

KINDER NEWS

February 2008



Hurstbridge Pre-school

Learning together

This is the first newsletter for 2008. I hope you find it informative. If you wish to communicate information to the wider kinder community please e-mail Lucy Uren (Vice President) on lucyuren@bigpond.com. Also please check out the website at www.hurstbridgepreschool.com.au.

Presidents Report

Welcome all new and old families to another exciting year at Hurstbridge Preschool. My name is Kendra Whiteman, for those that don't know me, Scott (my husband) and I have Meg in the Wattle group. Our eldest daughter Lily is in Grade 1 at Hurstbridge Primary.

The year has kicked off in a big way with the new fort play equipment being installed in early February. The next stage (dry/wet river bed & structure for the sandpit) will be coming in the next few months. Thanks again to the Hurstbridge Bendigo Bank for their valuable contribution & sponsorship of our new playground.

Thank you to all Committee Members for 2008 for committing your time and efforts into what I am sure will be a successful year. It was great to see so many at our first Committee meeting on February 12th. Don't forget our next meeting is on Tuesday 11th March at 7.30pm.

For those that have not already done so, I encourage you to take a look at our new website, www.hurstbridgepreschool.com.au. It looks fantastic! Thank you to Rebecca Mason for all her efforts in getting this invaluable tool up and running.

Sunday 16th March is the Easter Brunch at the Preschool, 10am to 12 noon. Put the date in your diary. The children do a small performance/Easter bonnet parade and it is a great way to get together at the start of the year and meet other kinder families. See fundraising & our website for more details.

Another important date to put into your diaries is the Preschool's social event of the year the "Dean & Carruthers band night" on Saturday 31st May.

I'm looking forward to meeting more of you as the weeks roll on. Don't hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss anything regarding the Preschool. I can be contacted on 0425 771 493.

Kendra Whiteman
President

4YO Report

Welcome everyone to Hurstbridge Preschool. It has been a fantastic start to the year, and both 4 year old groups are settling beautifully! We have mostly been focusing on settling the children into our routines, rules, meeting peers and the teachers. We have also begun looking at 'summer' and 'the beach' - with activities including sand play, sand painting, water play, playdough with shells, fishing games, etc.

We will be having our Teddy Bears Picnic at kinder this week (wed - Waratah, Thurs - Wattle). Activities will include teddy bear races, a picnic, cooking biscuits, going on a bear hunt and lots of other fun.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the Easter Brunch!

Jenice, Carole and Deb

Gumnut Report

Welcome back everyone, we are looking forward to a very busy, productive year. We have 20 children enrolled, 6 girls and 14 boys so it promises to be a very busy time. We are starting to get to know the children and they are all a delight. These early weeks have been spent settling children in and getting to know the routines and layout of the kinder - lockers, bathroom skills, being away from Mum etc. Our programs are based on the beach and the colour red. Earlier in the month, we had a special Mexican visitor, Gabriella, a camera-person who works in children's television and dangerous situations, classical pianist and graphic designer.

Carlene & Dini

Maintenance Report

At very short notice we managed to gather approximately ten families together for a very successful working bee on the 10th February. Tan bark was placed in the new playground area, allowing it to be accessible for all children, and works to the sand-pit were also completed.

The next working bee will take place on Sunday 20th April (9am-noon). If you wish to participate please complete the acceptance slip below and return it to maintenance pigeon hole (situated in the office at kinder) by Monday April 14th. Don't forget that participation in a working bee provides a refund of part (\$80) of your maintenance levy.

Danielle Lonsdale

Social/Fundraising Report

The Easter Brunch on March 16th is the first social event for the year. This is a fun family day with the kids. Planning is also well under way for the major social and fundraising event for the year, the Dean & Carruthers band night on Saturday 31st May. This will be great fun, an occasion not to be missed.

Soon to appear in you children's pockets will be an IGA Community Benefit Card/tag. Use this every time you shop at Diamond Creek IGA and a percentage of the profit on your purchase will be donated to the preschool.

Please check out the website at www.hurstbridgepreschool.com.au and support the businesses that support us by logging on to www.hurstbridgepreschool.com.au/sponsors

Dates to Remember

- **Sunday 16th March** - Easter Brunch - 10am to 12pm
- **Sunday 20th April** - Working Bee - 9am to 12pm
- **Saturday 31st May** - Dean & Carruthers band night
- **Sunday July 27th** - Working Bee
- **Sunday October 19th** - Working Bee

Please complete and return the attached slip by 14 April 2008 to the maintenance pigeon hole in the office at kinder.



-WORKING BEE ATTENDANCE FORM-

I / We _____ will / will not be
(pls circle applicable)

attending the working bee on **Sunday 20th April**.

My Pre-School child/children name/s is/are _____

I have "handy man" expertise in the following areas (which may be of some benefit):
