



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

## IMPORTANT DATES

### TERM DATES:

Term 1 finishes Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April

Term 2 begins Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April

### WORKING BEE:

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

8:30am – 11:30am

### 3-YEAR-OLD WELCOME PARTY:

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2pm -3pm

### 4-YEAR-OLD WELCOME PARTY:

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 11am

### OFFICIAL PLAYGROUND OPENING:

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 11am

All welcome

### Waste, Sustainability and Environment IncurSION Presented by City of Monash:

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 11:15 – 11:45am

### HENNY PENNY HATCHING:

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March

### LITTLE WORLD PHOTOGRAPHY:

Week Commencing Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April

### PRESCHOOL CLOSURES:

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March: Labour Day  
Public Holiday

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April: Easter Monday  
Public Holiday

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April: ANZAC Day Public  
Holiday

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2019: All our  
educators will be attending the ELAA  
conference.

## NEWSLETTER TERM 1, 2019

### President's Report Term 1, 2019

What an exciting and busy start to the year!

#### Playground Opening

With the addition of a new play unit, our playground redevelopment is almost complete. I am pleased to announce the official opening will take place on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March, 11am. We would love all our families to attend for morning tea while the children enjoy the playground. Kinder sessions will run as normal, with everyone welcome to attend the celebration at 11am.

#### Successful Grants

Last year Highmount were lucky enough to receive two grants from the Victorian School Building Authority through the Inclusive Kindergarten Facilities Program.

The Buildings and Playgrounds stream allocated us \$114,000 which has allowed us to finalise the playground redevelopment. A further \$6000 for the Equipment stream will allow us to purchase new moveable outdoor equipment, which we have allocated for children's kitchen furniture, sandpit construction equipment, tables and chairs, a water wall and a mud mixing table. These items will be arriving towards the end of the term and I am sure the children will love them!

#### Telstra Kids Grant

I would like to take the opportunity to thank one of our kinder Dad's, Nick Adler from Telstra. Nick referred us for a Telstra Kids Grant and we were successful in our application for six digital tablets for the children!



#### Help Required

Our committee require two parents to help organise our fundraising activities for the year. There is usually one event per term, such as a raffle or Bunnings BBQ. You will have the full support of the committee and help raise funds for new educational equipment and furniture for the children. Please contact me if you are interested or would like to know more. We would love to have you!



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### Working Bee

Our term 1 working bee is Saturday 2nd March from 8.30am. We will be doing a general clean-up of the yard and gardens in preparation for our playground opening.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our playground opening!

### Lou Skepper

President

[highmount.president@gmail.com](mailto:highmount.president@gmail.com)

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### HIGHMOUNT COMMUNICATION

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Please "Like" our page and follow us on Facebook 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!



**Flexibuzz** is a free App available for Apple and Android phones and tablets. The App is designed to keep parents up to date with newsletters, notices, news and events.

Please download the App, register/Log in and "Find & Tick" Highmount Preschool to receive updates and reminders on your chosen device.



## 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 until the end of April.

**Please ensure that a hat is packed in your child's school bag in Term 1.**

**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](http://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 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.

## 4 YEAR OLD REPORT

Dear Parents,

We have had a busy and productive start to term one. We have been encouraging the children to develop a strong sense of their own identity, within the kindergarten program. By getting to know all their friends' names the children will begin to feel that they belong to their kindergarten community. Every day we will be using photos of our friends, so we can become more familiar with their names. We are also gradually teaching the children which group each child belongs to and therefore becoming familiar with who comes on which days.

The children have been exploring aspects of their identity through lots of role play both at indoor and outdoor play time. They have also started to become familiar with the routines of the kindergarten and they can confidently explore their environments during play. The educators have been encouraging the children to play co-operatively and work collaboratively with their peers when they are involved in activities. The children are also encouraged to negotiate their rights in relation to others using their verbal skills, rather than physical responses.

We are looking forward to the chicken hatching, the eggs will be delivered on March 12th and we will have the program for two weeks at kinder. We will have discussions about the chickens and their life cycles as well as discussions about other animals that lay eggs and their life cycles.

The children were also involved in Chinese New Year activities, whereby we learned about how fire crackers are lit at this time of the year and for good fortune money is given in red paper envelopes.

Each term we will also be doing some dancing activities with Citrus Dance. Our first dancing session will be on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> of March from 10:00a.m till 10:45a.m.

