

## News from the Starlight Room



- We have new indigenous 'Story Stones', which have beautiful symbols on them. The children can use these visual representations to tell stories and also learn more about aboriginal culture.
- We have loved observing so many little 'pockets' of children engaging in small groups (often with an educator), developing skills in turn taking, co-operation, problem solving and negotiation.
- Our colourful addition to home corner includes jewelry, dress ups and a lovely dressing table and mirror.
- Our Group times are reflecting the children's growing ability to concentrate and share conversation. The children enjoy conversation, stories, circle games, rhymes and dancing at this time, both during the morning and afternoon Group Times.

## News from the Moonbeam Room



- During our afternoon 'Split' Group times, the children often participate in a music-based group experience with one teacher, and a fundamental Movement Group Time with the other. Recently, in the music Group Time we have been exploring sound through a variety of instruments. We have been beating to the music using tapping sticks, castanets, drums and triangles, as we sing "I am a fine musician".
- We have recently loved games which explore phonics. We have been exploring the sounds in words, labelling them and talking about the sound they make. We have also been sorting objects by their starting sound.
- The 'Moonbeamers' have been using our small Group opportunities to discuss sustainability and the changing seasons. We have used Autumn leaves for collage, and have also been learning about 'worm farms'.



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## Newsletter - June 2018 - Welcome to our June Newsletter.

*We would like to invite families to view our 'Playground' project, highlighting the impending changes to our HGP playground. This documentation is on display in the foyer and shows the proposed playground design and our community input so far. Our start date is now the middle of August.*

### What else has been going on at HGP?;

- **'AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST MORNING TEAS'** These were such a hit! The children enjoyed having these visitors as part of our morning. We raised \$410. 45 for The Cancer Council. Thank you
- Monday the 11th of June is a **Public Holiday** and HGP is closed. There is no charge for that day.
- There are now 'School' posters on the Rainbow Room' door in the Moonbeam Room. These posters highlight which local school each Moonbeam child will be attending next year. Please add your child's name when you know which school they will be attending in 2019.
- Our Moonbeam Room educator, Mackenzie, will soon be away on his 3 weeks, full time practicum. Vicki S will replace him over this time.
- Our Moonbeam university student, Tiah, will soon begin the 3 week, full time portion of her practicum.
- The Starlight Room is benefitting from an additional educator for 6 hours every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Ella, who was a trainee at HGP last year and is now studying teaching at Macquarie University, is working the Mondays and Tuesdays. Our Cass is working the 6 hours on the Wednesday.
- The Starlight Room also has a 2nd year University student in their room. Victoria (Tori) is about to complete a 3 week, full time, prac.

## S.I.D.S Red Nose Disco; Our annual S.I.D.S “Red Nose Disco”

is being held on **Thursday 29th of June from 6.00 until 7.30pm.**

The evening is a fun time for families and educators (who donate their time on this evening) to “boogie the night away” and all the funds made are donated to this wonderful cause. **The cost is \$5.00 per child.** (There is no charge for adults).



Red Nose products will also be available to purchase on the night. (Cash is the only form of payment available.) This really is a fantastic night; we will be providing cold drinks and a warm room on the night. See you here!!!!

### **From the office:**

- We have commenced emailing the **Daily Reflective Diary** (Day Sheets) to families. (With only a few hiccups!) We have also very recently changed software programs. You may now notice emails called ‘Hubworks’. These emails are from Highland Grove.
- A reminder that there is an **‘Absent’ Diary** in the office. If you know your child will be away with 24 hours notice, you can place their name in the diary to see if someone from the same room would like to purchase that day of attendance.
- **Karen** works full days on Mondays and Wednesdays, as well as until 2.30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She has Fridays off, however you can ring her within her work hours, or email



### **Some other messages.....**

- On Wednesday 30th June Highland Grove hosted our quarterly **‘Networking’ meeting.** These meetings are an opportunity for teachers from Highland Grove, other local prior to school centres and Kindergarten teachers from the surrounding area to come together to discuss supporting school transition.
- The cooler weather is coming our way. Our playground can be quite cold, **so please send along a warm jumper, socks and shoes** with your child each day. **The change to our Sun Protection Policy is - no need for sun hats in June and July ( in line with The Cancer Council recommendations). The choice about a hat, beanie, or no hat is yours.**



- Kylie, Sharyn, Tanya and Kim are attending a workshop supporting children’s **use of clay.** This wonderful medium is terrific to work with for preschoolers. “Clay allows children to make their ideas visible”. Ursula Kolbe (2007).

*Highland Grove Preschool is hosting a*

### **‘School Transition Evening’**

*on Thursday 2nd August from 6.30 until 7.30pm.*



Laura Mackenzie will be our guest speaker. Laura is from the Department of Education, working in the position of ‘Central Coast-Transition to School Projects Coordinator’. Laura will speak to families about supporting their child as they make the transition to school.

This is relaxed and casual night, with plenty of opportunities to chat and ask questions. Please pop this date in your diary. A attendance list will be Moonbeam sign-on sheets closer to the time. Thank you.