Green & Gold News

Last Day Dismissal
Please note that in line with other local schools we will be finishing school on December 22nd at 1.30pm. I will be supervising the Roslyn Rd crossing and Principals from Bellaire and Montpellier will be supervising the crossings at their respective schools. If your children are walking home on this day please ask them to wait until I arrive before crossing Roslyn Rd. We will reinforce this message at school.

Thank You
I would like to thank the small but very hardworking group of parents for the working bee on Sunday. An enormous pile of mulch was moved onto the school gardens, storm water pipes were fixed, areas of the school were swept, weeding was done and a lovely morning tea was shared by all involved. We had so much food that we invited the kinder working bee participants to join us. I am very grateful to the parents who attend working bees and next year we will need to look at how we can encourage everyone to do their bit to help the school in some way. We depend on our community to maintain the fantastic school grounds for all students.

Parent Survey on Exhibition
We are conducting a survey of our community on the Grade 5-6 Exhibition. If you have time please could you answer a few questions on the following link.  http://bit.ly/vm9oQR
It is important for us to have parent input to our unique Primary Years Programme curriculum and we are always looking for ways to improve the learning and the learning environment at Highton. The more specific you are the more we can learn and the more we can improve next time.

Safety Reminders
I am putting in some reminders as we take student safety very seriously both at school and outside the school grounds. Please reinforce the message with your children that they must cross Roslyn Road only at the supervised crossing. We have a duty of care for all our students and it concerns me when I hear that Highton children are not crossing at the safest place.
If your child is riding to or from school on a bike or scooter please make sure they are wearing a properly fitted helmet and not riding in the school grounds or outside the hall. Our school grounds are supervised from 8.45-9.00am and 3.30-3.45pm. Children should not be at school without a responsible adult outside these hours.

2012 Classes
Thank you to the one or two parents who felt they needed to make a comment regarding their child’s additional needs in class placement for 2012 and who did so before the closing date at the end of October. We have taken these into consideration when forming classes and there will be no further changes. Students meet their new grade on Dec 21st.

Thank you for supporting our school.
Have a great week Tessa Calder

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.
Onomatopoeic poems by grade MDR

Playground, Yelling, Screaming, Squealing Ha Ha Ha Ha Ha By Charlie Marendaz

Whoosh, whoosh Squawk, squawk Splish, splash, splosh Pat, pat, pat Go the children building sandcastles By Harmony Stewart

When I walk down the street I hear lots of incredible, remarkable, intense sounds! Ladies narrow heels go tock, tock, tock, While fit runners do a light stomp. Ladies with flats go tap, tick, tap, tick. And my shoes walk their way. Brush, brush, brush in a light way. By Luisa D’Agostin

Boom, Crash, Slurp, Owww Roar, stomp, stomp, stomp My pet elephant By Chris Seymour

Whoosh, whoosh Squawk, squawk Splish, splash, splosh Pat, pat, pat Go the children building sandcastles By Harmony Stewart

Kanga Cricket News

Well done to the 12 girls from Yr5/6 who participated in the Kanga 8's Regional final on Friday in Ballarat. The girls represented H.P.S. very well, showing many of the skills they had practiced throughout the last weeks. They won one of the three games played against strong opposition and showed great spirit and sportsmanship throughout the day. Congratulations for making it to the Regions

Student Awards

PRC PRD JKS JRC JRP MDK MDR MDS SNG SNK

NO AWARDS DUE TO NO ASSEMBLY
IB Mission

"The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right."

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

As it is coming towards the end of the year, I have been thinking of some fun creative writing ideas that students can do and give as gifts. One of the ideas I have come across is where you can create your own comic and print it off. These can be personalized and added into a Christmas card or framed on some coloured card as a gift. It is also a lot of fun! Here is the link:

http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/comic/
December

Tues 20th
Year 6 Graduation

Thurs 22nd
Last day of school 2011 - 1.30 PM finish

Week commencing 5th November

CANTEEN ROSTER
9am-11.30am
Aleisha Knight
11.30am-1.45pm
Bernadette Stevenson

SICKBAY ROSTER
Bernadette Stevenson

Community News

For More Information Please See The Office Noticeboard

- **Geelong Summer Music Camp** - For young musicians aged 9-12 Sat Jan 14-Thurs 19th.
  www.gsme.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

- **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

- **Enrolment in VICSWIM Summer Kidz** 2012 is $25 per participant, which includes one 40-minute class each day for the five (5) day program. All enrolment can be done online by visiting www.vicswim.com.au or by calling Julie Rankin at Aquatics Recreation Victoria on 9271-3800

- **Yard Sale**—This Saturday and Sunday 3rd and 4th of December, 5 Bent Road Wandana Heights 8 AM—2 PM each day. Plenty of bargains to be had, Toys, games clothing, shoes, household goods.

Welcome Lunch 2012

Welcome Lunch First day back 2012.
We're having a welcome lunch for the new Prep families, Thursday 2nd of February 2012 at the Waurn Ponds Hotel 1pm. Little ones welcome. **All welcome**, it's a nice way to introduce them to the Highton Primary School Community.

Basketball Raffle Winners

On Friday November 25th we drew the raffle our basketball players were holding.
**First Prize** went to **David Mackay**
**Second Prize** went to **Colin Dempsey**

Congratulations to these people, and thank you to everyone who sold or bought tickets, for supporting our basketball players and their efforts to fund more tops.

For your Calendar
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.

School Crossings

SCHOOL CROSSING
It has been reported to us that Several Children are crossing busy Barrabool road at the tennis courts BUT NOT at the school crossing. It is most important that children be taught to use the correct crossings when going to and from school. We would appreciate your attention to this matter. The safety of your Child is of most importance to us.

Crossing Supervisor Barrabool Road

Trivia Meeting

Thank you to those parents who attended the Trivia night meeting which was held last week. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday December 21st. in the staffroom At 9AM. Please come along and share ideas with us. The trivia night is to be the major fundraiser in 2012, and the more ideas and assistance we have the more successful the event.

Student Banking

Please note that the last day for processing School Banking deposits for this year will be on 8th December. All tokens/rewards will need to be submitted by this date. We have been advised by the Commonwealth Bank that the watches are on back order and will not be sent until next year. However, we are still able to put orders in. We have not yet been informed what the rewards system will be for 2012.

Thank you for supporting the School Banking program this year.

Leesa and Carolyn (School Banking Coordinators)

Belmont High Uniform For Sale

For Sale: Belmont High School Girl's Uniform
Rugby Top (size 14) $20
Winter Kilt (size 18) $25
Sports Shorts (size 14) $10
Sports Top (size 14) $10
Only worn 1 year Must sell by December 22
Please call 5222-5123 and ask for Sue
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.
Thank You to all those fantastic community members who came out on Sunday to our Working Bee to help make our school look so great. There were no major building projects so all those small yet important jobs were able to be completed. The school looks very clean and tidy, well done everyone. We certainly needed you after Saturday’s rain made a bit of a mess.