Green & Gold News

Highton Primary School Vision
As an IB World School, with strong community partnerships, we commit to excellence and the development of principled, compassionate, lifelong learners, who know they can take action to make a difference to our world.

Volume 12
Issue 38
23rd November 2011

Principal: Tessa Calder - 5243 1494
School Council President: Mark Nicholls - 0407 729973
Parents Club President: Kate Fletcher - 0408 396829

Working bee
Just a reminder that our working bee is this Sunday not Saturday. This change has been made to allow for the removal of the portable building on Saturday. Could people bring along wheelbarrows, rakes, shovels, mowers, whipper snippers, brooms etc. Any families who have not been to a working bee this year are very welcome to take this last chance!

Grade Sixes
We are now past the half way mark of the final term, and I wish all our Grade 6 students my best wishes as they enjoy the last phase of primary school. We look forward to seeing them finish school on a really positive note as they have been working so well all year.

Thank You
I would like to thank Carly Stafford and the parents who attended our IB Information evening on Monday for an informative and entertaining evening. Some great ideas were raised and the discussion was both rich and helpful to us as a school. We hope to run more parent sessions in the new school year.

Additional Funding
Many parents ask about school funding and how fund raising money is utilised. Essentially the school runs a budget like any business or household. The DEECD allocates a certain amount of dollars per each enrolment, of which approximately 80% is used for the employment of staff, and 20% for the running of the school, utilities, cleaning, maintenance, administration, telephones etc. However, other aspects such as improvements to the school, employment of additional staff, furniture for new classrooms, Interactive whiteboards and computers are not completely covered within the Student Resource budget and need to be purchased from our own funds. We sometimes receive grants for special projects however, most additional resources are purchased through the funds raised by our wonderful Parents Club. We appreciate all that they do to make this such a great school.

Learning Culture
The culture that we are strongly trying to promote amongst teachers at our school is that every child is capable of learning and achieving their full potential. In order to achieve this, we provide meaningful and authentic learning opportunities that challenge the intellect of each student, and this philosophy can also be drawn into the home setting. School is also an environment where kids need to enjoy themselves, feel comfortable and develop essential social skills. Bearing this in mind, as both parents and teachers, we need to ensure that we adopt a balanced perspective on our children’s education and establish a strong ‘home-school’ partnership where home learning is consistent with what happens at school.

Thank you for supporting our school.
Have a great week Tessa Calder
There you are, standing on a snowy cold mountain. You look down. Your clothes are perfect for this weather. You know you’ll be alright. You take a deep breath. As you breath in, you can smell the freezing snowy scent. The detailed smell fills through your nose. You breathe out. You pick up a ball of snow. You think it’s going to be too cold to join a race. Then you drop the snow while thinking. You look around you. There are a few happy people sledding and skiing down steep mountains. A smile appears on your pale face. You shiver with excitement. You run up, grab your sled and ask to join a Sledding race. The race has started. Everyone is laughing including you. You whizz ahead of the other four people. They look at you like they have never seen something pass them before. You laugh as you win the race. The other competitors’ shake your hand and say “Good Game”. You smile at them and do the same back. While you’re walking up to your car, you think in your head that really was a freezing fun time.
By Luisa D’Agostin.

**Poetry**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>lion</th>
<th>snail</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>big lion</td>
<td>small snail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>big, scary lion</td>
<td>small, slow snail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>big, scary, furry lion</td>
<td>small, slow, sticky snail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>big, scary, furry, evil lion</td>
<td>small, slow, sticky, sleepy snail</td>
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<tr>
<td>cat</td>
<td>shell</td>
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By Dougie Beckworth-Gilbey

By Ronan Donahue

**Student Awards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRC</th>
<th>Cameron Young</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRD</td>
<td>Henry Meany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JKS</td>
<td>Harper Curtis</td>
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<tr>
<td>JRC</td>
<td>Georgia Sells</td>
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<tr>
<td>JRP</td>
<td>Emily Davidson</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDK</td>
<td>Danika Davis</td>
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<tr>
<td>MDR</td>
<td>Charlie Marendaz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MDS</td>
<td>Robin Li</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNG</td>
<td>Sam Andrews</td>
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<tr>
<td>SNK</td>
<td>Cameron Ritchie</td>
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Evaluation Talk

On Monday the 21st of November, at 7.30pm, we held a presentation and forum on what the International Baccalaureate Evaluation Process is and how it will look at Highton Primary School. It was a great evening and I would like to thank those who did attend and thank them for their contributions and feedback.

What’s happening in our classrooms

Here are the current Central Ideas our students are inquiring about:

Prep: People recognise important events through celebrations.

1/2: Human choices affect the ability of plants and animals to survive.

3/4: Throughout time children around the world have been educated in different ways.

5/6: A function of successful performance is effectively communication with an audience

Literacy

Creative Writing

Make this picture into a character by answering these questions. Be creative. Don't put down the first thought that comes to you. Try to come up with ideas that nobody else would think of!

