

HIGHMOUNT PRESCHOOL NEWSLETTER

TERM 3
SEPTEMBER 2022



36 Lechte Road
Mount Waverley Victoria 3149

(03) 9802 2812
highmount.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

KEY UPCOMING DATES

TERM DATES

Period	Start	Finish	Length
<i>School Holidays – Saturday 17th September – Sunday 2nd October, 2022</i>			
Term 4	Monday 3 rd October	Friday 16 th December	11 weeks
<i>2022 / 2023 Summer School Holidays Saturday 17th December 2022 – Friday 27th January 2023 (Educators commence) (Tuesday 30th January 2023 – Students commence)</i>			

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Day	Date	Holiday
Thursday	22nd September	Queen's Memorial
Friday	23rd September	Friday before AFL Grand Final
Tuesday	1st November	Melbourne Cup
Sunday	25th December	Christmas Day
Tuesday	27th December	Christmas Day (Substitute)
Monday	26th December	Boxing Day

Congratulations to our Spring Raffle Winners!

1st Prize: Karen - Leap Pad (RRP \$200)

2nd Prize: Dannii – Museum of Play and Art MOPA \$100 voucher

3rd Prize: Margaret - Dance Struck Voucher

4th Prize: Mantra - Chesterfield Farm Family Pass



Thank you to everyone that contributed and made our raffle such a success.

We raised \$570 which will be used to purchase new resources for the children!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Carers,

Child Safe Training

Our teachers and support staff recently attended an intensive workshop to further our knowledge in implementing the new Child Safe Standards.

As a child safe organisation, we are committed to keeping children safe, and we have zero tolerance for any form of child abuse.

To adequately support our teachers and children, it is a requirement that all volunteers must:

- Complete our volunteers child safe training (next session in term 1, 2023)
- Provide a valid Working with Children Clearance (available at AusPost)
- Read and sign our volunteer agreements, which can be obtained by emailing the kindergarten: highmount.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

Approved Provider Transfer

I'm excited to confirm that members of Highmount Preschool Association voted unanimously in favour of transferring the approved provider licence.

We are currently awaiting confirmation regarding an official transfer date from the Department of Education and Training.

Street Library

I would like to thank our 3-year-old class representative, Karen, for organising a Highmount Preschool Street Library! With assistance from the Glen Waverley Rotary Club and Men's Shed, we are excited to announce that our library will be installed at the beginning of term 4!

Term 4 Teaching Staff

I extend our sincere thanks to Narelle for stepping in as our 4-year-old teacher in term 3, and thank our families for their support and understanding during this transition period. We are excited that Bec will return from parental leave in term 4, and she can't wait to see everyone! Nicole will be continuing as our 3-year-old teacher in term 4.

Best wishes to everyone for a safe and happy holiday break!

Lou Skepper

President

Email: highmount.president@gmail.com

Welcome back

We are very excited to have Bec Tyson re-join our team in Term 4 as 4YO Early Childhood Teacher, Nominated Supervisor and Educational Leader.

Bec is very enthusiastic for her return and is excitedly planning for Term 4.



THANK YOU

We would also like to extend a HUGE thank you to Narelle Loftus who has been our relief 4YO ECT. We were very fortunate to have such a warm and dedicated professional who is familiar with our service and known to the children providing stability and continuity of learning.

BUNNINGS BBQ

Saturday 23 October

Volunteers needed

[REGISTER HERE](#)

4 YEAR OLD REPORT

The children have been responding well to the "have a go" kindergarten motto and trying new challenges. We have observed increased confidence and persistence in the children taking on new challenges and extending their interests in the program. They are also persisting with increased independence.

We have also been focusing on respect, teamwork and responsibility, with educators using stories and modelling language to assist the children in solving minor conflicts. The children have been assisting with packing away, responding well to our clean up song and working together to carry equipment where needed. They are also continuing to develop self-help and independence skills, packing their bags at the end of the day, taking jumpers/jackets on and off and putting on their own smocks.

They are engaging in more collaborative and cooperative play through the program, in particular with block building and role play experiences.

Some children are starting to show an increased interest in writing and numbers. To support this interest educators added alphabet and word games, focusing on naming and recognising letters. We also added a number game.

Miss Bec will be back from maternity leave next term with Miss Hilda. We hope you have a fantastic holiday!

Narelle Loftus Relief ECT



3 YEAR OLD REPORT

Recently we celebrated Book Week with the children. It was great to see so many children joining in, dressing up and bringing some of their favourite books from home to share and read together. Reading books has always been a particular favourite of our 3YO group throughout this year and book week linked nicely with their interest.

