Principal’s Message:

Hello parents and carers and welcome to the Term 3 Week 9 newsletter. As you would expect we’ve had a really busy few weeks with plenty of things going on. One of the biggest tasks has been our annual review of students, held on Monday and Tuesday this week. The reviews help us to consider the supports in place for students and make sure that we’re doing everything we can to meet the educational needs of all 108 students. I am always astounded by the depth of knowledge and individual understanding that is held by our staff on each student.

The school learning and support team are now working hard to action various items that will further enhance teaching and learning for our students – this is usually following up on assessments, seeking further information and making sure families are well informed of our considerations where there is a need.

I would like our school community to know that Assistant Principal Vita Williams will not be returning to The Hills School. Vita has been a member of The Hills School community for many years and I would like to acknowledge her contribution to teaching, learning and leading at The Hills School and wish her all the very best for the future. The process for selecting a new Assistant Principal will begin early in Term 4.

We continue to work and plan around restrictions resulting from COVID-19. One of the most important changes is in relation to COVID testing:

- The new Term 3 guidelines have included a requirement for COVID testing for all students who present as unwell with flu like symptoms. Please refer to the detailed information that has been sent home regarding the requirement that all students absent with flu like symptoms must return a COVID negative result sighted by the school prior to returning to school.

Thank you to Room 1 and 2 for the delicious French toast, so yummy. Well done Room 19 for the great way you listen to Linda and Leevan, you are all setting a fabulous example for the younger students...good job Tara, Ethan, Zikry, Chelsea and Adib.

Mark Gosbell
R/Principal
**Room 8**  
Cheryl Williams (Teacher)  Karen Johnston (SLSO)

Room 8 boys have been studying Living Things in Science, both plants and animals. We have been growing a succulent garden from cuttings and printing our own gift-wrapping paper inspired by natural forms. As a part of our investigations we have been learning that all living things require a number of important things to thrive. Our class made an appointment to meet with Principal Mark, to discuss our proposal to have a class rabbit to care for and nurture. We were delighted to hear that Mark agreed that this would be an exciting science project. Everyone has a special job to do from cleaning out the rabbit hutch, making a comfortable bed, ensuring there is enough food and water and probably the most important of all...lots of cuddles!! Betsy is slowly visiting other classes to meet all of The Hills School friends. I believe that Betsy the rabbit couldn’t have found a better place to visit each day and clearly the lovely young men of Room 8 agree!

**Room 9**  
Kathryn Hall (Teacher)  Renee Watts (SLSO)

Room 9 have been busy writing books for the class again this term. This term we have written about noses, Stegosaurus and Triceratops. We have also enjoyed reading books on dinosaurs. In science we have been looking at what things are man-made and what are natural and finding out what things are made of. We made a tent out of sticks after exploring Indigenous culture. We have also really enjoyed getting back in the pool.

**Room 10**  
Rebecca LaPlume (Teacher)  Joanne Ryu & Khim Halpenny (SLSOs)

This term Room 10 have been learning about the material world and exploring how everyday objects can be physically changed. We’ve been exploring how everyday glue changes when simple substances such as bi-carb soda and shaving foam are added to it. Students have enjoyed stirring the glue and watching it become malleable and smooth. We’ve made slime, fluffy slime using shaving foam and we have also added textural ingredients to the slime. The students love the sensory experience of playing with the slime.
Room 11  Andrew Kelleher (Teacher)  Vanessa Fahmy & Khim Halpenny (SLSOs)

The Room 11 tribe have been working up a storm this term! We particularly enjoy practising our literacy and maths skills through following procedures to bake sweet treats like choc-chip cookies and French toast. We then take our cooking around to the teachers to thank them for their amazing work and get to practise our communication skills. Andrew, Vanessa and Khim have been teaching us how to make our own breakfast, use cutlery and even wash our own dishes which is really fun!

Room 12  Sue Cook (Teacher)  Kathryn Jollow (SLSO)

Room 12 have been enjoying the warm spring weather riding bikes, exploring the school environment, walking, running and playing on the bike track. Our Geometrix building set is helping us learn about size, shape, colour and problem-solving which pieces will build together. We are learning about our senses in science and having lots of sensory fun with shaving foam, painting and bubbly water play while washing our toys.

Room 13  Patricia Smith (Teacher)  Leanne Armstrong & Eunice Yap (SLSOs)

Room 13 have been learning about the material world and how things change. We have had a lot of fun making chocolate muffins and mini pizzas. We also explored the material world through sensory water play and making playdough. We enjoyed our walks to the school farm looking at the different herbs and fruit growing in the soil and we planted some succulents too.
P&C News

In August, we held our P&C meeting solely via a Zoom video conferencing call. Despite some minor issues trying to work out the technology it was overall a successful meeting.

The meetings are held generally on the fourth Monday of the month from 7pm. All you need is a computer or device connected to the internet and the meeting link. The link will be made available about a week before the meeting through a note sent home and also on Flexischools. We are also available via email (thehillschoolsssp@pandcaffiliate.org.au) if anyone can’t locate this link and we can email it to you. If anyone in our community does not have access to this technology and finds it daunting to use, please contact the office and leave your contact details. We can arrange for you to attend with another P&C member.

On joining the meeting, we just ask that you please enable your device’s camera so we can identify who you are. The camera does not need to remain on for the rest of the meeting. We hope to see more families joining us for these meetings.

As we are at the end of Term 3, we would like to wish all of our families a very safe and relaxing break with their loved ones. Take care and see you next time.

John Scotting
President

Monique Fenech
Treasurer

Justine Stamatakis
Secretary

Are you SunSmart?

Unprotected skin can be damaged most months of the year in NSW.

Protect your skin in five ways when UV is 3 and above:

- **Slip** on clothes that cover your arms and legs
- **Slop** on SPF 30 or higher, broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen and reapply every two hours
- **Slop** on a broad brimmed hat or one that covers the head, face, neck and ears
- **Seek** shade, particularly over the middle part of the day when UV is highest
- **Slide** on close fitting sunglasses

Fruit & Veg Month 2020
31 August to 25 September

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

Eliza, Farzad & Prince

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