*What does it like to do on Saturdays?*
*What is the secret it doesn't want anyone to know?*
*What does it do well?*
*What does it not do well?*
*What is its favourite memory?*
*What emotion is it showing and why?*
*Who is its best friend?*
*What does it want most in the whole world?*

Now write a story about how it might get the thing it most wants, who might try to stop it, and how it might use alien powers in its adventure!
For More Information Please See The Office Noticeboard

- **Geelong Summer Music Camp**- For young musicians aged 9-12 Sat Jan 14-Thurs 19th. [www.gsmc.org.au](http://www.gsmc.org.au)
- **Geelong Crafters Group** - All crafters welcome to come along and join. Members can sell their wares earning commission, through our retail store on the corner of Burdoo Drive and Hayers road Grovedale.
- **Geelong Cross Fit** is scaled to suit every level of experience, qualified trainers for total body conditioning. PH 52224660 or visit [www.crossfit.com.au](http://www.crossfit.com.au)
- **Geelong Athletics** - Fundraiser at Landy Field for Paralympians Contact- 0407118895
- **Soccer In Geelong** - Melbourne Victory Women will aim to make history on 3 December when they will attempt to break the all-time Westfield W-League attendance record in their match against Newcastle Jets Women at Simonds Stadium (Kardinia Park).
- **YMCA vacation care program**—January 3 to February 1. Bookings and registrations close December 16th for info on this program contact kimberly.maher@ymca.org.au or phone 52232714

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**Community News**

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**Uniting Care**

A Christmas box has been placed in each classroom for non-perishable goods to be placed in. These goods will be handed over to Uniting Care charity on the day of our RE Christmas service. If we have every child bring along items such as tinned fish & meats, pasta, beans, cereals, long life milks, dried or canned fruits & vegetables, tea, coffee and Milo. These items will go a long way to help others in need over the coming festive season. We thank you for supporting this worthwhile cause.

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**For your Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 25th</td>
<td>Thurs 1st</td>
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<td>Fri 25th</td>
<td>Thurs 22nd</td>
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<td>Sun 27th</td>
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<td>Market stall morning 8.30 - 11.30 AM - Hall</td>
<td>RE Concert at St Johns</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multi-Cultural Aged Care Choir 1.45PM - Hall</td>
<td>Last day of school 2011</td>
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**Week commencing 28th November**

**CANTEEN ROSTER**
- 9am-11.30am
- Ruth McKinnon
- 11.30am-1.45pm
- Cathy Davidson

**SICKBAY ROSTER**
- Ruth McKinnon
The Victorian Government announced in the 2011/12 State Budget that the School Start Bonus would be targeted to provide assistance to those families most in need. From 2012, eligibility for the payment will be based on eligibility for the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA).

From 2012, eligibility for the School Start Bonus is in accordance with the requirements below.

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible for receipt of the School Start Bonus (SSB):

1. The student must be enrolled in Prep (Year 0) or Year 7 in a Victorian registered school in 2012, and;
2. The student must be enrolled and attending the school by census day (29 February 2012), and;
3. The student must not have already been paid the SSB for that year level, and;
4. The claimant must on the SSB Eligibility Day (16 January 2012):
   - be a parent or legal guardian of the student; and
   - be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, the holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Health care card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder or
   - be a temporary foster parent.
   - Submit their application to the school by the 15th December 2011.

The Pension Concession Card (PCC) or Health Care Card (HCC) is subject to electronic confirmation with Centrelink to verify the card-holder’s entitlement on eligibility day. The EMA/SSB web system will validate the Customer Reference Number (CRN), and the surname and first name that are provided with the CRN. The validation will usually occur within a few seconds.
The Education Maintenance Allowance is paid to parents of eligible students under 16 years of age, and the student is enrolled at a Government or non-Government School in Victoria on census day, 29 February 2012 for instalment 1 and 3 August 2012 for the second instalment.

The Education Maintenance Allowance will be paid in two instalments and to be eligible you must:
on the first day of 1st Term (1 February 2012) for the first instalment and
on the first day of 3rd Term (16 July 2012) for the second instalment:
(a) be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit, that is, a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Health care card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, OR
(b) be a Veteran Affairs Pensioner (TPI), OR
(c) be a foster parent AND
(d) submit your application to the school by the date/s listed below.
Parents who receive a Carer Allowance (formerly known as Child Disability Allowance), or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink are not eligible for the EMA unless they also comply with one of (a) (b) or (c) above.

Submission dates
The application form must be lodged at the school by:
29 February 2012 for the first instalment or
3 August 2012 for the second instalment.
Parents with prep or year 7 children commencing in 2012 must lodge the application form before 15 December 2011. For late enrolments, applications will be accepted up until 29 February 2012.

Important information
A separate application is required for each school if you have children attending different schools.
If you transfer your child, you will need to make a new application at the new school.
Market Stall

Highton Primary School is holding a Market Stall Morning on **Friday November 25th 8.30—11.30 AM**
In the school hall.
There will be loads of handcrafts along with
Essential edition handbags,
Phoenix cards, Tupperware,
Yay Me,
Nutri-metics Enjo,
Books
and Much More.
All school community, friends and family welcome.
We look forward to seeing you there.