

Greenhills is G.R.E.A.T.
Grit, Respect, Effort, Adventure, Teamwork
Term 2 - Week 2, 29th April 2021

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ GREENHILLS 2021

Friday 30 th April	3pm Assembly
Monday 3 rd May	Parent Helper Induction Session 9am & 3pm
Wednesday 5 th May	9.30am School Tour Maths Olympiad - Years 5/6
Thursday 6 th May	Mothers Day Stall Year 3/4 Swimming Parent Helper Induction Session 9am & 3pm
Friday 7 th May	Interschool Sports Starts - Years 5 & 6
Monday 10 th May	6.30pm School Council
Tuesday 11 th May	NAPLAN (Years 3 & 5) – Language Conventions & Writing Parent Helper Induction Session 5:30pm
Wednesday 12 th May	NAPLAN (Years 3 & 5) – Reading 9.30am School Tour
Thursday 13 th May	NAPLAN (Years 3 & 5) – Numeracy Year 3/4 Swimming
Friday 14 th May	3pm Assembly

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

All Greenhills staff members work very hard to try and keep our school community as informed and up to date with what is happening as possible. Compass is proving to be a significant and valuable tool to assist us in this endeavour and we will continue to rollout more functionality and elements that this system has to offer.

Our aim is for Compass to become the single platform used by parents for all “admin” elements of our school. This will include payments, permissions, events, absences and attendance and all of the things staff and parents need to have in place to ensure the school functions effectively.

For the “education” elements at our school which for us includes our new continuous reporting system, we will use Seesaw. This is the most effective tool we have seen for students to engage in recording and sharing their learning journey and accessing and providing feedback to and from the teacher and peers. Seesaw served our school well during Remote & Flexible Learning, and during this time our staff began to see how much potential the program has for use at our school during regular and normal on site learning.

To be connected with what is happening at our school and your child’s learning and progress, it is very important for every parent and carer to regularly access both Compass and Seesaw. Every few weeks new learning will be shared via Seesaw and you will have the opportunity to share and celebrate your child’s progress and find out more about what they can do and what their next steps are.

We hope that as we (both staff and parents/carers) improve our use, knowledge and confidence of these two platforms, our connections will continue to grow and our home school partnership will become even stronger.

Over the coming weeks and months we will continue to refine and develop the way we communicate, share and partner with you. One of the next steps will be to release a whole school calendar on Compass. This will be live and updated to ensure that we have all the dates and events listed and this will be the central point to assist you in keeping up to date with what is happening each day at our school.

In the meantime, I will send out hard copy of our full Term 2 Planner as it stands today via Compass. You will also see from the above “What’s Happening” section that we have adjusted what we will publish to only include the next two weeks. In this way, I hope to highlight the more immediate things that are coming up across our school and hope that you may be able to use this as a final check in and reminder resource.

PARENT HELPER INDUCTIONS

We are very excited to announce that we have had over 90 parents and carers complete our 2021 Parent Induction Program. Parents have also started to assist in our classrooms and on excursions. We will continue to host induction sessions over the next few weeks as more parents become involved in helping across our school.

The next sessions will run as follows: Monday 3rd May - 9am & 3pm

Thursday 6th May - 9am & 3pm

Tuesday 11th May - 5:30pm

One of the other GREAT parts of our Parent Helpers Program is the way in which we are able to use parent, carer and community expertise to assist and enrich our teaching and learning program. One example of this is our parents who will be guest speakers in our classrooms sharing their knowledge and skills with our staff and students. At the moment we are running a whole school inquiry unit based on investigating our footprint and learning more about what we can do to protect our environment and live more sustainably. If you have any expertise in this area – please let your child’s teacher know. We would be very appreciative of your help and support.

EDUCATION WEEK EVENT - MICHAEL YMER NIGHT

Make sure you put 7pm Wednesday 26th May in your diaries. On this night, Michael Ymer will present a special session for parents about maths. This will include sharing with how the teaching of maths has changed since we all went to school and how we are working to help students not just being able to do maths but really understand what they are doing by becoming deep maths problem solvers and thinkers.

