

A FEW DATES FOR THE DIARY

MONDAY
19 February
School Information Evening
7pm

WEDNESDAY
21 February
IEP Meetings Commence

MONDAY
26 February
P&C Meeting
7pm

MONDAY
5 March
Clean Up Australia Day

TUESDAY
6 March
Principal's Award Assembly
9.30 am

WEDNESDAY
20 March
Harmony Day

FRIDAY
23 March
Comedy for a Cause
7pm



TO OUR NEW STUDENTS FOR 2018!

Principal and Deputy Principal's Report

Welcome back to The Hills School, 2018.

It has been wonderful to see all the students arrive happy and bright-eyed, eager to learn and to reconnect with valued school friends. We have also had the opportunity to welcome twelve new students and their families to the school and wider school community. It is great to have you all here at The Hills School. The staff would like to welcome all students and families to a new school year and we look forward to working with you in a positive and collaborative way to help your child to learn and grow and to achieve many great things.

Our first formal school event is our annual Parent Information Night, to be held from 7pm until 8:30pm at the school on Monday 19th February. This will provide parents and carers with a terrific opportunity to meet their child's class teacher and their School Learning Support Officer/s. There will also be a wonderful opportunity to meet other parents and carers of students attending our school. We hope to see as many people there as possible. Just a reminder that this event is for parents and carers only. We request that arrangements be made for your children to remain at home during this information night. We greatly appreciate all the arrangements families make so that parents and carers are able to attend the evening.

Staff have been working hard over a number of weeks to organise and prepare quality teaching activities and positive learning environments. Staff are looking forward to meeting with parents and carers at the upcoming Information Night. Teachers will also provide information to parents and carers regarding booking a time for Individual Education Plan (IEP) meetings which will be taking place over the next few weeks.

A short reminder about absentee notes. It is a NSW Department of Education requirement that all students are to have each and every absence from school formally explained. Staff diligently maintain a class roll each day. Absence notes form a crucial part of roll record keeping. All teachers are required to record the reason for student absence as part of the class roll. There can be many reasons for a student being absent from school. Appointments and illness are two of the most common and relevant reasons. We ask for cooperation from parents and carers to always promptly write the reason for their child's absence for any given day. This written reason can be communicated in a number of ways including: using the FlexiBuzz app, writing a short note to the teacher, writing in the student's communication book or completing one of the school's formal 'Absence notes'. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this area.

Thank you to our students, families and staff for all working hard together to set us up for another productive, positive and fun year.

Peter Gurrier-Jones
Principal

Neale Rudland
Deputy Principal

Bura VW

Vita Williams (Teacher)

Karen Johnston (SLSO)

In Bura VW we welcome three new students to The Hills School community - Jamal, Minh Tan and Olivia. We also welcome Zain, Brady and Lucas to the classroom. Karen and I are excited to work with our students and we look forward to exploring their strengths and working with families to extend students' skills across all key learning areas.

Our students enjoy participating in our PE program. This term we will focus on developing each student's coordination. Activities include walking, balancing on a balance beam, crawling through a tunnel, kicking a ball and bouncing on a trampoline. Exercise helps students to improve their body awareness, improve their ability to follow simple instructions, increase endurance, develop stronger muscles and bones and it also helps students develop their sense of humour as they give things a go.



Bura JM

Jessica Meoli (Teacher)

Kathryn Jollow & Lauren Unsworth (SLSOs)

Bura JM has had a fantastic start to 2018. Students Rajveer, Luke, Mustafa, Jarod, Aarav and Chelsea have settled in well into classroom routines and have been busy exploring their new classroom. It has been a delight to see the students of Bura JM enjoying bike riding, painting, colouring in, music sessions and singing.

