On Saturday morning the 21st of March we will start with a colourful school parade through the Highton Shopping Centre, lead by our very own Chinese Dragon (Students to wear their choice of a national costume) and up Roslyn Road to our school where a traditional welcome from the Wathaurong People will head up a fun filled afternoon of multi-cultural performances, classroom displays, cooking workshops, food stalls, children’s farm, jumping castle etc. etc. etc. Please pencil this date in.

Billy Tea Bush Band—Family Fun Night
Please keep Wednesday evening the 1st of April free for a family picnic and fun night. More details later

Student Attendance
I would like to remind all families about the importance of having children at school and in general we’re doing really well on this. While we don’t want our children to be at school if they are unwell, we certainly do need them here at all other times. A key factor in ensuring our children achieve to their full potential is to make sure they miss as little school as possible.

Similarly, frequent lateness creates huge problems for teachers and children as it is disruptive to the class to have children arriving late and in many cases, children miss out on key learning activities. The children themselves also feel quite embarrassed about being late. Please get your kids to school on time. The yard is supervised from 8.45am onwards. Thanks!

Craig Salmon
CLASSROOM HELPERS PROGRAM

Parent participation is critical to the success of our classroom programs. Research has shown overwhelmingly that when parents are involved in the education of their children, student motivation and achievement are improved. Teachers and parents working together can give the very best support for success at school. I will be running a 1 hour Classroom Helpers Program over 6 weeks that will cover the following areas:

- Session 1: Being a Helper
- Session 2: Helping with Speaking & Listening
- Session 3: Reading is…
- Session 4: Helping with Reading
- Session 5: Helping with Writing
- Session 6: Numeracy

The sessions will run on Thursday nights on the 19th and 26th of February, 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th of March Term 1. Sessions will begin at 6.30pm and conclude at 7.30pm.

If you are interested in attending all or one of these sessions please complete the following form and return it to the office by the 18th of February.

Regards,
Jane Stewart

______________________________
Classroom Helpers Program

Name:_____________________________________

Please enrol me in the Classroom Helpers Course (Tick the sessions you would like to attend)

Sessions: 1 [ ] 2 [ ] 3 [ ] 4 [ ] 5 [ ]

Bushfire Condolences

Students, teachers and parents of Highton Primary School are invited to send their thoughts to the people who lives have been affected by this extraordinary tragedy by signing the official message/condolence book in my office at 152 High St, Belmont between the hours of 9am and 5pm.

MICHAEL CRUTCHFIELD MP
Parliamentary Secretary for the Environment and Water

Student Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JRH</td>
<td>Rhyam Govan</td>
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<tr>
<td>JRL</td>
<td>Mylton Bailey</td>
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<tr>
<td>JRP</td>
<td>Madeleine Cunliffe</td>
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<td>MDA</td>
<td>Jesse Slaven</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDJ</td>
<td>Sophie Chapman</td>
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<td>PRC</td>
<td>Riley Collins</td>
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<td>PRD</td>
<td>Ruby Leishman</td>
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<td>SNG</td>
<td>Fabian Fisicaro</td>
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<tr>
<td>SNS</td>
<td>Talitha McLean</td>
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Education Maintenance Allowance 2009 Last Call

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.

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.

International Day

International Day Celebrations - Helpers needed!!!

The International Day celebrations are planned for Saturday March 21st and we need some helpers on the day. So if you can sizzle a sausage or serve Devonshire tea with a smile, we would love to have you involved. Please let Lyn in the school office know if you are able to help for just one hour during the day from 11am to 3pm or during set-up & pack-up.

Developmental Play Equipment

We are seeking equipment to be used for developmental play during recess and lunch times. If you can donate any of the following in good usable condition please leave them at the Art room.

- Sand toys eg. Buckets, spades
- Matchbox cars, trucks etc.
- Paint brushes. (used for house painting)
- Sturdy pots and pans, wooden spoons.

See Tania Kiddle or Sue Jirik if you have any queries.

