuesday 31st July. Thank you.
- Some families are presently thinking about when their child is going to **start school** and where they will be in 2019. Be sure to have a chat with your child's teachers for input if we can be of assistance.

### Our Playground

Thank you to our teacher, Melissa who has been continually updating our 'Playground Project' documentation. The project flip board display continues to be available in our foyer. Please take a look and provide us with further feedback.



The plan to renovate our playground in August involves the possibility of utilizing the adjoining recreation area for the children to engage in outdoor play. We are fortunate to have this green space so close within our local community and would like to offer the children the wonderful opportunities it provides.

Closer to the time, HGP will be sending home a letter discussing our proposed visit next door and will be seeking permission in writing for this to occur. (Plenty of notice will be given and the staff will chat with families extensively prior to this experience). Currently we are reviewing our Excursion Policy.

We are also busily researching the equipment and resources needed for our new playground. We can't wait!