We will also be celebrating Easter at kinder, and in last week of kinder we will have a few Easter egg hunts.

The visiting teddy bear, Harvey has begun his home visits. Every child will get a turn! We are looking forward to seeing all the adventures he goes on with the children and their families.

Next term we can look forward Responsible Pet Education Program, kinder photos and a couple of science-based incursions.

Thank-You to Fiona, Cathy and Jenny for their tireless efforts and enthusiasm this term. Abida Khan is our lunchtime relief staff member. Please introduce yourselves to her. Working as an effective team is fantastic for all the families and children at our kinder!

Please feel free to make comments in our program books and you are always welcome to come and discuss your child's progress.

I will be going to Japan for a special birthday at the end of March, Fiona will be relieving for me during this time.

Best Wishes,

*Rachel*

## 3 YEAR OLD REPORT

Dear Parents,

Our three-year-old groups are settling into kinder and most children are enjoying the experience. Thanks to all parents and caregivers who are observing the washing hands routine before coming into the playroom. This routine helps our children with allergies to be as safe as possible.

Our groups are a diverse mix of children with different skills, temperaments, languages, experiences away from home and age range. During this term we are working on supporting the children's wellbeing. Helping them feel safe, secure and familiar with the kinder environment.

As parents you can support your child's wellbeing by arriving on time for pick up at the end of session. If your child is still having trouble separating, this is perfectly normal and will resolve after a few weeks. Our educators are on hand to help all parents through this sometimes stressful process.

We celebrate a diverse range of cultural celebrations at kinder. We recently celebrated Chinese New Year by handing out red envelopes with chocolate money inside for good luck. We also read stories and set up a table with culturally appropriate dolls and cooking items. In this way we support Learning outcome 2 *"Community"*, in which we *"explore the diversity of culture, background, heritage and tradition"* of families and children.

With this in mind, we will celebrate Easter. We are excited to have a chicken hatching program which will come to the kinder for two weeks. The children can observe baby chicks up close and this recognises the Christian tradition of birth and renewal and the giving of chocolate eggs.

The program will offer various art experiences and activities for example, making baskets and cards to celebrate Easter. We will be reading realistic books about life cycles and picture books about chickens, eggs and the Easter Bunny. We will have an Easter egg hunt in the last week before the end of term.

Our last day of term one is Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> of April, we start back in Term 2 on Wednesday the 24<sup>th</sup> of April. The kinder is closed Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> of April as this is Easter Monday a public holiday.

The children have enjoyed these sensory experiences: water play with sea creatures, colour matching games, playing with the train set, cutting and pasting, easel painting and outdoor activities, role play in home corner, dressing up, cooking and playing with dolls.

Every session we are working on:

- Listening and following instructions
- Conflict resolution...sharing and respect for others
- Independence with self-help routines
- Participating in a range of activities
- Making friends
- Having fun

Thanks to all our parents for helping during the session and taking home washing. Our parent help roster is on the window above the sign in book, please consider putting your name on this list.

Our parent pockets are hanging in the foyer against the windows, please check for notices after you drop off your child.

Thanks to our co educators Cathy and Jenny for their hard work this term, and to Hilda our student.

All the best for a happy Easter and holiday break.

Please feel free to come and see me if you would like to discuss your child or the program. I will be conducting parent teacher chats in Term 2 and the roster for that will be out soon.

P.S Please remember to bring your child's hat each session.

Thank-you,

*Fiona, Cathy & Jenny*



### 3-Year-old Hello Song: TIC TOC

#### TIC TOC

*Tic Toc*

*Tic Toc*

*The clock says Tic Toc*

*The clock says Tic Toc*

*It's time to say hello*

*Hello \_\_\_\_\_ (childs name)*

*It's time to say hello*

*(We go round the circle and say our name)*



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## STAY AND PLAY ROSTER

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Volunteering your time at the kinder can be a juggle. We know how hard it can be to fit into your busy schedules, particularly if you have work commitments or younger children. 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](http://www.education.gov.au)

The educators appreciate any time you can spare. Even an hour or two to read stories, play games and interact with the children is a great help to the teaching staff.

**The children always take great pride in having a family member there!**

***Please sign up on the roster which is located on the window above the sign in book.***

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## 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.

Please encourage frequent handwashing and cough/sneezing etiquette to avoid spreading infection.

## FOOD ALLERGIES

We aim to be a nut free kinder.

