To allow us to keep improving our reports I am including an online survey for parents who wish to make any comments about the Highton Primary School reports. To access the survey please open our newsletter from the www.hightonps.vic.edu.au website and click on the following link or type it in.

If you would prefer to give any feedback without accessing the internet please just write down your thoughts and get them to me, thanks.

Absence
As a part of your report you would have received details of your child’s absences from school. It was very heartening to see that we had very few children with a high number of absences. Time away from school, for any reason, does have an impact on learning and students can feel quite stressed about catching up on things they have missed.

Fun Run
I was very proud of the action taken by some of our students in organising Tuesday’s Fun Run to raise money for the Royal Children’s Hospital. The children raised $700 approx. which is a fantastic achievement.

Thank You
I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in the Highton School Community for a fantastic term. It is a pleasure to take visitors around our school and hear all the positive comments about; students, teachers, the environment, the atmosphere and the curriculum. Well done to all!

Early Dismissal
Don’t forget Friday is the last day of term and home time is 2.30pm. Have a great term break and keep safe.

Tessa Calder

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Highton Primary School Vision
Our vision is to inspire our children to value; caring, respect, tolerance, honesty and positive attitudes through a curriculum aimed at individuals, fostering life long learning within an international perspective.

Highton Primary School is an International Baccalaureate World School for the Primary Years Program.
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:
be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent.

Consequently parents/guardians are able to access the EMA if they have a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term 1 (28 January 2009 which is the first day for teaching staff) and Term 3 (13 July 2009).

The EMA application must be submitted to the school by 27 February 2009 for the first instalment and 7 August 2009 for the second instalment.

The EMA provides an annual amount of $221 for primary students and $443 for secondary students and is paid in two instalments. This amount is split evenly between the parents/guardians and the school.

Parents with continuing eligibility, who are paid the first instalment of 2009 through this school will not be required to complete a new application for the second instalment. Parents who transfer children to another school after 27 February 2009 and prior to or on 7 August 2009, must reapply at the new school for the second instalment.

EMA application forms are available from the school office.

Green Club Update

On Monday our keen gardeners set about planting our long awaited fruit trees in our veggie boxes. There was also potatoes, garlic, herbs and remainder of spring bulbs planted with enthusiasm. We were all excited about using our first batch of compost and worm juice to spread around our garden. Our grant from LANDCARE AUSTRALIA and COLES which has allowed the Veggie Boxes to be set up and maintained, has come to an end. On behalf of all our gardeners we say a big thank you to LANDCARE AUSTRALIA and COLES.

Congratulations

Blake Nicholls has been chosen to represent Geelong in Under 12 Little League Baseball. Well done Blake

For your Calendar

JUNE
Friday 26th. School term ends at 2.30. **Assembly will be at 9.30 am**

JULY
Monday 13th. Term 3 commences.
Thursday 16th Learning For Life meeting 7.00 pm

CANTEEN ROSTER
Week commencing 13th July
Julie Ann Clark 9.00-11.30

SICKBAY ROSTER
Week commencing 13th July
Penny Leishman
Tapestry workshop.

This exciting project begins next term, every student in our school will help to weave a large tapestry. Joan Korn, local textile artist is generously offering her time to guide us through the project. If you are planning to assist with this project during the students art classes please come along to the workshop which we will be holding on

- **Saturday July 18th**  
- **from 9.00AM—12.00 noon**  
- **in the Highton Primary school art room.**

Joan will teach us the basics so we can help the students create a beautiful tapestry. Senior students are welcome to attend. Come along..learn a new skill..give it a go..no great craft skills are required. Morning tea will be provided. If you can come along put your name on the list outside the art room. Talk with Tania Kiddle, Helen Millar or Helen Perry if you have any queries.

Please see the Joan’s (the tapestry artist) instructions, for what you will need on the day, which are shown below.

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**Tapestry Workshop Frame**

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**TAPESTRY FRAME, FOR WOVEN TAPESTRY FOR YOUR SCHOOL**

This frame will enable you to participate in a workshop to learn the basic skills to provide support for the proposed tapestry to be designed and woven by all of the children at Highton Primary school during terms three and four.

Please bring a frame with an internal measurement of approximately 30 x 45 cm similar to Illustration 1. Illustration 2 shows various ways of making secure joins.