We have continued to explore cultures and diversity through language with the children. Building on from learning to say hello in a range of languages we have now also begun to learn different ways to say goodbye. The children are developing their understanding of different languages and now speak with confidence in the new words they have learnt.

The children's interest in rubbish trucks and recycling has resurfaced and this has led us as a group to explore further. Following the children's lead we created our own rubbish truck and waste sorting dramatic play space. We have been exploring the difference between recycling, soft plastic, general waste and compost and the children have been sorting and classifying different materials into their relevant categories. This experience is continuing to evolve, and we look forward to the next steps in the children's learning and understanding.

Nicole Barnes



WHY DID YOU SELECT HIGHMOUNT PRESCHOOL FOR YOUR CHILD?



Showcasing our fabulous preschool community, our quality educational program, and facilities is a key to prospective families enrolling in our preschool.

We need your help.

Many prospective families remark how they view our website and read Google reviews before contacting us to arrange a tour.

To keep our reviews refreshed, we are asking families to take a few minutes to share some positive comments about why you selected Highmount Preschool for your child.

To leave a Google Review please visit;
<https://g.page/highmountpreschool/review?rc>

We thank you in advance for your support and for those families who have already taken the time to write a review. It is greatly appreciated.



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:

You can get your immunisation history statement using either:

- your Medicare online account through myGov
- Medicare mobile app.

If you don't have a myGov account or a Medicare online account, you'll need to set them up. You'll need these to use the app.

If you can't use Medicare online, your vaccination provider can print your immunisation history statement for you.

You can also call the Australian Immunisation Register and ask us to send your immunisation history statement to you. It can take up to 14 days to arrive in the post.

Updated Immunisation History Statements can be emailed to Anastasia Sergianis
highmount.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

There are 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 the preschool.

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

Hard copies of the policies can be made available 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](http://www.acecqa.gov.au)



LAUNDRY DUTY

The "Stay and Play" roster includes a laundry roster. This is located in the Attendance Book. Your contribution involves taking home a bag of smocks, tea towels and children's hand towels. Occasionally dress-up clothes may be included. We ask that you return the washing cleaned and folded at your child's next session.



WHEN A CHILD IS ILL OR BECOMES ILL AT PRESCHOOL

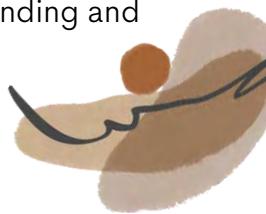
If your child appears unwell or you have reason to think they may be infectious, please consider the other children and keep them at home. If a child is unwell then this compromises the health and wellbeing of our community and does not provide a child with the care and comfort they require. If your child requires Panadol (or similar), to manage symptoms then they should not be attending kindergarten. To reduce the risk of spreading infection, families will be informed that a child may not stay for the session or will be sent home if they are displaying the symptoms of:

- Gastroenteritis
- Respiratory infection (more than just the common cold). eg. Infected runny nose or persistent cough
- Hand, foot and mouth disease (when weeping blisters that have not yet scabbed over are present).
- Any of the infectious diseases listed in the "Minimum Period of Exclusion from Primary Schools and Children's Services Centres for Infectious Diseases Cases and Contacts".

When a child becomes ill after arrival at Preschool, the parent/guardian, or if they are unable to be contacted, the emergency contact person will be notified immediately, and arrangements will be made for the sick child to be taken from the Preschool as soon as possible. If necessary, details will be recorded in the Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness record.

At the beginning October 2020 the Department of Education and Training released a directive about '**managing illness in schools and early childhood services during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic**'. The DET states that, '*It's important to make sure unwell children and staff stay at home until their symptoms resolve and seek medical assistance as required. Services should send unwell children or staff home in accordance with Preventing infectious diseases in early childhood education and care services.'*'

The educators will be using the guidelines to inform their decision-making processes and actions when managing illness at the Preschool service and we ask for your understanding and support as they implement them.



We are a NO NUT kindergarten.

Child safety is paramount at Highmount Preschool, and we are committed to providing a safe, supportive and inclusive learning environment for all children in our community.

Some children at the kindergarten are at risk of Anaphylaxis – a severe and potentially life-threatening allergic reaction.

Therefore, to ensure the health and safety of all children is maintained at the Preschool, we must ensure that the following food items are NOT brought into the kindergarten at any time.