Please do not send foods that contain nuts (including Nutella), to minimize the risk to children who suffer anaphylaxis and allergies.

The kindergarten also encourages the use of reusable containers to minimise rubbish.

Snack suggestions:

- Fruit or vegetables -prepared the way your child prefers, e.g. apples carrots, celery sticks, etc.
- Biscuits and cheese.
- Sandwiches, wraps, rice or noodles
- Water or milk to drink (no sugary drinks such as juice or cordial)

# Working Bee



## SIGN IN BOOK

When your child is attending their kindergarten session 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, 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.**

## We Need Your Help



### *Wanted:*

## 2 volunteers to join our fundraising committee!

Highmount Preschool need help to organise one fundraising event each term, such as a raffle or a Bunnings BBQ.  
(no experience necessary!)

Funds raised will contribute to the purchase of new educational equipment and furniture, and you are **guaranteed to have fun** along the way with other kinder parents!

If you can help, please see a staff member or contact Lou:  
[highmount.president@gmail.com](mailto:highmount.president@gmail.com)

## 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.

**Please do not allow your children to stand on the gate when entering and leaving the kinder. It puts stress on the hinges and prevents the gate from closing properly. Thank you for your co-operation.**



# Growing tomorrow

Making quality early childhood education and care a reality for all

17 and 18 May 2019  
Crown Events and Conferences  
Melbourne

#growingtomorrow



2019  
Early Childhood  
Education Conference

together we grow

Highmount Preschool will be **closed** on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2019** as our Educators will be attending the Early Learning Association of Australia (ELAA) Conference. We apologise in advance for any inconvenience.



EARLY  
LEARNING  
ASSOCIATION  
AUSTRALIA



## Playground Official Opening

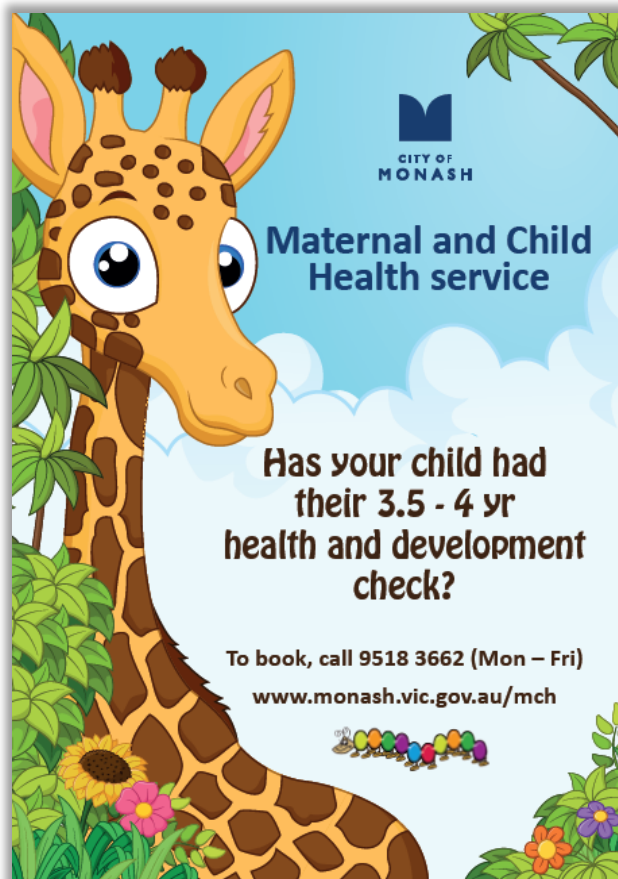
### Friday 8 March 11.00am

SPECIAL GUEST  
**MATT FREGON MP**

36 Lechte Road, Mount Waverley





#### 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](http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au)



Mount Waverley North Primary School

Aspire • Believe • Achieve

# ENROL NOW FOR 2020

School Tours every Tuesday at 9:30am

Pre-School Playgroup, Fridays 10 - 12pm  
By Appointment Only



Enquiries: 9802 3168 | [www.mtwavnth.vic.edu.au](http://www.mtwavnth.vic.edu.au)  
Marcus Avenue, Mount Waverley

*melissa martin*

PHOTOGRAPHY

*for people who believe in making  
moments last*

[www.melissamartinphotography.com](http://www.melissamartinphotography.com)

Mount Waverley | Melbourne