I can guarantee that the evening will be informative, entertaining and that you really find great value in attending.

WE WANT OUR STUDENTS TO TELL US WHAT THEY THINK!

We value student voice as a means to improving student engagement, wellbeing and quality instruction and are conducting a survey to find out what your child thinks of our school. The Attitudes to School Survey is an annual student survey offered by the Department of Education and Training to assist schools in gaining an understanding of students' perceptions and experience of school. Our school will use the survey results to plan programs and activities to improve your child's schooling experience.

Students from Years 4 to 6 at our school will participate in the survey. Your child will complete the survey online during school hours using a purpose built secure online survey tool. It is important to note that we are not in any way “testing” your child. Your child has the right to refuse or withdraw from the survey at any point before, during, or after completion of the survey.

Your child will be provided with a unique login to complete the survey. The student login is an assigned identifier that may be used to link data for statistical and research purposes only. All responses to the survey are kept anonymous in the response file. Personal identification data will not be recorded in the survey response file. This ensures that the confidentiality of your child’s responses is protected at all times.

This year the Attitudes to School survey will be conducted at our school over the period Monday 17th May to Friday 4th June. The survey only takes 20-30 minutes to complete and occurs during your child's class time.

The survey results will be reported back to the school once the data is provided back to our school from the Department. All survey data that is made available in reports are for groups of students only so that no individual student can be identified.

If you would like more information, please contact me at the school or visit the following website:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/management/improvement/Pages/performsurveyat.aspx>

NAPLAN TESTING FOR YEARS 3 & 5

The annual National Assessment Program – literacy and numeracy (NAPLAN) tests will be held on 11th, 12th and 13th May for all students in Years 3 & 5. Students will participate in tests for reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy.

It is important to remember that NAPLAN is not a test that can be studied for, and students are not expected to do so. What is taught in the classroom is what ends up being assessed in NAPLAN.

More information about the tests and some examples are included at the following website:

<http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/the-tests.html>

TRANSITION UPDATE

Our Year 6 students and families are now in the process of organising their preferences for their placements into high school. This is an exciting time but it can also be challenging and stressful for families as they make this decision. DET Schools have to follow a very strict regime of dates and processes and it is very important that this is maintained. The next step is for all of our families of Year 6 students to complete the preference form that will be sent home shortly and send back to our school by Friday 14th May. It is also important for our Year 6 parents to understand that many schools in our area have enrolment restrictions. I encourage you to research this in detail and make the time to find out more about the school/s you may wish your child to attend.

The Year 6-7 placement process is just one very small part of our transition program at Greenhills. The major part of our focus and work in this area is preparing all of our Year 6 students for the transition into secondary school. The feedback we get from our local schools is that our students are very well prepared academically and socially. They are well equipped to deal with the many changes and challenges they have to face including the movement from classroom to classroom, teacher to teacher and other key organisational aspects that impact on learning.

This is the result of the way we set up and deliver our curriculum structures and programs, the quality of our teaching team and also the many extra-curricular programs we operate. As a school community we can be very proud of the achievement of our students and know that they will leave our school very well prepared for the next stage of their learning.

James Penson
Principal



**Happy Birthday to the following students celebrating
their birthdays this week:**

**Hayley H, Sylvia T, Ned M, Yasmin T, Yat W
Maeve O, Thomas C, Odin T**

MOTHER'S DAY STALL

Thursday 6th May



The Greenhills Parents Association invites students to visit the Mother's Day stall to purchase a gift for their Mum, Nan/Gran or special person.

Gifts ranging from \$0.50-\$10 with each class visiting the stall at some time during school hours.

Please remember to pack a named envelope with money, as well as a bag to carry your gift home in!

Save the date!

Greenhills Primary School

Trivia Night

Saturday, 23rd October

Mark your calendar for a night of trivia, raffles, auctions, giveaways and LOTS of fun!

