

# KINDER NEWS

August 2008



## Hurstbridge Pre-school

Learning together

If you wish to communicate information to the wider kinder community via the newsletter, please e-mail Lucy Uren (Vice President) on [lucyuren@bigpond.com](mailto:lucyuren@bigpond.com) or place a message in Mia Giddy's pocket (Wattle) or call me on 9436 1135. Also please check out the website at [www.hurstbridgepreschool.com.au](http://www.hurstbridgepreschool.com.au).

### Presidents Report

Welcome back to all kinder families for term 3. It's great to have Carlene Youl back with her gunnut group. I would also like to welcome Kyla Ridgeway to our kinder, as the new kindergarten assistant for the 4 year old groups.

I received good news over the school holidays from the DEECD (Department of Education), the kinder was successful in a capital improvement grant that we lodged with the Department back in April. Over the next 4 months the kinder will be doing capital improvement works (new front entrance and front fencing, disable access path and ramp) to the total of \$46,850. Thank you to Rebecca & Steve Rowe and Sue & Adam Shears for their valuable input with this grant application.

Thanks to the kinder families who helped at the last working bee. The yard looks so different without the shade sails!

Don't forget the Hurstbridge Wattle Festival on 31st August, the kinder will be having a stall and will be looking for volunteers to help out on the day. Rebecca Mason is coordinating it this year.

Final stages of the playground redevelopment will be carried out in the September holidays. I will keep you posted.

Regards,  
Kendra

## **Wattle and Waratah Report**

Welcome back from holidays (although that does seem to be quite a while ago now!). The children have returned full of enthusiasm, and have continued their very settled play. Both groups are enjoying 'large' group spontaneous games - such as hide and seek, what's the time Mr. Wolf?, chasey, crocodile crocodile, etc. We have had the chick hatching program at kinder for the past few weeks. The children were thrilled to watch the cycle of egg hatching to chick growing. This has led to lots of discussions about lifecycles, animals hatching from eggs, safe animal handling, etc.

The children participated in an excursion to Balance Gymnastics last week (as part of our preparations for the Olympics). We traveled by bus then participated in a range of experiences (such as trampoline, jumping in the foam pit, balancing, rope climbing, etc). The children had a fantastic time.

We are now enjoying learning about the Olympics and Australia, and will celebrate with an Olympathon next week.

Jenice, Carole and Kyla

## **Gumnut Report**

I'm thrilled to be back, the children have been fantastic. Thanks to Dini, Melissa McGrath, Jenice and Sam Di Benedetto for all their extra work while I was away and throughout the year. Winter has been our main theme this term with stories, puzzles, discussions and music. I have also started a listening theme and introduced Sound Lotto. We have also enjoyed the chickens, my program of animals and birds around Hurstbridge and the visit of Lynton Allen, a wonderful visual artist, storyteller, musician and puppeteer.

Carlene

## **Absence and Arrival**

Please ring and inform staff if your child is going to be absent on a particular day. Staff are very aware of numbers and wait till everyone has arrived before locking the door. Also, on arrival please make sure your child has gone inside and been noted by a staff member before leaving.

## **Maintenance Report**

A big thank-you is extended to all our dedicated parents who braved the cold weather and attended our working bee last Sunday (and apologies to those parents who were a bit sore the next day!). Your effort was very much appreciated. SPECIAL THANKS to Paul Danelutti whose prior experience as the kinder's maintenance man allowed him to step back into this role on the day with ease and also to Shane Di Benedetto for recruiting five CFA volunteers (three of whom had no children at the kinder) to remove the shade-sales and poles from the sand-pit. Well done guys! Some of the jobs completed on the day were the removal of all shade-sales and poles (making way for the next stage of the playground!), painting storage cabinet, cleaning all windows and shelves and tidying up sand-pit and garden.

Our next, and **final**, working bee for the year will take place on Sunday 19th October. Don't forget that your participation in a working-bee provides you with a refund (\$80) from your maintenance levy (\$100).

### **Fundraising / Social Report**

Term 3 is very exciting as we have some great community events to look forward too. The kinder will be supporting the Olympic Games this month and our wonderful children will be participating in a sporting way. A Jump-A-Thon will be a lot of fun on the 20th and 21st for the 4 year olds. Look out for more information soon.

The Wattle Festival is also a chance for our Kinder to shine in the public's eye. We will be supporting the festival with a marquee filled with drawings from your child as well as activities like painting and hair spraying. A volunteer list for small time intervals to help will be posted soon. If you haven't been able to help out with anything so far this year, this could be a real chance to be part of something.

You should have all received a questionnaire about celebrating fathers' day with your child. It was a good strong response and we look forward to organising a bowling night with father and child in the coming months. Time with our children, especially for some dads is a valuable thing, so this will be a real opportunity for some one on one fun. Give it a go.

For those who ordered Melamine Plates and Mats, we should see the delivery for those at the end of August, can't wait they are a real gem to have.

Picnic in the Park will be continuing on the set up day at the start of term 4, with the weather hopefully warmer by then we are all looking forward to getting outside.

The Clothing rack out the front has been a real success. Thank you to everyone who has supplied the good quality clothes for others to appreciate and a long the way giving back to their kinder. Please continue to look at the rack or place your unwanted children's clothing there for others.

Tea towels are also on the agenda for later in the year. A perfect Christmas present so keep an eye out for the order forms.

Thank you again to you all for supporting parents who have given up their time to bring the kinder community closer together this year. It's a real memory in your child's life, the Fundraising / Social team is doing it for them and you.

Thanks

Rebecca Rowe  
Fundraising Co-Ordinator

## **Reminder**

Term 4 fees are due on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September. Please don't forget.

## **Website**

Website - [www.hurstbridgepreschool.com.au](http://www.hurstbridgepreschool.com.au). Be sure to check the website regularly for updates. If you happen to have misplaced any forms you should be able to download and find them all online. For any new contributions to the website please let me know!

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### **Dates to Remember**

- **Wednesday August 13<sup>th</sup>** - Kinder closed (DEKTA Teachers' Conference)
- **Wednesday August 20<sup>th</sup>** - Waratah Olympathon
- **Thursday August 21<sup>st</sup>** - Wattle Olympathon
- **Sunday August 31<sup>st</sup>** - Wattle Festival
- **Wednesday September 3<sup>rd</sup>** - Wattle Fathers' Night (6.30-7.30pm)
- **Thursday September 4<sup>th</sup>** - Waratah Fathers' Night (6.30-7.30pm)
- **Friday September 5<sup>th</sup>** - Term 4 fees due
- **Monday September 8<sup>th</sup>** - Hurstbridge Primary School Excursion
- **Wednesday September 17<sup>th</sup>** - Waratah Footy Day
- **Thursday September 18<sup>th</sup>** - Waratah Footy Day
- **Sunday October 19<sup>th</sup>** - Working Bee