



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

IMPORTANT DATES

TERM DATES

End of Term 3 Friday 21st
September 2018

Beginning of Term 4 Monday 8th
October

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Friday before the AFL Grand Final
28th September.

Melbourne Cup Tuesday 6th
November

SPRING RAFFLE

Raffle tickets and money due by
14th September

Raffle to be drawn 21st
September

BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE FUNDRAISER

Sunday 16th September
9 am – 4 pm
Bunnings Notting Hill

NEWSLETTER TERM 3, 2018

Dear Highmount Families,

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your patience during our playground redevelopment. With the finishing touches underway, I'm sure you'll agree that it looks amazing. Thank you also to our Educators for keeping the children entertained indoors during the construction work!

There are many people to thank for their assistance in making the playground plans a reality: Aaron's Landscaping, D5 Building Group, Metro Mix Concrete, Next Generation Concrete Pumping, Inflow Plumbing, Galaxy of Plants, Hire Depot, BSA Electrical, Bunnings Notting Hill, and Sustainable Plumbing. Without the commitment and resources that D5 Building Group provided, we would not have been able to go ahead with the work.

A huge thank you to the following families that helped to install over 55m3 of playground and garden mulch at short notice: Chila, Jonker, Tsen, Gray, Loh, Loveless, Flynn, Martin, Sadeghi, Lu, Alekagoon, and our friendly neighbour Michael who came to lend a hand after feeling guilty watching us... Your efforts are enormously appreciated! Special mention as well to the Hire Depot at Glen Iris who generously donated the use of a Bob Cat to help move the mulch. Without it, I think we may still have been shovelling!

We are currently waiting for funds to be distributed from our successful Government grant, which will allow us to purchase new moveable outdoor equipment such as kitchen, construction and furniture pieces.

The final piece of equipment needed to complete our playground is a fixed play unit. At a cost of \$22,000, we still need to raise funds for this. We have approached several local businesses for assistance towards the purchase, however we have not had any success at this time. Our upcoming fundraising events will contribute to the cost, but some outside donations would make all the difference.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT CONT...

As a community kindergarten, the ongoing support of our all our families is sincerely appreciated. With the warm weather approaching, it will be fantastic to see the children enjoying their new environment!

Kind Regards,

Lou Skepper

President

highmount.president@gmail.com

Do we have the latest information about your child's immunisation?

If your child has recently received a vaccination, then our records may be out of date.

It is important for our service to know enrolled children's immunisation status.

In the event of a disease outbreak, this allows us to quickly identify children who may be at risk of infection and take any protective action required.

Do we have an Immunisation History Statement showing your child's most recent vaccinations?

If not, please provide us with an up to date statement from the Australian Immunisation Register:

- use your Medicare online account through myGov or the Express Plus Medicare mobile app to access your child's statement
- visit a Medicare service centre or call 1800 653 809 to request a statement be posted to you.

Receive reminders when vaccinations are due using your mobile device. Download the VaxOnTime Victoria app available for iOS and Android devices.

To view the immunisation schedule or to find out more about immunisation search your topic of interest on www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au

Sun Protection

The Cancer Council of Victoria recommends sun protection whenever UV levels are three or higher. Average UV levels in Victoria are three or higher from mid-August so it's time to dust off the sun protection gear and not wait until term four.

Please ensure that a hat is packed in your child's school bag.

We also suggest that you apply sunscreen on your child at home before the kindergarten session on high UV level days.

UV levels can be checked on the Highmount Preschool website: www.highmountpreschool.org.au

Highmount Preschool is committed to:

- promoting sun protection strategies for children, families, staff and visitors to minimise the harmful effects of over exposure to the sun's UV radiation
- ensuring that curriculum planning will minimise over exposure to the sun's UV radiation and also promote an awareness of sun protection and sun safe strategies
- providing information to children, staff, volunteers, parents/guardians and others at the service about the harmful effects of exposure to the sun's UV radiation.

3 YEAR OLD REPORT

Dear Parents,

We are coming towards the end of another busy term at kinder. Our creative children are spending much longer at activities, working in small groups, problem solving and practicing sharing with their friends.

The children have been enjoying the following activities

- Creating and constructing with boxes and scrap materials
- Using scissors in their collage and drawing work
- Playing board games, colour matching and number games
- Shared stories and props eg. The Very Hungry caterpillar
- Kinetic sand play experiences
- Shape and letter recognition...roller painting shape stencils...talking about attributes of shapes and naming them, also 3D shapes
- Varied Art experiences, including colour mixing with eye droppers
- Multicultural day... this was a wonderful experience for the children. Trying different foods, wearing national dress and inviting parents, grandparents to share the fun.
- We continued this interest area with consolidation experiences over the week, making Chinese dragon masks and painting flags. Using different skin toned body cut outs to make representations of ourselves. Learning the words to Twinkle Twinkle in Mandarin and greeting each other in different languages.