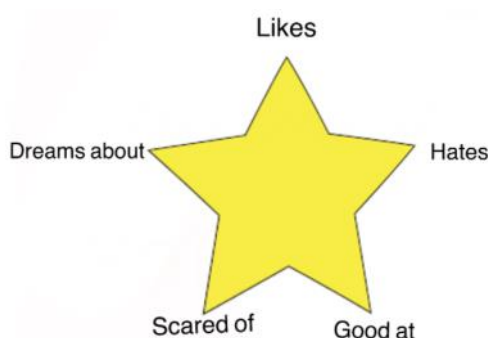
Stay tuned for further details...

Writing Extension Group

In years 3,4,5 and 6 we have been doing a writing extension group. We will each be publishing a short story, (when all the stories are combined and finished) which will be turned into a story book.

So far we have had an incursion with Davina Bell, who is an award winning children's author. In the incursion we did a guided writing piece about a monster named Arty. We learnt about where to get our ideas/themes from and that the character always has to overcome obstacles along the story to reach his/hers goal. We have also done an activity called flash writing. It is a type of writing where you have around 30 seconds to jot down 2 options from the character star about a certain character that comes on a slide.

In this group we have planned our main character by using a character star.



Example:

Izzy Jones Likes: mysteries, pizza. Hates: witches. Dreams about: being a world-famous detective. Good at: sneaking around, being quiet. Scared of: the dark, losing her family.	Alexander Byrde Likes: spaghetti, designing Hates: mice Dreams about: being a fashion designer Good at: Hip Hop dancing Scared of: kids
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FROM THE OFFICE

School Office Hours

Monday to Friday

8.00am – 4.30pm

- For families that have opted to pay School fees via term instalments, the Term 2 payments are now due.
- Payment is overdue for Years 1 & 2 / 3 & 4 Swimming lessons, if you have not yet paid or set up a payment plan please pay at your earliest convenience.

All school fees were **due on 15th March 2021**, if you have not yet paid could you please organise payment at your earliest convenience.

COMPASS "HOW TO"


How you can add attendance notes via compass

Welcome to the Magic P-12 College Portal

Use the links listed for each of your children to explore the portal. Please keep your mobile phone number and email address up to date (Tools > Update My Details). The school will use this to contact you regarding attendance, events, news and more.


Stephen CORNFOOT

- Profile (Attendance, Schedule, Reports)
- Send email to Stephen's teachers
- Add Attendance Note (Approved Absence/Late)**
- View Academic Reports



Euan ABERCROMBIE

- Profile (Attendance, Schedule)
- Send email to Euan's teachers
- Add Attendance Note (Approved Absence/Late)**
- Book Parent Student Teacher Conference



Compass

My News

Order your MSP school photos

You can now order your MSP school photo packs through your Compass portal. [Click here to place your order today!](#)

Course Confirmation/School Payments

Course confirmation and/or school payments available for completion. [Click here to proceed](#)

Payments


There may be payments awaiting your action. [Click here for more information](#)

Newsletter

Please find attached our March Newsletter
Mar 2nd by Liz Larson

School Jumper Orders

This year, we are taking uniform orders through CompassTix. [Click here to order your school jumpers!](#)
Feb 3rd by Eliza Elderflower



Attendance Note Editor

Note Details

Person: Euan ABERCROMBIE

Reason:

Details/Comment:

Potentially Affected Sessions

Activity	Start	Finish
SPO10B (Sport)	24/06/2020 09:51 AM	24/06/2020 10:48 AM
BIO10B (Biology)	24/06/2020 11:12 AM	24/06/2020 12:09 PM

Important Notice

In clicking 'Save', you understand, certify and accept that you are a listed parent/guardian for this child; and the information above is correct; and this online approval does NOT constitute a medical certificate; and students enrolled in VCE are required to submit a medical certificate to the school in addition to this approval; and any fraudulent action or intentional misuse of this feature may result in administrative, criminal and/or civil action against you (by your registered school, affiliated entities and/or the product issuer).

Start: 24/06/2020 08:00 AM

Finish: 24/06/2020 05:00 PM


How check on Compass to see if your child has any unexplained absences and add an attendance note.

