



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

IMPORTANT DATES

TERM DATES:

Term 2 finishes: Friday 28th June

Term 3 begins: Monday 15th July

UPCOMING 4 YEAR-OLD INCURSIONS:

The Bones Show Incursion:

Thursday 6th June

Citrus Dance Incursion:

Thursday 13th June

Waste and Recycling Incursion:

Wednesday 19th June

Science for Pre-Schoolers:

Thursday 15th June

PRESCHOOL CLOSURES:

Queen's Birthday Monday 10th June

BUNNINGS BBQ FUNDRAISER

Notting Hill

Sunday 21st July

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF HIGHMOUNT PRESCHOOL:

Save the date:

Friday 13th September



NEWSLETTER TERM 2, 2019

President's Report Term 2, 2019

Dear Highmount Families,

All Early Childhood Education Services in Australia are assessed and rated against the National Quality Framework, ensuring a high standard of programs and practices across the nation for our children.

An authorised officer from the Department of Education and Training will be present at Highmount on Friday 31st May to assess our Preschool.

Services are assessed and rated against the seven quality areas of the National Quality Standard and given an overall rating based on these results.

- 1 Educational program and practice
- 2 Children's health and safety
- 3 Physical environment
- 4 Staffing arrangements
- 5 Relationships with children
- 6 Collaborative partnerships with families and communities
- 7 Governance and leadership

Please have a look though our Quality Improvement Plan and goals which are located on the welcome area notice board.

We welcome you to contribute any ideas or feedback via our suggestion box. Two-way communication with our kinder community is essential for us to continue to provide an exceptional service. We value your opinion!

Kinder sessions will run as normal on our assessment day and I look forward to sharing our results with you.

Kind Regards,

Lou Skepper

President highmount.president@gmail.com



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Parent Resources



Did you know we have a Parent Resource folder in the welcome area?

Information and Resources for your perusal include:

- Local Community Resources eg. MonashLink
- Developmental Milestones & The National Quality Standards
- Belonging, Being and Becoming & the Early Years Learning Framework
- Nutrition, Child Health and Development
- School Readiness
- Literacy and Numeracy Tips and much more!

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

There is a total of 38 policies covering all mandatory and best practice areas related to the National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care (NQF). These policies have been developed based upon information provided by the national peak body Early Learning Association of Australia (ELAA) to meet legislative, regulatory and funding requirements.

Highmount Preschool values and encourages family input into decision making and strives to draw upon this input to continuously improve the quality of our preschool.

We are pleased to invite you to view the preschool's policies at <http://highmountpreschool.org.au/policies/> especially those that are in draft form. Please provide any feedback via the email address highmount.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

Hard copies of the policies can be provided upon request.

Further information on the National Quality Framework for Early Childhood and Care (NQF) is also available on the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) website via www.acecqa.gov.au



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Volunteers needed please!!

Highmount will be hosting a sausage sizzle at Bunnings Warehouse, Notting Hill on **Sunday 21st July**.

Please add your name to the roster in the welcome area and help us to raise funds for new resources and equipment.

HIGHMOUNT COMMUNICATION

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.



Quality Improvement Plan & Suggestion Box

Our QIP is located on the welcome area notice board. We invite families to have a look through our current goals and provide feedback and ideas via our suggestion box. Your comments and opinions are valued and will be confidential and anonymous if you wish.

4 YEAR OLD REPORT

Dear Parents,

This term I have planned the program around the children's emerging interests and incursions.

The children have enjoyed the following experiences:

- Responsible Pet Education Program (see picture below)
- Citrus Dance company
- The Bones Show
- Waste and Recycling

Please see the program book for photos and descriptions of these events. Educators have scaffolded and supported the children's ongoing learning across the curriculum. I have encouraged our relief staff Zora and Gina to contribute their observations into the program book as well.

This term has been particularly challenging, with staff absences and our Assessment and Rating visit on Friday the 31st of May. I would like to acknowledge the contributions of Jenny and Cathy during this time. They have stayed late and taken work home to finish in preparation for this visit. Most importantly they have provided the children with consistency and support when we have had different Educator's over the term. Their work ethic, professional approach and dedication can't be overstated.

I would also like to express my thanks to Anastasia, Lou and the wider committee for the hard work and commitment they have shown in the lead up to our assessment. No matter what our rating is, we know we have an amazingly dedicated group of people who really value your children's education.

Cathy will be taking long service leave for the last week of term and we wish her a wonderful holiday in Europe.

Please come and see our Educators if you wish to talk about your child.

Thanks, Fiona.



3 YEAR OLD REPORT

Dear Parents,

Our curious 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 like Fuzzy the Clown.

Our Teddies Picnic days were so much fun. Please see our program book for photos and a description of this event. We are looking forward to our Dress Up days, notes to go home soon. This is a great opportunity for the children to have fun with their friends and share the story behind their own costume.

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 and thank you to Jenny and Cathy for their hard work, wonderful ideas and program support.

We aim to be a nut free kinder, so 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, especially snack boxes and water bottles.

Thanks to everyone involved in our Mother's Day afternoon tea. The children love to see their parents and grandparents at kinder. The children shared food from different cultures.

Thanks to all parents who are attending the parent/ teacher interviews. I hope you find them valuable. Please approach the staff if you would like to talk about any concerns or need help with any issues.

Thanks,
Fiona, Jenny and Cathy



STAY AND PLAY ROSTER

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

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.

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)



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



Thank you to our families that
attended the Term 2 working bee.

The kinder looks fantastic!

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.**

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.



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
Marcus Avenue, Mount Waverley

melissa martin

PHOTOGRAPHY

*for people who believe in making
moments last*

www.melissamartinphotography.com

Mount Waverley | Melbourne



CITY OF MONASH

Maternal and Child Health service

Has your child had their 3.5 - 4 yr health and development check?

To book, call 9518 3662 (Mon – Fri)
www.monash.vic.gov.au/mch



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