- ✗ Eggs
- ✗ Sesame Seeds
- ✗ Sesame Oil
- ✗ Nuts
- ✗ Nut Products
- ✗ Nutella
- ✗ Peanut Butter



RESOLVING CONCERNS OR COMPLAINTS

Families are encouraged to direct any feedback, concerns, complaints or grievances to the Nominated Supervisor, Grace Keleher on 9802 2812

Alternatively, you can contact the Approved Provider, Highmount Preschool Association Incorporated:

Name: Lou Skepper
Position: President
Email: highmount.president@gmail.com
Mobile: 0403 327 762

Or Contact:

Department of Education and Training (DET)
Quality, Assessment & Regulation Division (QARD)
Eastern Metropolitan Area
North-Eastern Victorian Region
Level 4, 295 Springvale Road
GLEN WAVERLEY VIC 3150
Ph: 1300 651 940
emr.qar@edumail.vic.gov.au



Applying sunscreen



Check the daily sun protection times at sunsmart.com.au or on the free SunSmart app and use the 5 SunSmart steps for all outdoor play.



Sunscreen tips

Please ensure sunscreen is applied with adult help or supervision.

- For children over three years, set up a sunscreen station - try a pump pack or roll on (they are usually easier to use) and have a mirror available so children can see what they are doing.
- Suggest children apply a dot of sunscreen to their cheeks, nose and chin (avoiding the eye area) and carefully rub that in. Apply squiggles to the parts of their arms and legs not covered with clothing and rub those in.
- Appoint sunscreen buddies so children can help each other.
- Try to apply 20 minutes before going outside.
- Reapply sunscreen every TWO hours (even if the label states 4 hours protection).
- Check the sunscreen's expiry date and store sunscreen under 30 degrees.
- Visit sunsmart.com.au to see an example of a sunscreen station in action.

Child Safety Standards Update

On Tuesday 6th September our educators along with Anastasia Sergianis (Administration) and Lou Skepper (President) attended a Child Safe Standards seminar led by educational consultant Nicole Talarico.



The seminar was invaluable in helping us understand and prepare for the implementation and compliance of new Victorian Child Safe Standards which came into effect on 1st July 2022.

The health, safety and wellbeing of children according to the Child Safe Standards is paramount and forms an essential part of our [Statement of Values and Preschool Philosophy](#).

Highmount Preschool will continue to engage, consult and inform our community as we work through the detail.

Training Session

On Monday 29th August we held our first online training session. The New Victorian Child Safe Standards require all volunteers to undertake child safe training in order to participate in volunteer events at the kindergarten.

This includes parents, carers or other family members attending events where children are present, such as Stay and Play, incursions and excursions.

As part of our commitment to ensuring a Child Safe environment, all persons who volunteer at the kindergarten must:

- Undertake Child Safety training provided by the kindergarten;
- Sign and agree to the Preschool's Child Safety Code of Conduct;
- Provide a valid Working with Children (WWC) Clearance.

Without attending this online training, volunteers are unable to assist at kindergarten.

Further training sessions will be held at the commencement of the new 2023 school year.

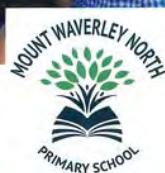
A register of trained volunteers will be kept on file at the kindergarten, along with signed Code of Conduct forms and WWC Clearances.

For further information and/or resources

- Applications for a WWCC can be done online at <https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/individuals/applicants/how-to-apply-1>
Alternatively forms are available at Australia Post outlets.
- [Child Safety Statement](#)
- [Child Safe Environment and Wellbeing Policy](#)
- [Code of Conduct Policy \(including Acceptable and Unacceptable Behaviours\)](#)
- [Participation of Volunteers and Students policy](#)
- [Privacy and Confidentiality policy](#)
- [Compliments and Complaints policy](#).

*** The above policies are located on our website at <https://highmountpreschool.org.au/policies/> or alternatively hard copies can be made available by emailing highmount.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

WE SUPPORT OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY



MWNPS PLAYGROUP

Join our free community playgroup which runs all throughout the school term every Friday morning from 10am to 11am. All are welcome!
Phone the General Office to book your place on
9802 3168

Free Community Playgroup!

Mount Waverley North Primary School
1 Marcus Avenue, Mount Waverley
9802 3168
www.mtnps.vic.edu.au



Pru Thomaidis
BUSINESS SUPPORT

Specialising in providing:
Administration
Digital Marketing
Event Management
Social Media Management
Content Creation
Customer support

prue@pruethomaidis.com.au
<https://pruethomaidis.com.au>



Highmount T-Shirts! \$15
Size 4 or 6
Navy with white logo
Order by email:
highmount.president@gmail.com
with child's name, group & T-shirt size



Centres | Oakleigh | Chadstone | Mt Waverley
9544 1340 call Robyn
oakleighocc.care@bigpond.com
www.ooc.org.au

Enrol Now!
Permanent bookings available
Babies to School Age
3 or 5 hour Sessions Monday - Friday