Click the alert and it will take you to your child's unexplained attendance tab where you will see any sessions listed for which they are marked Not Present or Late

Welcome to the Magic P-12 College Portal


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Euan ABERCROMBIE



- Profile (Attendance, Schedule)
- Send email to Euan's teachers
- Add Attendance Note (Approved Absence/Late)
- Order Photos
- Book Parent Student Teacher Conference

Stephen CORNFoot



- Profile (Attendance, Schedule, Reports)
- Send email to Stephen's teachers
- Add Attendance Note (Approved Absence/Late)
- View Academic Reports
- Order Photos

 **Compass**

My News

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Course Confirmation/School Payments
Course confirmation and/or school payments available for completion. [Click here to proceed](#)

Payments Centre
Did you know that payments can be made through Compass for school fees, events, and voluntary contributions? [Click here for more information](#)

Event Consent/Payment Required
There is 1 event awaiting your consent and/or payment. [Click here for more information](#)

Attendance: Attendance Note Required
Euan was recorded as 'not present' or 'late' without explanation. [Click here for more information](#)

Magic High Newsletter 2020
This month's newsletter is now available for viewing. Another busy month at Magic P12! Inside you'll find:

- Sports Carnival Photos
- Year 6 School Camp Information
- Successes at the Regional Science Competition
- Holiday activity vouchers from local businesses!

[Newsletter](#)

Select the session (or sessions) that you are adding a note for and then click "Explain with Attendance Note". This will cause the Attendance Note screen to pop open.

Student: **Euan ABERCROMBIE** - 10B, Year 10

Active

Dashboard | **Schedule** | **Learning Tasks** | **Attendance** | **Reports** | **Analytics** | **Insights**

Summary | **Notes/Approvals** | **Unexplained** | **Arrival/Departure**

Not Present/Late: Unexplained

[Explain with Attendance Note](#) [Print Unexplained Letter](#)

Activity Name	Start	Finish	Period	Location	Staff	Status
<input type="checkbox"/>	01/01/2020	31/12/2020				
<input type="checkbox"/> MATH10B	18/06/2020 08:50 AM	18/06/2020 10:48 AM		UNASSIGNED	SARAH	Not Present

Dashboard | **Schedule** | **Learning Tasks** | **Attendance** | **Reports** | **Analytics** | **Insights**

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[Explain with Attendance Note](#) [Print Unexplained Letter](#)

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Attendance Note Editor

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Details/Comment:

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Important Notice

This will automatically insert the appropriate number of approvals for the selected sessions.

[Save](#) [Cancel](#)

Select the applicable reason for the absence and add in the relevant details/comment. Click "save". This will assign the attendance note to the sessions you selected and they will update to no longer show unexplained absences.



Anne,



Karen,



Nicole &



Victoria

Administration Team

STUDENT OF THE WEEK Term 2 Wk 2 PRESENTED AT ASSEMBLY on 14th May 2021

HERE ARE OUR SUPERSTARS for this week..