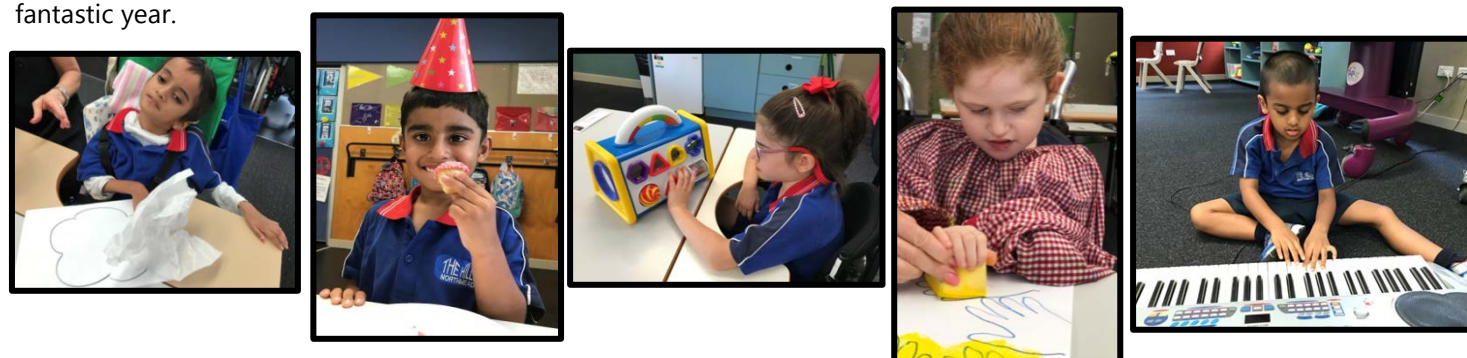


Bura KA

Karina Andrews (Teacher)

Liz Oppel (SLSO)

We are all happy to be back at school for 2018. Our class is beginning to settle into our new routines and enjoying getting to know each other. Welcome back to: Eliza, Anna, Amruta, Jesse, Noor and Pratyush. They have already participated in a number of fun activities such as lemonade tasting at the farm, music and movement, art and craft making and listening to stories. Pratyush had a birthday on Sunday so we had some yummy cupcakes to celebrate! We are looking forward to a fantastic year.



Yura BD

Brittany Donaldson (Teacher) Cheryl Rogerson & Merryn White (SLSOs)

Cheryl, Merryn and I warmly welcome Miguel, Ethan, Sergio, Tara, Ashvini, Thomas, Vanessa, and Ethan to Yura BD in 2018. Yura BD was lucky enough to work with Di at the farm, learning to make lemonade! The class worked hard squeezing the lemons, mixing the ingredients, and tasting our freshly made lemonade. We are looking forward to a great year.



Yura KG

Katie Guilfoyle (Teacher) Virginia McKenzie & Mariette Loraway (SLSOs)

Yura KG have had a fantastic start to the year! All of our students have embraced the new school year with a very positive and enthusiastic attitude. Virginia, Mariette and I are delighted to have Adib, Tristan, Omar, Mark, Thomas, Kianu, Amelie and Chelsea in our class. This term, we have been experimenting with different ideas for our Work Enterprises item and very much enjoyed cooking together. We also enjoyed celebrating Amelie's 13th birthday and we are looking forward to beginning our shopping and community access programs this term. As part of our Science and Technology unit, we will be working with Di up at our school farm to extend our current gardening skills and knowledge. We look forward to a wonderful year of learning and personal achievement together!



Yura LW

Linda Weiss (Teacher)

Lorraine Kirby (SLSO)

Welcome to 2018. We have had a great start to the new school year. Students in Yura LW are: Keefer, William, Eric, Fawwaz, Nicholas, Lexi and Shania. We have started our card-making program by creating beautiful background paper. We are looking forward to a year filled with learning and fun.



P&C News

Welcome everyone to the new school year, especially those families who join our community for the first time. We sincerely hope the transition for your children to a new environment is going smoothly.