For your Calendar

FEBRUARY

MARCH
Wed 4th. - Parents club 9 A.M. Staffroom
Sat 14th. - Working bee 9 A.M. School grounds.
Sat 21st. - International Day 11A.M. School grounds.

CANTEEN ROSTER
Week commencing 23rd February
Julie Anne Clark
Chris Schiesser

SICKBAY ROSTER
Week commencing 23rd February
Kylie Gliszczynski
Parents Club

Last Wednesdays meeting was well attended and it was lovely to see so many new faces. The next meeting will be the A.G.M. To be held at 9 AM on Wednesday March 4th. All are welcome to attend including parents with toddlers (we’ve all been there, and have a toy box to help keep them amused). We alternate our meetings between evenings and mornings so it gives all community members opportunity to participate if they would like.

Nomination forms and job descriptions for the positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer are now available from the office. Nominations will close At 4P.M. Tuesday February 24th.

Student Banking

Remember to get your bank books in to your classroom by Wednesday each week to be returned to you each Thursday. If you are late to hand in your bank book they may be left at the office before school on the Thursday.

Support

Recently one of our families suffered a great loss. The Whitcombe family lost their husband and father Gary. On February 22nd there will be an exhibition 20/20 match and family fun day at Thomson cricket club. There will be music and games and activities and raffles and an auction to help the family out with financial support to assist in enabling them to keep the family home. All are welcome as are any donations for auction on raffle.

All are welcome to attend.

Parenting Boys Program

For Parents of Boys aged 8—12 years old
Highton Primary School
Run over 4 nights
(4th, 11th, 18th & 25th March)
By John Hanley
Please register with Joy Lewis by 25th February.

Only 6 spots still available so let Joy know soon.

Surviving Parenting a Prep

The day has come. They have started school. The fun begins!!
Join Gary Banks, a Social Worker with expertise in parenting skills, to explore the ups and downs of parenting your Prep. Come with your questions and share the journey with others.
Wednesday March 4th.
7.30-9.30pm
Prep Classroom

Canteen

Canteen commences with our new improved menu on Monday 23rd February, please ensure you have your order into the canteen before 9.00 A.M.
Canteen is only open on Mondays
**Contours**

We have been given 14 one day memberships for Contours Highton. If you would like to have a day trial at this Gym please collect a pass from the office. Vouchers valid till 28/2/09.

**Art News**

Just a reminder that there are still many children without Art smocks. All students require an Art smock to protect their school uniform. They do not need to be fancy just an old shirt will be sufficient.

Displays are beginning to be put up over the school so keep an eye out for new and wonderful Art work. Thank you to Helen Perry for assisting with some displays in the Junior Unit.

Thank you
Tania Kiddle

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**Active After-school Communities Program**

**INFORMATION FOR HIGHTON P.S. PARENTS**

The Active After-school Communities Program is an Australian Government funded initiative encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle for your children. The program is FREE and students will be provided with a healthy afternoon snack.

**Term 1**

program started and will run until

Monday 9th February / Tuesday 10th February
Monday 30th March.
3:30 to 4:45 pm

I have not yet met all the children who have indicated they want to participate this term, so to avoid any confusion a list of children included in the program this term follows.

**Monday Multi-skill:** Liam Dempsey, Kieran Dempsey, Conner Hodgkins, William Doyle, Maddie Doyle, Chris Reynolds, Jake Taylor, Lewis Taylor, Ethan Barton, Noah Bateup, Fletcher Bateup, Noah Quick, Archie Quick, Gabrielle Andrews, Fabian Walker, Claudia Pecchiari, Sebastian Stevenson, Porter Dickson, Connor Kelson, Shobini Kalaivaner, Katrina Anastasopoulos, Rhyan Govan, Kayne Govan, Madison Ito, Bas Courtenay, Oliver Courtenay, Nicholas Orpwood, Liam Ellery, Dylan Ellery, Shailendra Kalaivaner, Ben Christofani, Gurleen Cheema, Andreas Brachold.


Should your children change their minds and decide not to participate please let me know as soon as possible.