You may have an old picture frame which would serve this purpose, or be able to pick one up at an Op shop, the only criteria is that the frame is strong, particularly the joins. When the warp is wound onto the frame there is a lot of pressure and it will be inclined to skew if the joints are weak. Materials supplied but please feel free to bring any yarns that you may wish to use.
Community News

See notice board for more details

- **School Holiday tennis clinic.** At Wandana Heights Tennis club July 6th, 7th, 8th.. Ph Tony Brushfield 52440040 or 0408 524898
- St John’s Kids Club ages 2-6 holiday program ph: 5243 3561
- Introduction to fine cooking at Cloverdale community centre. From August 14th. For 10 weeks. Cost $120 PH: 52754415 to register.
- Dance Workshop—Thurs July 2nd. At Vines Rd community centre. $15. 10AM-2PM for ages 5-13 Register Ph Karen Feldman 52787960 / 0432493527
- Cheerleading camp Thurs July 9th @ Geelong Arena Nth Geelong. $40 per child. For ages 5-15 ph: 52771711
- Mooregrace acting studio free 90 minute workshop Sat 11th July. Ph 52444061

Netball News

Last week the Highton Emeralds faced a team that last time we played we lost 27 to 0. This time the score was 7 to 4, which is an indication of how much we have all improved. Players of the week Jade Collins and Katrina Anastasopoulos. This weeks game is ay 5:20. I would like to just thank each and every girl for the commitment and enthusiasm they show each week. You make being a coach a very enjoyable experience. Helen Perry.

Learning For Life

**Learning for Life Meeting**

Thursday, July 16th
7pm
Conference Room

Italian Phrase of the Week

Che tempo fa?
Fa freddo.

How’s the weather?
It’s cold.

Thank you to Neverfail water suppliers for their donation of bottled water to each child participating in the Fun Run on Tuesday 23rd of June.
The **Active After-school Communities Program** is an Australian Government funded initiative encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle for your children. The program runs for 7 weeks each term and is **FREE!!** The students will be provided with a healthy afternoon snack as part of the program.

Term 2 is now completed.

The program for term 3 is as follows:

**Monday - Hockey**  
*27th July - 7th September*  
Hockey Geelong will present these sessions.

**Tuesday - Multi sports**  
*28th July - 8th September*  
Tim Quilliam will present sessions that will focus on fitness through games and various activities and may include some martial arts to music sessions.

If you would like your children to be involved in the Active After School program please complete the form below and return to school as soon as possible.

Parents are always welcome to stay and watch the sessions but need to be aware that the program may not always look like hockey. The sessions will include a variety of games which build the skills required to play sport such as spatial awareness games or hand eye co-ordination activities. If you wish to discuss this aspect with me please do so.

Should you need to take your child home instead of participating in a session **please let me know on your way out of the school grounds so we are not searching for your child.** We meet in the art room courtyard or in the hall on wet days.

Thanks… Carolyn Hall  
AASC Co-ordinator

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**Active After-school Communities Program – Child Expression of Interest Form**

I would like my child/children ______________________ to participate in the AASC program.

☐ Monday - Hockey  ☐ Tuesday - Multi sport

Parent/Guardian (full name): ______________________

Signature: ______________________ Date:

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**Student Awards**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Award</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JRH</td>
<td>Hannah Laws, Jonah McKinnon, Tom Stewart</td>
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<tr>
<td>JRL</td>
<td>Amelia Wekwerth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JRP</td>
<td>Conie Cole, Benjamin Cristofani</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDA</td>
<td>Liam Dempsey</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDJ</td>
<td>Laura Firipis, Jai Nelis</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRC</td>
<td>Georgie Kiddle</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRD</td>
<td>Emily Davidson</td>
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<tr>
<td>SNG</td>
<td>Eric Dickson</td>
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<td>SNS</td>
<td>Kylie Lopez-Rivas</td>
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Dear Everyone,

Congratulations to everyone at Highton Primary School. It has been an amazing 8 years here with many challenges and accomplishments.

To each Teacher - thanks for your friendship and trust. I know this school is the envy of many schools because of the power of our curriculum and your dedication to the children. It is a pleasure to go into classrooms and see busy, active children truly engaged in their learning. Working with you all made me a better teacher.

To our Program Assistants – you are the most high performing team of ‘angels’ around. Your patience, flexibility and knowledge have further empowered our classrooms.

