

Peak Hill Preschool Kindergarten Inc.

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Week 9, Term 4, 2015

Hi Families & Friends of PHPS!

Where did 2015 get to? We have only 2 more weeks left after this one and the preschool year will be over.

This year, 2015, has been a very busy year for our pre-schoolers, with some children returning for the year and new ones starting. It has been about exploring and learning new things, finding and extending upon new ideas and interests, making new friends, and settling into preschool life.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of Miss Leanne, Aunty Kelly, Marikki and myself to wish our pre-schoolers who start their journey into formal schooling, 'big' school, in 2016 the very best of luck and I am sure that their time at preschool will help them with their

future successes at school. Good luck to: **Aaron, Seth, Jack, Cody, Aido, EJ, Nikki and Janarly.**

Next year, 2016, is starting to look like another busy year with professional development opportunities for staff already being planned and some interesting experiences being planned for the children. We hope that next year we will be able to venture out into the community more, having some excursions to the schools, oval, parks and the main street. If you have any ideas or places you would like us to explore within our program at preschool please let us know and we can plan for these, where possible.

Our End of Year presentation will be held Tuesday, 15th December at 6.30pm in the preschool yard.

There will be a brief presentation

Staff members:

Narelle Elias Leanne Hurst Kelly Keed Marikki Brennan Bernadette Aiken (Admin)

Committee Members:

Katrina Perrin President	Tammy Gavin Vice President/Secretary	Lisa Cohen Treasurer
	Tanya Gavin Elected member	Mary Perera Elected member

from the children, some Christmas carol singing, presentation of portfolios followed by a BBQ tea for all. We are hoping that everyone's favourite man in red will also make an appearance. I hope to see all of our families there.

The last day of preschool will be Friday 18th December. Our first day back for 2016, at this stage, will be Tuesday, 2nd February. At the end of January we will send out letters confirming your child's days, taking into consideration the days indicated on the Expression of Interest for 2016 enrolments, and we will also confirm the first day back. We will begin the year opening 4 days a week and if the demand and numbers are there we will hopefully open an extra day.

In 2016 there will only be 1 specific day where 2 year old children can attend preschool (see last newsletter) - this is due to a change in the staffing ratios (requiring more staff with less children) and also due to the fact that we receive NO funding for 2 year olds to attend preschool. I am also hoping that there will be 1 day a week just for the children going to school the following year, as we did this year, which worked really good and to the advantage of the children involved.

If any friends or family that you know have children that are preschool age please tell them about us so that we can continue to provide a great service to the community and so that we can celebrate way beyond our 50th Anniversary which is next year!

Next week I will be sending home to families the new Fee schedule for Term 1, 2016 and it is hoped this will continue throughout the year. Please have a really good look at it and read it, and if you have any questions please come and see myself or Bernadette.

This year we are having a raffle to be drawn at the End of Year presentation. A big thank you to Tammy Gavin, from the management committee, for organising this.

There are 6 great prizes - a massive girl's basket filled with toys, one also for the boys, a lady's prize full of assorted goodies, there is also one for the gentlemen, a family zoo pass and a signed Sydney Roosters cap. These were kindly donated over the year from different families, organizations and from letters asking for donations sent out to different businesses, as organised by Tammy once again. Tickets will be on sale at Meet You Up the Street

this Friday, 4th December and after that at the preschool leading up to our presentation evening and at presentation night. I am not sure of the price of tickets while writing this newsletter as details are being finalised.

Thank you to everyone throughout the year for prompt payment of fees each term and for continual, regular payments through Centrepay. Fees are part of the preschool's income received, along with other funding sources, and contribute to payment of the Preschool's operating costs and are therefore vital to the running of the preschool. I will be talking to families over the next week or 2 about Centrepay payments and the finalising of accounts, to start from zero in 2016.

Last Friday the children went into Koinonia House (next door) to sing and dance for those present at the quarterly Fellowship luncheon. There were lots of smiles from the people present and the children, although at first they weren't quite sure what was happening with all these people.

Preschool photos were given out last week - weren't they great? I'm sure everyone was pleased with them as I have only heard good comments. We have been getting the photos done through Advancedlife Photography

for the last few years and they have now started a system in which you are able to login and see your child's photos taken each year as long as they are taken by Advancedlife Photography and where you are able to order copies from the different years. For some children this was the second year with photos and families were able to see last year's ones on the website after logging in using their unique code.

For those families who also ordered products from the Picture Plates fundraiser they were also given out last week - thank you to everyone that ordered products and contributed to this fundraiser. The products ordered looked great as well.

We continue to collect tins with lids such as milo tins, instant gravy tins to do an activity with one of our parents, who has volunteered to show the children one of his childhood toys. We need a tin for every child so please start bringing in any tins with lids you might have so that we can do this activity. Also if you have other things/items you think we might be able to recycle and use to make things, they would be most appreciated, even plastic shopping bags!!

Next week and during the last week of term, as the days warm up, **we ask that a spare set of clothes be packed for EVERYONE as we will be doing lots of water play.....**there might even be a sprinkler or slip 'n' slide for some fun. So please a spare set of clothes for the children to change into as the preschool has very limited spare clothes and some children may miss out on this great fun.

At the end of this year we farewell Marikki Brennan who has been working at the preschool for the past 2 years as a school based trainee. She will be missed by all but who knows.....we might see her again sometime in 2016. Thank you Marikki for all your work at the preschool.

During the holidays Bernadette will be available on Wednesdays and Thursdays in the New Year if you have something you need to discuss. I will be in and out of the preschool

from the middle of January but with no set days. So if you need to contact us - talk to Bernadette, leave a message on the phone, send us a text or email and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

On behalf of the staff and management committee, I would like to wish all of our families a very happy and safe festive season. If you are travelling, please drive carefully and don't forget at all times to buckle up - both adults and children. To those families who will no longer be at the preschool in 2016, we thank you for your contribution and wish you all the best, for those continuing at preschool in 2016, we look forward to seeing you in Term 1.

Cheers,

Narelle Elias
Director



Reminders:

- *Last day of preschool for 2015 – Friday, 18th December**
- *Change of clothes for the last 2 weeks of preschool for fun water play**
- *End of Year presentation – Tuesday, 15th December at 6.30pm at Preschool**
- *First day of preschool – Tuesday, 2nd February (to be confirmed)**