The P & C meets the fourth Monday of each month at 7 pm. Everyone is welcome and we actively encourage each family to try and attend at least one meeting throughout the year. It is a wonderful way of meeting other parents and carers, hearing about what is going on at the school, raising any ideas/thoughts you may have and having the opportunity to be involved in discussions. Most importantly, our meetings provide a welcoming space for everyone to connect and often share information that assists one another.

Our first meeting for the year will be on Monday 26th February.

Throughout the year, we have Bunnings BBQ's at stores located around our school area, Mother's Day and Father's Day Stalls. These are other great ways for families to be involved and help raise funds that go directly to supporting your children. The P&C also oversees the running of the canteen and uniform shop. Volunteers for the canteen (Tuesdays) are always welcome.

Our major fundraiser for the year is 'Comedy for a Cause', which is occurring on Friday 23rd of March at NBC Sports Club, Northmead. The lineup of comedians looks amazing and we would love you and your family and friends to join us. Tickets (\$30) are on sale now and can be purchased online at comedyforacause.net/HILLS. Funds raised for this event will be going towards the fantastic Hills School Kitchen Garden. We would warmly welcome any donations suitable for a raffle.

Thanks in advance for any support you are able to give to P&C initiatives throughout the year, it is greatly appreciated.

Michelle Gough
President

Jenny Harris
Treasurer

Marjie Capple
Secretary

Happy Birthday wishes go out to the following students from all your friends at The Hills School:

**Aarav, Amelie, Angela,
Chelsea, Eric, Isabella,
Lochlan, Mustafa, Nilesh,
Pratyush, Thomas &
William R.**



D.A.D.S Group

(Devoted And Dedicated Superheroes)

D.A.D.S is a group aiming to connect fathers and other male carers of children with a disability, developmental delay, ASD or chronic illness to a support network of fathers and carers, helping the whole family.

D.A.D.S will meet on the first Tuesday of every month, during school terms.

All meetings will include a combination of:

- * **Structured topics (that matter to D.A.D.S)**
- * **General discussions (group led by D.A.D.S interests and concerns).**
- * **Guest speakers will be invited to present to the group on relevant topics.**

First meeting: Tuesday 6th February 2018

Time: 7 pm – 9 pm

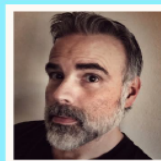
Where: St Margaret Mary's Parish Centre, 1-5 Chetwynd Rd, Merrylands

Contact: For more information or if you would like to join this group please text 0414 798 966



In support of:

The Hills School



Al Del Bene

- Comedian of the Year - L.A. Comedy Awards
- Comics Unleashed, NESN Comedy All-Stars, Jon Lovitz Presents
- Opening act for Bill Burr and Dane Cook
- Regular at the world famous Laugh Factory in L.A.

"Genius of Stand-Up" - The Daily Mail



Matty B

- Melbourne International Comedy Festival
- Sydney Comedy Festival
- Adelaide Fringe Festival

"One of the best comedians in Australia" - Mikey Robbins

"Brilliant alternative art, expertly performed" - Arts Guide



Joe Comino

- Comedy Court Grand Champion
- Australian Comedy Festival
- Housos's & Fat Pizza Live National Tours

"Makes you laugh till you cry" - The Jokes On Me



Mat Wakefield

- Sydney Comedy Festival - Sold Out
- Sydney Fringe Festival - Sold Out

"one of the rising stars of Australian Comedy" - The Laugh Garage

"a genuine alternative way of thinking, reminiscent of comedy legend Doug Stanhope..." (Weekend Notes)

Friday 23 March 2018
Doors: 7pm / Show: 8pm
NBC Sports Club
166 Windsor Rd, Northmead

BOOK NOW!

Tickets: \$30 at
comedyforacause.net/HILLS
(18+ only)

School Information Night

Monday 19th February 2018 at 7pm

School Information Night is a great way to meet teachers and school team members. Teachers will share important information on classroom activities, timetables and routines. This is a key event for parents and carers only. Please arrange care for your child so that you are able to attend - Thank you ☺