

DATES FOR YOUR
DIARY

Wednesday
18 DECEMBER LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
FOR STUDENTS

19 - 20
DECEMBER STAFF DEVELOPMENT
DAYS

Monday
27 January 2020 AUSTRALIA DAY
PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Tuesday
28 January 2020 STAFF DEVELOPMENT
DAY

Wednesday
29 January 2020 FIRST DAY TERM 1
FOR STUDENTS

CELEBRATION OF LEARNING



Deputy Principal's Message

What another great and positive year of student learning it has been at The Hills School. We are so immensely proud of all the students and all that they have achieved throughout the year. Staff at The Hills School thoroughly enjoy teaching the students and we have already begun planning for more exciting opportunities and experiences in 2020. While the end-of-year can naturally be an extra busy time for us all, this time of year also provides us with additional opportunities to get together as a school community and celebrate a wonderful year.

The Celebration of Learning assembly is one of the major highlights of our year. What a joy it was to see our whole school community come together to celebrate and acknowledge the amazing learning and achievements of our students. It is wonderful to see the students take so much pride in their own learning success as well as celebrating the learning success of their peers. Thank you Dalia for your great organisation of the event. Thank you to staff for your assistance in the preparation, thank you to the wonderful students for your terrific achievements and thank you to the many parents, carers and community members that we were able to come together and celebrate.

Another much anticipated event this year is the Year 12 Graduation, held on Wednesday night at Springfield House Function Centre. We had the opportunity to formally farewell nine of our fantastic students. The room was bursting with families, friends and staff. Everyone was filled with tremendous pride as we came together to say 'Well done' and 'Congratulations'. Thank you also to the families of our graduating students, for your involvement in, and contribution to the life of our school. It has been a privilege to work with this year's graduating students, many of whom started in Kindergarten at The Hills School. We will miss you all greatly, but wish all of the graduating students every success and happiness in the future. Congratulations and all the very best to Shania, Keefer, William, Eric, Lexi, Joel, Angela, Elvin and Rebecca.

School reports will be sent home next week. Teachers have spent many hours writing and coordinating student reports so that the progress students have made can be recognised and celebrated. We encourage families to view the reports with their children, and together celebrate their wonderful learning and achievements.

As this is our final newsletter for the year, we would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all parents and carers for your ongoing partnership as together we strive to provide quality, meaningful and engaging learning opportunities for all our students. Thank you to all the staff who provide frequent and amazing examples of going 'above and beyond' to help maximise learning opportunities and experiences and to provide support for our students and families. Well done to all of the students at The Hills School for your wonderfully positive attitude and your commitment to learning. We wish everyone in The Hills School community, a very Merry Christmas and a safe, Happy New Year.

Akuna JC

Jenny Gaskin & Carol Mitchell (Teachers) Amber Buckland (SLSO)

Akuna JC have finished off a wonderful 2019 with a trip to the Life Education Van to see Healthy Harold. We had a great time learning all about looking after our bodies by eating healthy food, keeping ourselves clean, cleaning our teeth and wearing sunscreen and a hat. Everyone loved watching the stars twinkle in the sky at the end of our visit.



Akuna NW

Nicole Winter (Teacher) Alex Armstrong (SLSO)

On Friday 22 November, Meena, Isabella, Krishnan and Juan went on an exciting bus trip to The Blue Mountains. We drove past lots of beautiful views of valleys and bush before arriving at Katoomba. The class ate their lunch at Cahill's Lookout and then went to see The Three Sisters. It was a fun-filled adventure.



Orana MB

Andrew Kelleher (Teacher) Glenn Hall & Courtney Taylor (SLSOs)

Orana MB have enjoyed a variety of learning activities this term to help our brains grow. We have collaboratively built a sandpit for our backyard space and helped to make wooden coasters which were sold at the School Carols Night. We have been working hard on our social skills and are making really good progress. We are very proud of the Orana MB boys this term.



Marlee DL

Deborah Lenon (Teacher) Leanne Armstrong & Lee-Anne Moore (SLSOs)

We are finally coming to the end of 2019, and Marlee DL students have been enjoying getting into the Christmas spirit. Students have been learning about making wrapping paper and wrapping presents. They had a great time decorating the Christmas tree with baubles, snowflakes and stars. They have been developing their skills in screen-printing, and over the course of the term, they have used these skills to make beautiful Christmas presents for mums and dads.



Orana KJ

Denny Allan & Dishanka Sekhar (Teachers) Skye Delandro (SLSO)

Orana KJ have had a wonderfully festive end to the year. Our work enterprise was based around Christmas and we have worked hard in our classroom; planning, preparing and producing our merchandise to sell at the School Christmas Carols evening. The students enjoyed being involved in the process, making lolly-filled Christmas baubles and Christmas Gift Bags. We focused on following simple steps and encouraging independence on the task. It was lovely to see the students achieving this at varying levels. Sarah and Angela both helped selling Orana KJ's goods on the Carols evening. A simple Christmas success story!



Marlee PD

Peter Dawson (Teacher) Tony McInnes (SLSO)

It has been a fun filled year in Marlee PD. The boys; George, Stephen, Aaron, Mark, Joshua and Connor have all participated in the class' life skills program. They have been involved in recycling different products, cooking, shopping, gardening, laundry and cleaning up.

A great motivation at the end of Term 4 is leisure week, where the boys get to participate in extra activities. The class explored Blaxland Water Park at Homebush, where the water jets were a huge attraction. Another day we participated in swimming, water play and enjoyed a meal together of burgers and hot chips. Our favourite day was visiting Clontarf Beach with two other classes, where everybody enjoyed interacting with one another in the water and on the sand.



P&C News

As the year draws quickly to a close, we would like to thank firstly all staff from our wonderful school for all the hard work and dedication they have shown in caring for our children every day at school. Thank you to the drivers and transport support officers who provide a safe and reliable transport service to and from home. Many families rely on these wonderful individuals and their role is greatly valued.

Recently a photographic session was held through Laura Jean photography and a number of families participated. This has been done in the past as well with wonderful results. This initiative served also as a fundraiser and attracted \$240 for our school. These funds will go back into resources and projects which will directly benefit our children.

Our next P&C meeting will be on Monday 24 February at 7pm. To continue the work of the P&C we need new members. Our efforts are essential in supporting and maintaining a number of important programmes all children benefit from. We are small in number and look forward to welcoming interested members of our community. We would like to wish our whole community a fantastic Christmas and a happy and safe New Year.

Monique Fenech
President

Pratibha Bhanushali
Treasurer

Justine Stamatakis
Secretary



ACTIVE CHRISTMAS IDEAS

Active presents under the Christmas tree can help kids associate being active with having fun!

Active gift ideas:

- Toys such as balls, skipping ropes & hula hoops
- Bike, scooter, roller blades or a skateboard
- Trampoline
- Beach toys
- Basketball hoop
- Gardening tools
- Chalk for hopscotch



Create long lasting memories being more physically active in the great outdoors this year.

Search 'Family Active Living' at
www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au



Health
Northern Sydney
Local Health District

Come & See!

Andy's Christmas Lights Display

Andy Cutajar (driver for P&C Bus 5)
would like to invite you to enjoy his
Christmas lights display at:

**45 Grasmere Avenue,
Northmead**

Christmas lights will be twinkling from
1 December to 24 December.

There will also be a BBQ on
Saturday 14 & Monday 23 December

**All donations go to Ronald
McDonald House Westmead**



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

**Paul, Thehan,
Jaisleen, Miguel,
Dakshya & Eva**

Congratulations

20
CLASS OF
19

The Hills School

Wednesday 13 December 2019

2019 Graduates

