



Highmount Pre-school
36 Lechte Road, Mount Waverley, VIC 3149
T (03) 9802 2812

IMPORTANT DATES

TERM DATES

End of Term 2 Friday 29th June
2018
Beginning of Term 3 Monday 16th
July

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Queen's Birthday Monday 11th
June. The kinder will be CLOSED

EDUCATOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

Friday 25th May.
Our educators will be attending a
seminar on this day. Please note
the kinder will be CLOSED.

TERM 2 WORKING BEE

Saturday 26th May 8.30 am –
11.30 am

BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE FUNDRAISER

Saturday 23rd June 9 am – 4 pm
Bunnings South Oakleigh

NEWSLETTER TERM 2, 2018

Dear Highmount Families,

I am pleased to report that funding for our four-year-old program has come through from the Department of Education and Training. After Highmount became an independent, community managed kindergarten last year, there were several months in which we had to cover the funding ourselves until all contracts with the DET were finalised. Now that we have received this, we are in a financially viable position to arrange a date to begin our playground renovation! I will be liaising with our contractors in the coming weeks to organise a suitable time to ensure there will be minimal disruption to the program.

Our staff and committee are currently working on the kindergarten's Quality Improvement Plan, updating the format and content, re-assessing goals, and ensuring the program and management of the service reflects the National Quality Standard. Once the document is complete, it will be located in the welcome area. We have also been working hard to update all its policies, which can now be found on our website. A hardcopy can be obtained on request by contacting our administration officer Anastasia.

We now have an 'Events' window in the welcome area, advertising upcoming fundraising activities, working bees and social events. Please add your name to the rosters if you are available to help at our forthcoming events.

Finally, our teachers really need parents to volunteer for 'Stay and Play'. Even if you can just spare an hour or two, the educators would be grateful for your time and your child will love having you there! It is great fun, I promise! Please add your name to the Stay and Play roster near the sign in book.

Kind regards,

Lou Skepper

President

highmount.president@gmail.com

3 YEAR OLD REPORT

Dear Parents,

Our delightful threes have been enjoying a wide range of activities and experiences this term. We are supporting the children in the following areas:

- Listening
- Following simple instructions
- Waiting for a turn
- Sharing equipment
- Caring for kinder toys and packing away
- Completing activities e.g. finishing a puzzle
- Participating in group games
- Asserting themselves and working through conflicts
- Making new friends and extending their social groups

We have observed that most children can settle themselves at an activity, work with their peers and follow most routines. During group times, the children are learning to make a circle, join in action songs and games. They love traditional songs, The Wiggles and action songs e.g wash your face with orange juice. There has been improvement in the children's self- help skills. They are putting their snacks back on the trolley, managing bathroom routines and caring for their possessions.

Thank-you to all parents who help during kinder sessions or take the laundry. Also a big thank you to Jenny and Cathy for their hard work, wonderful ideas and program support.

We aim to be a nut free kinder, we urge you to avoid sending nuts and related products to kinder to assist those children with allergies.

Reminder

Please bring hats and coats for winter weather. As some children are still having toileting accidents, please put spare clothes and shoes in your child's bag. Remember to label clothing and belongings.

Volunteers

Hilda and Sue help on Wednesday mornings.

Our Teddies Picnic days were so much fun. Please see our program book for photos of this event. Thanks to everyone involved in our mother's morning tea. The children love to see their mum's at kinder and enjoy the cakes! Dress up day provided a great opportunity for the children to laugh, have fun with their friends and share the story behind their own costume.

Thanks to all parents who attended the interviews. I hope you found them valuable. Please approach the staff if you would like to talk about any concerns or need help with a particular issue.

Thanks,

Fiona, Cathy & Jenny

4 YEAR OLD REPORT

Dear Parents,

We have been having an exciting and fun filled term two. Through interactions and conversations with the children, we have discovered what they are interested in and have planned our program with these interests as the focus. The children's interests have included dinosaurs, volcanoes, princesses, magnets, cubby houses, police and firefighters.

The teddy project and shared stories have also helped us to build connections between the kinder and the families. Please continue to bring in or email us your shared stories as the children enjoy sharing the stories with the Educators and their friends.