Thanks… Carolyn Hall
AASC Co-ordinator

...
Internatonal Day

March 21, 2009
11am to 3pm
Highton Primary School,
218 Roslyn Road
Highton

Musuc
Dance Food
Entertainment
Classroom Displays
Cooking Demonstrations
Jumping Castle
Face Painting
and more...

Come and share a genuine opportunity to build real relationships through sharing ideas, customs and cultural influences that will broaden our understanding of one another.

Sponsored by
CITY OF GREATER GEELONG
Cultural diversity week
Highton Primary School

The following are additional costs that you are likely to have in 2009. We hope this will help you in your budgeting for the year ahead. These are estimated costs only. Some changes may occur due to bus charges or fee increases.

You may wish to open an Excursion Activity Fund at school and add amounts to that over the year to cover the costs. As money for an excursion or camp is requested, you may take your payment from the excursion account. Just note this on the permission form. This makes budgeting easier for you over the year. Please see Lyn in the office and she will help you with this.

**ESTIMATED COSTS FOR Prep**

**Term 1**

Bush Dancing $8.00

**Term 2**

Program of Inquiry (What Makes Me Special) $8.00
Performing Arts Talk Talk Talk $5.00
Ceres –East Brunswick $20.00

**Term 3**

Program of Inquiry (Circle Of Life) $12.00
Drumming Workshop $8.00
Living eggs $8.00
Excursion (TBA) $10.00

**Term 4**

Gymnastics $40.00
Prep Camp Experience $10.00
Buddies Christmas break up $10.00
Program of Inquiry (Celebrations) $15.00
Class party $5.00
LOTE Incursion/Excursions $15.00

Estimated costs for Prep $174.00

**ESTIMATED COSTS FOR Year 1 and 2**

**Term 1**

Program of Inquiry – Narana excursion $12.00
Bush Dancing $8.00

**Term 2**

Program of Inquiry Farm Visit $7.00
Performing arts $12.00
Swimming $65.00
Talk, Talk, Talk $5.00

**Term 3**

Program of Inquiry Werribee Zoo $20.00
Drumming Workshop $8.00

**Term 4**

Gymnastics $45.00
Program of inquiry $10.00
Camp experience Year 1 $14.00
Camp experience Year 2 $18.00

LOTE Incursion/excursions $15.00

Estimated costs for Year 1 $209.00
Estimated costs for Year 2 $213.00
ESTIMATED COSTS FOR Year 3 and 4 2009

**Term 1**
- Program of Inquiry – Imax and Science Works $25.00
- Bush Dancing $8.00

**Term 2**
- Radio Play incursion $5.00
- Program of Inquiry $10.00
- Talk, Talk, Talk $5.00

**Term 3**
- Camp Yr 3 &4 Sovereign Hill $190.00
- Pompeii- Melbourne Museum $15.00
- District Sports (if your child qualifies) $4.00
- Zone Sports (if your child qualifies) $4.00
- Drumming Workshop $8.00

**Term 4**
- Gymnastics $50.00
- Program of Inquiry $10.00
- Class Party/Adventure Park $16.00

Estimated cost for Yr 3 $350
Estimated cost for Yr 4 $350

ESTIMATED COSTS FOR Year 5 and 6

**Term One**
- Camp at Anglesea $160
- Bush Dancing $8.00

**Term Two**
- Lightning Premiership (if part of team) $5.00
- Program of Inquiry $20.00
- Exhibition excursion $10.00
- Talk, Talk, Talk $7.00

**Term Three**
- District Sports (if your child qualifies) $6.00
- Zone Sports (if your child qualifies) $6.00
- Preparation for Puberty $30.00
- Drumming Workshop $8.00
- Pompeii- Melbourne Museum $15.00

**Term Four**
- Graduation/Exhibition $15.00
- Buddy Picnic Y 6 only $4.00
- Program of Inquiry $15.00
- Class Party $5.00

Estimated cost for Yr 5 $310.00
Estimated cost for Yr 6 $314.00