NAME	CLASS	REASON
Ethan L	Prep SM	For always displaying a positive attitude towards your school work and for looking out for others in class. Ethan is an amazing role model who treats others with kindness and respect. Thank you for being such a thoughtful class member of Prep SM Ethan, we are so lucky to have you!
Jett K	1KO	For the amazing effort he is showing with including strong adjectives and vivid verbs to make his writing more descriptive. Jett, we love how the new words you are learning you are thinking to include in your writing. Keep it up Superstar!
Opal B	1LO	For your incredible reading during our teacher group and helping others decode tricky words! Opal, you have been working so hard on your reading this year, you should be very proud of yourself. Keep it up, superstar!
Cleo K	1TS	For the amazing work you have been doing in spelling it is so great to see you have a growth mindset to keep trying. Well done Cleo because of all your hard work you are a spelling super star!
Oakley V	2BR	For the great improvement he has made in his Maths skills. It has been amazing to see the amount of strategies Oakley is using when attempting a Maths problem and I am so impressed with the way that he explains his thinking. Keep it up Oakley!
Mitchell O	2SH	For the wonderful effort you put into your holiday recount writing! Mitchell, it was great to see you enjoying writing independently and including so many ideas and activities in your recount. Thank you for taking on board feedback and editing your work to include more detail and descriptive language. This is work to be very proud of, well done Mitch!
Riley G	2TW	Well done Riley on a great start to Genius Hour. You showed a lot of interest and enthusiasm while looking at our books about space and I loved hearing about your further wondering. I can't wait to see what you discover.
Ryan L	34B	For the grit you display towards your learning! I love seeing you try your best and take on board feedback. I've been particularly impressed by the effort you are putting into your reading. Keep up the awesome effort Ryan, you are a super star!
Lily T	34D	For always displaying effort and applying herself to all areas of learning. Lily continually challenges herself and always tries her hardest in everything she does. Keep up the great work, Lily!
Maia B	34H	For always displaying a sense of adventure and a positive attitude, especially when trying new activities. Your enthusiasm and effort at cross country was especially impressive. Thank you for being such a wonderful role model and bringing such positive energy to our class. You are AMAZING Maia!
Ryan L	34H	For always sharing your creativity and ideas. I loved your captivating setting descriptions using rich vocabulary during our writing discussions. You have become a wonderful role model for our class. Keep up the GREAT work!
Sophie G	34M	For the great efforts you make each day to be the best you can be. Sophie always tries her best and is focused and engaged in her learning. She thrives on challenges and takes pride in methodically working through tricky tasks. Sophie inspires others to push themselves too. Thank you, Sophie for being such an asset to our class, we are lucky to have you in 3/4M.
Tayla P	34S	For your excellent contributions to classroom discussions. Tayla, it's been marvellous seeing you share your thoughts and ideas. Well done!
Oliver M	34S	For the amazing effort you have been putting into developing your measurement skills. Oliver, you are fast becoming an expert estimator and can confidently measure in centimetres and metres. Keep it up!
Emily B	56E	For your fantastic Narrative writing. You planned and wrote a descriptive story that includes details, character development and follows the correct structure. Well done Em.
Niya M (5/6M)	ART	Niya is to be congratulated for the fantastic progress she is making with her steampunk inspired crown artwork. She always greets you at the door with a smile and uses all of the class time available in order to improve her art skills and knowledge. Well done Niya, and keep up the wonderful attitude.
Noah K (3/4B)	PE	For your efforts at the Greenhills House Cross Country Carnival. Throughout your race you displayed grit and resilience, which also reflects the attitude you bring to every Physical Education session. You're a superstar, Noah! Well done!
Olivia M 5/6E	MUSIC	Olivia is showing outstanding leadership in her role as Music Captain. Her enthusiasm to make a difference to the music side of the school is to be commended. Keep up the excellent work Olivia.

INTERSCHOOL SPORT

Winter Interschool Sport Season to commence on Friday 7th May.

Just a reminder to please provide consent via Compass.

COMMUNITY SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS



Congratulations to **Jackson L (5/6E)**
who won the 13 & Under Doubles at the Echuca Annual
Easter Tournament. You should be incredibly proud of your
efforts and this achievement, Jackson.
Keep on hitting aces!

COMMUNITY SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

If your child achieves something special (grand final win, most valuable player award, best and fairest etc.), please email me (daley.jordan.w@edumail.vic.gov.au) through photos (just make sure these photos only contain students from Greenhills PS) to post in Contact.

It is important to celebrate and recognise such successes with the school community.

REBEL COMMUNITY KICKBACKS PROGRAM

Greenhills Primary School is involved in the Rebel Community Kickbacks Program



What can you do to help Greenhills primary School benefit from this program?

Staff, family and friends can link the school to their Rebel Active Loyalty Program account and instantly start earning credits.



CANTEEN

Welcome back to everyone

The canteen is open for lunch orders on **Wednesday, Thursday and Friday**. Orders can be placed via QKR or by sending a lunch order to the canteen. **PLEASE DO NOT send in a lunch order if you have already placed an order via QKR.**

If you are interested in volunteering whether on a regular basis or occasionally please do so through Carebookings.

The parent code is JGU9L and you can then select what dates you would like to help.

Maximum number of volunteers is 2.

The canteen menu is available on the school website or a copy can be obtained from the front office.