To Lyn – This school spins around you. You effortlessly ease our load.

To Tonya and the canteen crew, I am going to miss my weekly order. Might still have to pop in for a sushi and fruit salad. Thanks for your hard work.

To Craig and Tessa, thanks for allowing me to work with Principals who love their jobs and who care about children first and foremost.

To the parents– thanks for allowing me the privilege of working with your children and sharing the experiences of parenthood with you. It’s a tough gig being a parent. This school is on your team.

And as always I leave the best till last……

Thanks to all the children. Some have asked why I am leaving and I tell them it is so I can spend more time with my own family. But the children at Highton have become part of my family and I will miss them. Please remember to say hello to me when you see me and I will always be keeping an eye on what you do in the future.

My new adventures begin!

Joy
Strategies for Teaching Children to Make Good Choices

Choice is a big part of people’s lives. We decide daily what to wear, what to do, and how to treat people. Teaching children how to make good choices is critical for independence and self-control. This article focuses on a variety of strategies for teaching choice making.

1. Allow Children to Make Choices - Often it is easier to choose for children than allow them to decide for themselves. Unfortunately, lessons learned by making good and bad choices help children become responsible, independent adults. Choice also gives children a sense of ownership in activities. Take time to offer choices, create situations for choice, and reinforce the importance of good choices in your day.

2. Limit Choices - Keep the number and types of choices within reasonable limits. For example, if you let a child pick a snack, give them two or three healthy choices. By providing only allowable choices you reduce opportunities for conflict and create a situation where they succeed at making a good choice.

3. Discuss Options – When faced with decisions, think through and discuss the options to help children understand why one choice is better than another. Discuss possible choices, consequences, and why one option is better. For example, when leaving the house look outside and discuss the weather. Is it cold? Is it raining? Which coat is the better choice? What happens if you pick the light cotton coat and it rains? By guiding children through choices you teach them how to make decisions for themselves.

4. Consider Other People – When decisions involve other people, discuss the implications of the choice for the other people. For example, if a child wants to use the swing for the duration of recess discuss: Have other people asked to use the swing? Are other children waiting for the swing? How would you feel if you didn’t have a chance to use the swing? Are there other places you can play for part of recess? This helps children realize their choices affect people other than themselves.

5. Use Past Choices as Opportunities – When a child makes a bad choice such as cutting in line, saying something hurtful, or playing rather than finishing homework, use the opportunity to discuss why the choice was bad, consequences, and better choices for the future. Ask the child what other choices they could have made and what may have happened. Additionally, use past decisions and consequences as reminders. For example, “Noah, remember how you played video games rather than clean your room yesterday and had to miss your favorite show and clean up? What do you think you should do today?”

6. Praise Good Choices – When children make good decisions let them know what they did and why it was a good choice. For example, “Jason, I like the way you moved over to make room for Ella on the bus. It was nice of you to share your seat. That was a very good choice.”

7. State When There Is No Choice – Some situations such as safety and schedules have no choices. Holding hands crossing the street, participating in fire drills, and leaving on time for school are examples of times when there is no choice. Explain why these situations do not have choices and why all people must follow certain rules and schedules. Let children know if there is an aspect of the event that is their choice. For example, “We have to leave now for the bus, but you can carry your blue or red book bag.”

To receive a free customizable children’s book on waiting, visit our website: www.sandbox-learning.com

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A hands on workshop with Australian Reptiles!
Sunday July 5 - Highton Primary School 1.30pm

Roaming reptiles has been providing workshops and reptile parties for many years. Manager/presenter Tracey Sandstrom has 20 years experience as a primary teacher and has 17 years Herpetological (reptile) experience.

Some of the animals you may see (and maybe touch!) are:
- 4 species of Lizards - such as blue-tongues, pink-tongues, stumpy tails and bearded dragons
- Snakes - pythons from 25cm - 2.5m
- Frogs - which have been taught to touch feed
- Turtles and Crocodiles - 45cm - 1.66m

ALSO:
- Insects and Arachnids, Beetles, Scorpions, Red-back spiders, Stick insects, Tarantulas (Bird Eating Spider)
- Giant cockroaches

COST:
- $15 per CHIP FSGG member
- $20 non-members

Parents please note:
Participants are counted as children over walking age, babies are free of charge.

To book: please email jo.bailey@westnet.com.au before Monday 29 June