During our music time the children have played simple percussion instruments. We have also been learning new singing games and chants and listening to a range of cd's.

The staff have spent time with the children talking about manners, how we speak to each other with respect and courtesy and how to resolve conflicts with other children.

Encouraging your child to greet the staff and other children, fosters a sense of belonging and mutual respect.

We have discussed feelings, talking through problems and being kind to our friends and teachers. We have read stories about emotions.

A new parent roster for term 4 will be put up on the window above the sign-in book. Please put your name down for a session and to help with washing if you haven't had a turn. The children love showing you their play space and the staff appreciate the extra help. Thanks to all those parents who have given their time and made our sessions run smoothly.

Coming on kinder duty is a good way of watching your child interact with others and the environment and have time with the staff to chat about any issues.

Thanks again to our volunteers, Hilda and Sue who are just marvellous with the children.

P.S remember hats for term four.

Thanks again to Lou and the committee for our totally fabulous new playground.

The children have especially loved the large digging patch, the sandpit and the Bali hut for relaxing and reading stories.

We are so grateful to have such people of integrity working with and for our children.

Please feel free to discuss your child's progress at any time.

Fiona, Cathy & Jenny

4 YEAR OLD REPORT

Dear Parents,

We have had a busy and productive start to term 3. We especially want to thank Lou Skepper who project managed our wonderful new playground. The children have really been enjoying their new playground, and the educators have been observing how the children have been involved in shared play experiences, cooperating and collaborating, communicating and socialising effectively with their peers.

A big thank-you to all the families who joined in with the working bees to speed the completion of our wonderful playground. We are so lucky to have such a committed and enthusiastic community of families at Highmount.

The children are also becoming more independent and confident in their abilities. We have been encouraging the children to interact appropriately with each other. The educators at kinder have been modelling appropriate language and supporting the children to resolve conflict verbally.

The two science incursions provided wonderful learning opportunities for the children. We learned all about our bones, healthy food and exercising at the Bones Show. The science program was also a wonderful introduction to fun science experiments.

We really enjoyed our Father's morning tea. Tess had some fun activities planned for the children. The children also created some special presents for the dads.

Citrus dance will be visiting us again for a fun dance class. We are also having two visits from Thingle Toodle the road safety mascot, so we will be learning and practising road safety at kinder.

Smita has been volunteering with us on Tuesdays and Thursday, we really appreciate all her efforts.

Thank-you also goes to Sue McIntyre's tireless efforts. Sue works with the children in the four year old group every Wednesday. Thank-you to Abida for doing the lunchtime shift.

Thank-you also to Cathy, Jenny and Fiona who create a fantastic environment for the children to continually learn and flourish at kinder.

The last day of term three is Friday 21st September, so wishing everyone a fun filled holiday break

Best Wishes,

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.







AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM OUR EDUCATORS

During this cold/flu season,

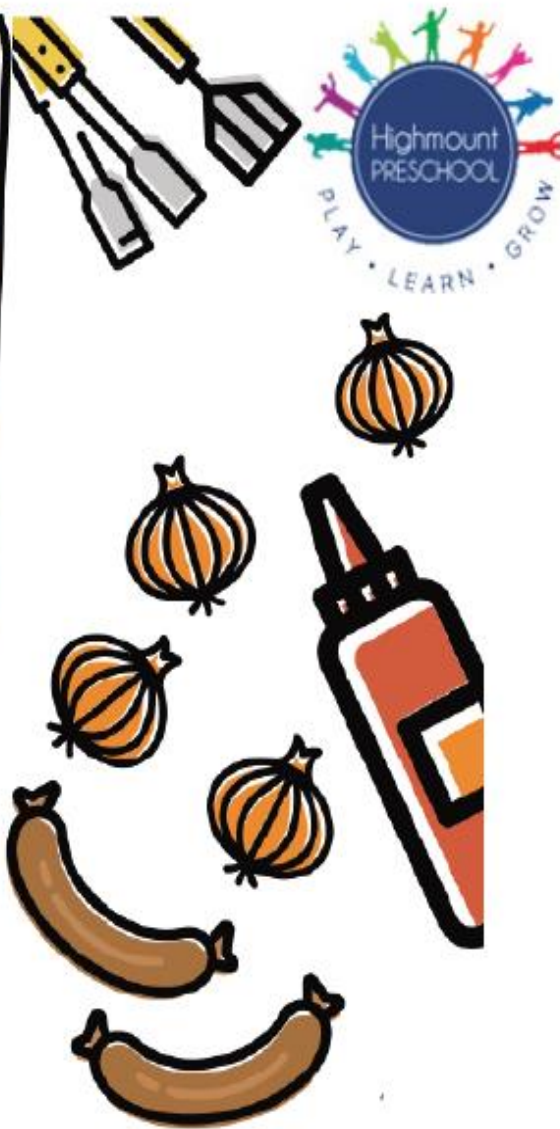
We love sharing toys
but not germs

If your child has:

- Runny nose
- Cough
- Scratchy throat
- Fever
- Diarrhoea
- Vomiting in the last 24 hours
- Or anything else that may be contagious

Please don't bring them to the Preschool,
we don't want to get the other children sick.

Thank you!



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.



Spring RAFFLE

PRIZES

1st: 1 x family portrait (JD Portraits)
+ 5 free classes at Kinderballet

2nd: \$200 Bunnings vouchers
+ 1 x term free at Dance Struck

3rd: \$100 Bunnings voucher
+ \$50 voucher at Citrus Dance

4th: \$100 Bunnings voucher
+ \$50 voucher at Citrus Dance

5th: \$30 Kmart voucher



TO ENTER

Tickets are \$2 each OR 3 tickets for \$5.

All tickets and money to be returned in
the enclosed envelope to kinder by
Fri, 14th September.

Raffle Draw on Fri, 21st September

ALL PROCEEDS TO UPGRADE OUR PLAYGROUND!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT





CALLING ALL



EMPLOYEE

IF YOU WORK FOR TELSTRA AND HAVE A CHILD AT HIGHMOUNT PRESCHOOL, WE ARE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE **\$1200** IN FUNDING!

PLEASE LET US KNOW ASAP SO WE CAN ALLOCATE THIS FUNDING TOWARDS OUR NEW PLAY UNIT!

CONTACT

HIGHMOUNT.PRESIDENT@GMAIL.COM



We are SunSmart - a note for families



Too much UV can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer.

Overexposure to UV during childhood and adolescence is a major factor for future skin cancer risk.

You can't see or feel the sun's UV so don't be fooled. Whatever the weather, if the UV levels are three or more, it's important to **Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek and Slide!**

Our service aims to protect children and staff from too much UV to help minimise future skin cancer risk. We are a registered member of the Cancer Council Victoria's SunSmart Program. Please help support our SunSmart membership by ensuring your child follows the SunSmart measures encouraged by educators.

During the daily local sun protection times (issued whenever UV levels are three and above), use these 5 SunSmart steps – even if it's cool and cloudy.

1. **Slip on a shirt** - dress your child in clothing that covers as much skin as possible (e.g. elbow length tops with a higher neckline or collar and longer style shorts or skirts). Densely woven fabrics are best.
2. **Slop on SPF 30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen** – apply a generous amount of sunscreen at the start of the day and provide permission for sunscreen to be reapplied to your child before they go outdoors. This should be applied every two hours. From 3 years of age, please help your child apply their own sunscreen so they can start to learn independent skills.
3. **Slap on a hat** – one that protects the face, neck and ears such as a broad brimmed, legionnaire or bucket style hat. Peak caps do not offer enough protection and are not recommended by SunSmart. Please help your child remember to bring and wear their approved sun hat.

4. **Seek shade** – choose shady spots for play whenever possible.
5. **Slide on some sunglasses** - if practical and approved by the service. Make sure they are labelled AS 1067 and cover as much of the eye area as possible.



Sun protection times

Don't just wait for hot and sunny days to use sun protection. Check the sun protection times each day so your family can be protected when they need to be.

Daily local sun protection times and weather details are available on the free SunSmart app or widget, in the weather section of the newspaper and on the SunSmart website at sunsmart.com.au. Sun protection times can also be found at the Bureau of Meteorology website and live UV levels are available from ARPANSA.



Further information contact SunSmart
P: 03 9514 6419
E: sunsmart@cancervic.org.au
W: sunsmart.com.au



LITTLE MISS A
HEADBANDS

Beautiful handmade crochet headbands
for baby girls.

Sizes 0-3, 3-6, 6-12, 12-24 months

Visit our Instagram and Facebook Page
for details on our Etsy store
"Little Miss A Headbands"

Or

Email Tess for more details
littlemissaheadbands@gmail.com





to our generous corporate sponsors for the construction of our new playground!