During the term, we have also been building connections with our local community. Work experience students from Mt Waverley Secondary College and local primary schools have joined the children with their daily activities. This term we have also had a visit from the Responsible Pet Education Program, a program that teaches the children strategies to stay safe around dogs. The children and parents found the sessions informative and fun and we all learned that if there is no owner or leash, we do not touch the dog that may be tied up or by itself in the park.

All the educators have been involved with Professional Development this term. I attended a full day workshop run by Sue Larkey on Autism Spectrum Disorder on Friday 11th of May. We will all be attending the ELAA day seminar- titled Children and the Community.

We are now looking forward to our autumn walk. Hopefully the weather will be beautiful and the children will be able to collect lots of autumn leaves. We can then use these autumn leaves to create collages and a variety of art works.

Thank-you to all the parents who have been involved in our program. We really appreciate all your support at the kinder and the children really enjoy it when their parents are involved and participate in the kinder program. Thank-you to Joshua (Olovalu's dad) for playing his guitar and conducting music classes on a Thursday afternoon. Thank-you to Tess (Connor's mum) for organizing an amazing morning tea for Mother's Day. Thank-you also to Melissa (Thea's mum) for taking such beautiful shots for the mother's day gifts.

Thank-you to Cathy, Jenny and Fiona for all their hard work, dedication and enthusiasm at the kinder. The children are so lucky to have such wonderful educators who really care about each and every child and their families. We also really appreciate Sue and Hilda's volunteer efforts every Wednesday and Friday afternoons with the four year old children. Don't forget that you are always welcome to come and have a chat about your child's progress.

Many thanks,

Rachel, Cathy, Jenny & Fiona

'STAY AND PLAY'

Volunteering your time at the kinder can be a juggle. We know how hard it can be to fit into our busy schedules - particularly if you have younger children and cannot stay for the whole session. For your child, it is a special opportunity to share their experiences at kinder with you, and for you to watch your child interact with their peers.

"Parents and families play an important role in supporting their child's education. Research has shown that when schools and families work together, children do better, stay in school longer, are more engaged with their school work, go to school more regularly, behave better, and have better social skills. Parent engagement also results in longer term economic, social and emotional benefits." – www.education.gov.au

The educators are very grateful for any time you can spare. Even just ½ an hour to read stories, play games, do puzzles or help with art smocks and writing names on the children's paintings is a great help to the teaching staff.

Children love to have their parents assist during sessions!

The roster is located near the sign in book.

SICK CHILDREN

Children should only come to kinder if they are well enough to participate in activities. Please keep your child at home if he/she is not well, even if he/she wants to come to preschool, to avoid spreading illness.

If your child requires paracetamol or ibuprofen, they should not be attending the kinder.

If your child is going to be absent from kindergarten due to illness or has an infectious disease, please notify the educators.

If your child has gastro they need to be symptom free for at least 24 hours.

FOOD ALLERGIES

We aim to be a nut free kinder.

Please do not send foods that contain nuts to minimize the risk to children who suffer anaphylaxis and allergies.

The kindergarten also encourages the use of reusable containers.

Snack suggestions:

- Fruit -prepared the way your child prefers.
- Vegetables – carrots, celery sticks, etc.
- Biscuits and cheese.

HIGHMOUNT FACEBOOK PAGE

Did you know Highmount now has a Facebook page?

Have you 'liked' our Facebook page yet?

Please "like" our page to keep up to date with news and events happening at the kinder! We would love as many parents as possible to leave a review too!



KINDER COMMUNICATION

Have you downloaded the Flexibuzz App yet?

Flexibuzz is a free app for download on Apple and Android phones and tablets.

It is an app designed to keep parents up to date with newsletters, notices, news and events. It also helps to reduce paper waste. Please download the app and make use of this great communication tool.



SIGN IN BOOK

When your child is attending their kindergarten session, you/the person bringing your child will need to sign the attendance book with the time you arrived, your name and the name of the person, who will collect your child.

When collecting your child, you/the person collecting your child must sign the book again and record the time the child is being signed out.

This is a requirement of the Department of Education and Training.

DROP OFF & COLLECTION

Highmount's responsibility for a child within the kinder grounds does not start until the session begins, and it reverts to the parents/guardians as soon as the session ends.