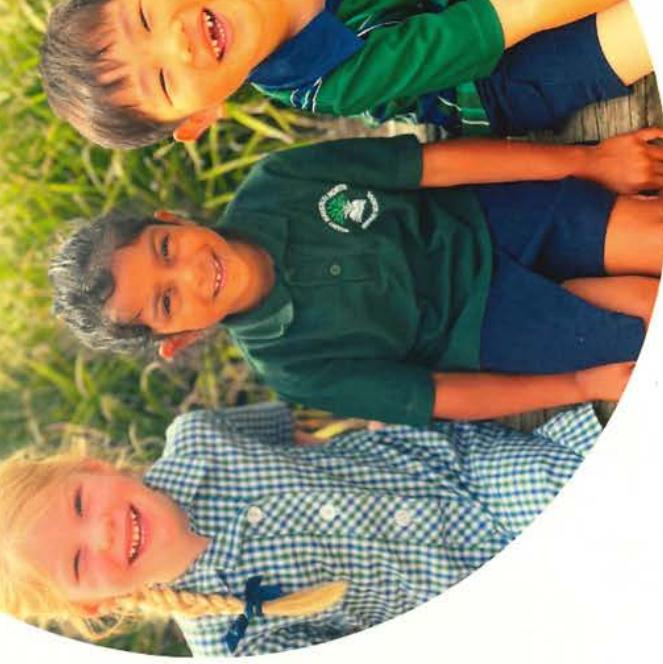
Oakleigh Occasional Care

Offering Childcare in a fun positive learning environment

Servicing The Monash Community Since 1979

SESSION TIMES: 9am-12pm=\$36 or 9am-2pm=\$60
36 Burton Street, Chadstone- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday
16 Garnett Street, Oakleigh East/Huntingdale- Monday-Friday
5 Fleet Street, Mount Waverley- Monday-Friday

If you would like to advertise, please email us at
highmount.marketing@gmail.com



Mount waverley North Primary School

ASPIRE~BELIEVE~ACHIEVE



Enrol today!

1 Marcus Avenue
Mount Waverley VIC 3149

Ph: 9802 3168

E: mt.waverley.north.ps@education.vic.gov.au

W: www.mtwavnth.vic.edu.au



Inspiring
excellence and
nurturing success
in a vibrant school
community

Music Program

Our extensive Music Program offers a range of opportunities both through the curriculum and private music tuition.

Students who are passionate in music can participate in our Junior or Senior Choirs, our School Band and our wide range of specialised musical instrument tuition.



Performing Arts Program

Through our high level Performing Arts Program students have the opportunity to communicate their ideas or expand their mind creatively. Our Performing Arts program promotes creativity, self-esteem and challenges our students in new and exciting ways.

MWNPS presents a whole school performance every year with students also engaging in hip hop dance classes, public speaking program and other annual events including our End of Year Community Concert.

Literacy & Numeracy

LITERACY

Our whole school approach to literacy is structured to build on students' developmental literacy needs.

The teaching and learning pedagogies within our school are aligned with evidence-based practice at the forefront of educational initiatives, and provide exceptional consistent practice and sequential high level learning, inclusive of all students. Our English as an Additional Language program supports students who require additional focus developing their English language skills.

NUMERACY

From Prep to Year 6, students engage in mathematical investigations allowing them to build their skills through meaningful tasks.

Students develop deep mathematical understandings through manipulation of materials and making connections within mathematical areas to develop their mathematical thinking.

Soccer Academy

We are proud to be leading the way in the provision of a dedicated Sport Academy with accredited FV coaches in a Primary School.



Enrichment Program

Students from Prep-Year 6 participate in our enrichment program with targeted teaching allowing high ability students to engage in challenging activities that stimulate their interests and further their skills.

Students also engage in activities such as the Victorian High Ability Program (VHAP), STEAM challenges, Monash Tech School workshops, G.A.T.E.WAYS enrichment days and high quality differentiated learning allowing students to flourish.



The Academy develops our students' abilities to work as part of a team, develop perseverance and resilience and fine tune decision making skills. A range of participation options are available for all students. Our Sport Academy provides an engaging, high level sport academy experience for your child.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Quality Improvement Plan

VEYLD Learning and Development Outcome

Victoria's New Child Safe Standards

The Early Years Learning Frame (EYLF)



HIGHMOUNT PRESCHOOL

Play-based education for 3 + 4 year olds



ENROL FOR 2023

Contact us today!

Discover how our play-based learning programs prepare your child for school.

2023 Timetable

Day	Time	Group
Tuesday	9:00am - 3:00pm	Golden Wattle (3 year-old group)
Wednesday	8:30am - 11:30am	Silver Banksia (4 year-old group)
Friday	9:00am - 3:00pm	

15 hours per week

Tel: (03) 9802 2812
www.highmountpreschool.org.au