

News from the Starlight Room



- We have been exploring our 5 senses through a variety of learning opportunities, such as group time discussions, books and art activities.
- We have been practicing our social skills, such as sharing and turn taking and collaborative play through group work activities (such as murals), partners games (such as 'Busy Bees) and team work during construction, supported by our educators.
- The 'silkworms' have been such a wonderful project! The moths are now coming out of the cocoons and laying their eggs. We have been watching and listening carefully as the moths flutter their wings.

News from the Moonbeam Room



- School orientations have begun. It is a delight to hear about these visits.
- Our 'News' Times are about to be underway. The Moonbeamers are practicing their questioning, listening, expressive and receptive language skills during these times.
- Our Group times focusing on Fundamental Movement Skills each afternoon are progressing beautifully. The teachers facilitating these small groups have been pleased at how enthusiastic the children are about these small Group Times.
- We have started a project about 'Emergency Services'. Discussions will be about the services and their purposes. This works well with our hospital role play, and offers so many learning opportunities.

Orientating 'Starlighters' into 'Moonbeamers' (and also their families)

During late November the Starlight children will begin practicing the Christmas concert. This occurs with all the children together in the Moonbeam Room. It is a wonderful opportunity for these friends to become familiar with their room for 2017.

We are encouraging 'Starlight' parents to also take a look at the Moonbeam room to make yourself familiar for next year.



HIGHLAND GROVE

PRESCHOOL • EST. 1988

Newsletter - November 2016

Welcome to our November Newsletter. There is plenty going on at Highland Grove this month and we will also be letting you know all about our Christmas events planned for December.

Pumpkin Patch

Welcome to new baby Sienna, little sister for Liliana (Starlight Room) and Hamish. Congratulations Anna and Iain.

Congratulations also to Jordan and Sharmane on the safe arrival of baby Lorelai, sister for Jameel in the Moonbeam Room.

Welcome to baby Riley James, first grandchild for our Vicki M. Congratulations to Chris and Amanda, Vicki, Wayne and all the extended family.



School Transition Statement.

Melissa, Sarah, Kim and Danielle have completed a School Transition Statement for each child who is transitioning to school in 2017. The Federal Government have asked early childhood settings to complete this important document to support each child's transition to school.

HGP feels that the sharing of this information between the preschool, the home and the child's school is a valuable asset for your little person's school transition.

*Could Moonbeam parents or caregivers please complete the two pages of this statement directed at families and return to the HGP office by **Friday the 18th of November**. Thank you.*

Quality Area 1; Educational Program and Practice.

Included with this Newsletter is a flyer which provides information about the staff's review of how we document the children's learning. (This can be called the Pedagogical Documentation). Recently, after provocation from Kylie's Master of Early Childhood, we have been talking about 'shared sustained thinking' and the beneficial learning which can occur from children engaging in these interactions. Our 'Daily News Sheets' and the children's Portfolios, will now more often include 'Shared Sustained Thinking' and the subsequent learning.

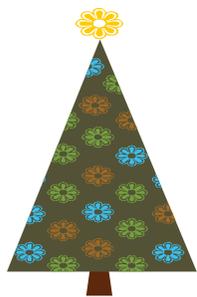
HGP Staffing:

We now have some additional staffing in our Starlight Room. On Mondays Sharyn will be working a full day, on Tuesdays Michelle will be working 9.45 until 2.45, on Wednesdays Tina will now be working a whole day and on Fridays Vicki S will be working from 9.00am until 3pm. This now means there are 4 educators in the Starlight Room on most days of the week. This extra staffing is a result of additional ISS funding now being available. We are pleased that we were able to fill all these positions with educators with whom you and your child/ren are familiar.

Preschool Christmas Events;

Just a quick note about what a special time Christmas is at HGP. Our Christmas concerts will occur four days of the week this year. The dates are from Monday 12th until Thursday 15th of December.

The concerts begin at 2.00pm and we combine our two rooms for an afternoon concert, inviting all our families to attend on the one day which best suits them.



Party lunches for the children are held at preschool each day from Monday 19th until Friday 23rd of December. (A small charge for food is included on the December accounts). There will be more information about these events in the December Newsletter. Please mark the dates in your calendar!

What are HGP's short and long term goals?

Short:

- Completion of the School Transition Statements.
- New 'Library' Area in foyer.
- Complete the review of Quality Area 1; Educational Program and Practice.
- Care of new turf.

Long:

- Successful appointment of a Diploma Educator for 2017.
- Add relevant staff training experiences to the Quality Improvement Plan (Q.I.P).
- Review of our play ground with plans to add further learning areas.



Preschool Fees

It is such a busy time and there are only 8 weeks until preschool closes for 2016. Our last day is **Friday 23rd of December**. Preschool returns on **Monday 23rd of January 2016**. Thursday 26th of January is a Public Holiday.

Please be sure to keep your fees up to date as the remainder of the year will just fly. Thank you

What else do we need to know about?

- ◇ We are providing each re-enrolling child with a **2017 Enrolment Form** (this is a legal requirement). Please return these to our office by the end of November. Thank you.
- ◇ On Wednesday 16th of November we are holding our **Parent Information Evening for 2017**. If you have not attended one of these evenings you are very welcome to join us. The evening runs from 7.15 to 8.30pm. Please let us know at the office.