At the beginning of sessions, parents and guardians are required to wait with their children on the veranda until the teacher is ready to receive the children.

Parents/guardians arriving late will be reminded of the kinder's drop off/collection policy which can be found in the handbook. Late collection is an inconvenience to staff and can cause distress for children.





HOMEMADE PLAY DOUGH RECIPE...by popular request!

INGREDIENTS

- 2 tbs cooking oil
- 4 tbs [McKenzie's Cream of Tartar](#)
- 2 cups plain flour
- 1 cup salt
- Food colouring
- 2 cups water



DIRECTIONS

Step 1

Mix all the ingredients in a saucepan and stir over medium heat for 3-5 minutes, until the mixture congeals.

<https://www.mckenziefoods.com.au/recipe/playdough/>

Gluten Free Play-Dough

Ingredients

- 1 cup [McKenzie's Rice Flour](#)
- 1 cup [McKenzie's Corn Flour](#)
- 1 cup table salt
- 4 tsps [McKenzie's Cream of Tartar](#)
- 2 cups hot water
- 2 tsps vegetable oil
- 2 - 4 drops food colouring

Directions

Step 1

Mix all ingredients in a saucepan over a low heat until all is combined well and a dough consistency is reached.

<https://www.mckenziefoods.com.au/recipe/gluten-free-play-dough/>



Working Bee

Saturday 26th May 8.30am-11.30am



Equipment to bring:

- shovel • rake • broom • gardening tools • gloves
- wheel barrow

Jobs to be completed:

- rake over tan bark • turn over digging & sand pits
 - clean out cubby
 - remove leaves and sticks from yard
- weed & water gardens • rake nature strip
 - clean up around building
- prune trees & shrubs • clean windows & benches in foyer area • attach Sunsmart sign to fence



Can you help?

Volunteers: 12 people, 2-3 hrs shift, 3 people per shift responsible to BBQ and collect money

Donation Supplies: Bread, Onions, Sausages, Condiments, Esky/Cooler etc...

A box will be placed in the foyer closer to the fundraising date.



Money raised goes to kinder.

If you are available to help, please put your name on the roster in the kinder foyer.





Our four year old group have created their own interpretation of the Indigenous mythical eagle, Bunjil, to recognise National Reconciliation Week.

May 16 -
June 3

at

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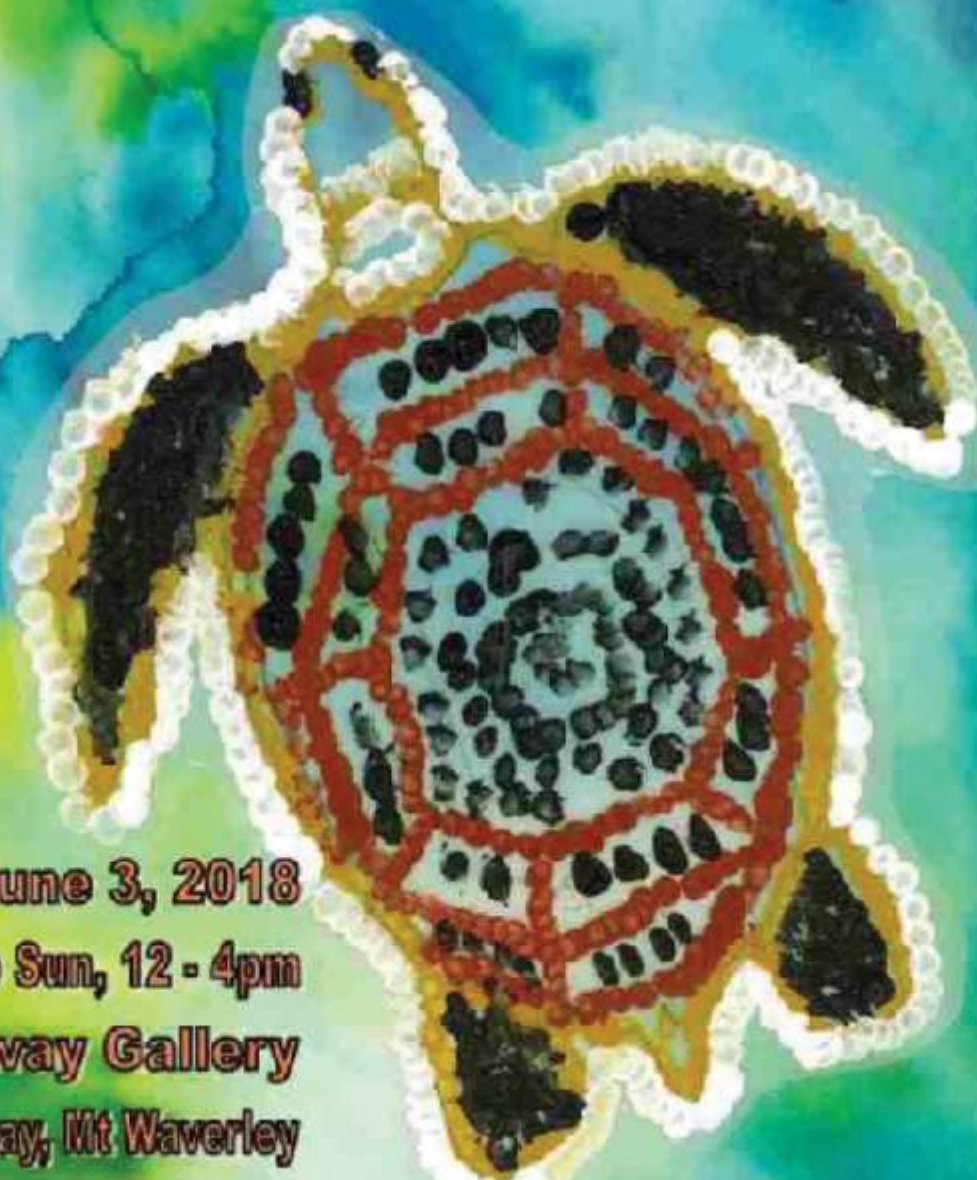
Please come along to the gallery and see their fantastic work!!

Exhibition held at The Highway Gallery:

Spirit Country

Youth Art for Reconciliation

An exhibition of artwork
by students in the City of Monash



May 16 - June 3, 2018

Open Wed to Sun, 12 - 4pm

The Highway Gallery

14 The Highway, Mt Waverley



HIGHMOUNT PRE-SCHOOL FINALIST FOR LEADER LOCAL GRANT

Highmount Pre-school's idea for Water Tank have been selected as a finalist in the Leader Newspaper \$1000 Grant Round!

Highmount Pre-school 的水箱 已被构想为Leader报纸进入\$1000的资金发放决赛圈!



WE NEED YOUR VOTE!
我们需要您的票!

**28 MAY
TO
08 JUNE**



Voting period opens at 9am Monday May28 2018 and closes Friday June8 2018

投票时间是2018年5月28号周一上午9点开始到2018年6月8号周五截止

How can you help?

你怎么能帮忙?

Step 3: Once you have registered and logged in, you will get 10 votes for each grant cycle to allocate to one or more projects.

Note: Our Highmount Preschool children will be delighted to have all your 10 votes!

步骤3: 注册及登陆后, 您将会有10票。

可以把这10票都分开投, 或者全部投给一个喜欢的项目。

注意: 我们Highmount Preschool的小朋友们都希望您会把所有的票都投给他们

Step 1: Go to Leader Local Grants website at www.leaderlocalgrants.com.au/water-tank-for-highmount-preschool/

步骤1: 去 Leader Local Grants 网页

www.leaderlocalgrants.com.au/water-tank-for-highmount-preschool/

Step 4: Chat to your neighbours, friends and family. Share with people you know on Facebook and Twitter to vote online for us!

步骤4: 请跟您的邻居, 朋友以及家人谈谈关于这次的资助发放, 在脸书及Twitter上鼓吹他们注册以及把票投给我们学校。

Step 2: For new voters, kindly register yourself at www.leaderlocalgrants.com.au/register/

For existing voters, please proceed to Step 3.

步骤2: 首次投票者, 请到这网页先注册 www.leaderlocalgrants.com.au/register/ 曾经投票过的人, 请往步骤3

The winner will be the project with the most votes, so please vote for Water Tank for Highmount Preschool!
赢得最多票数的项目将会是资金发放得主。请把所有的票投给Highmount Preschool的水箱!