A menu will be available for window sales on the website in the near future that will enable parents to help their child/ren to make choices.



If you have any issues that you would like to discuss please contact me at school or alternatively on my email address miriam.pekolj@education.vic.gov.au.

Miriam Pekolj
Canteen Manager



NEWS FROM THE ART ROOM - LAUNDRY ROSTER

Dear Parents

Thank you to everyone who volunteered and is on the roster. These were sent home through your child's classroom last term.

Some weeks there may not be enough washing or even any washing to send home. Please don't worry if you have not received a tub of washing home. If there is washing to be done, I will always endeavour to have it delivered to your child's classroom by the end of the day.

I hope that will help to clear up any possible confusion around the roster.

Thank you
Andrea Williams
VISUAL ART SPECIALIST



Connected School - Building Resilience In Kids

By Michael Grose

Australia and many other countries too. It's certainly a concept I've been talking and writing about for over two decades, and its importance can't be understated, particularly if you listen to futurists such as Mark McCrindle. He predicts that the children born in 2010 and beyond will have a minimum of five careers and twenty different employers in their lifetime. Gone is the job for life, replaced by a series of mini-careers, according to McCrindle. He claims we need to get used to being employed for the life of a particular project and then be prepared to look for other projects upon completion. If this scenario is accurate, and I suspect it is because it's happening already, then young people entering the workforce of the future will need personal resilience to handle the ups, downs and disappointments that will come from more flexible working arrangements.

My colleague, psychologist Andrew Fuller, refers to resilience as the ability to bungee jump your way through life. It's a fabulous metaphor that suggests the notion of bouncing back from difficulties and getting back on track with your life when difficulties have been experienced. The research around resilience suggests that with the right support and right set of skills most people do bounce back and get back on track. But there's a cohort who don't merely recover from difficulty – they grow through difficulty, with their lives taking on new or greater meaning. They, in effect, bounce forward using a negative event as the impetus for growth and development. And that is what we should want for our children – to continually learn and grow from their experiences whether positive or negative.

Is resilience nature or nurture?

Some kids are resilient by nature – their temperament helps them to be mentally and psychologically tough. You know those kids. They get straight back up after a setback or disappointment. Rejection in the playground doesn't faze them. They are flexible enough to cope with changes such as moving from one school to another. They keep working hard in school even if they don't succeed at first. They have a resilient spirit. Unfortunately, not every child has such natural resilience. The good news is that most of the research on the subject indicates that resilience can be nurtured and developed, particularly when parents themselves are resilient and actively foster this characteristic in their kids. Resilient kids share four basic skills: autonomy, problem-solving, optimism and social connection. There are many ways parents can develop these skills in their children, but perhaps the easiest and most accessible way is to allow kids to fully contribute to their family. By developing your child's self-help skills, you will promote independence and resourcefulness in them.

Children's life experiences contribute to their resilience

The seemingly small disappointments that kids experience – not being invited to a party, missing being picked in a sports team, not achieving success in a school project the first time – help them learn to cope with hardship and frustration. Coping with minor development issues such as change, sibling conflict and even failure, build up a psychological hardiness that will help them when they face some of life's big challenges in adolescence and beyond.

That means that you, as a parent, need to resist sorting out your children's social problems for them; rather, you need to skill them up to solve their own friendship challenges. Sometimes parents can create problems by interfering in children's disputes. From the resilience perspective you are better off coaching kids through some of their more challenging moments and reviewing what they may have learned for next time.

You also need to put children and young people in situations where they need to draw on their resourcefulness. Camps and adventure activities are great ways for kids to stretch themselves and test their problem-solving and coping skills. My second daughter, Emma (she of the Danish Adventure), believes that a ten-day adventure camp she went on, as a fourteen-year-old was the defining event of her early adolescence. It involved real physical endeavour, which stretched her to the limits, literally bringing her to tears on many occasions. It was the first time she realised that she could cope with being separated from her friends and family as well as the comforts of home. While away in Denmark she frequently drew on the coping skills she had learned on her ten-day camp to overcome homesickness and deal with the challenges of living in an unfamiliar environment for such a long time.

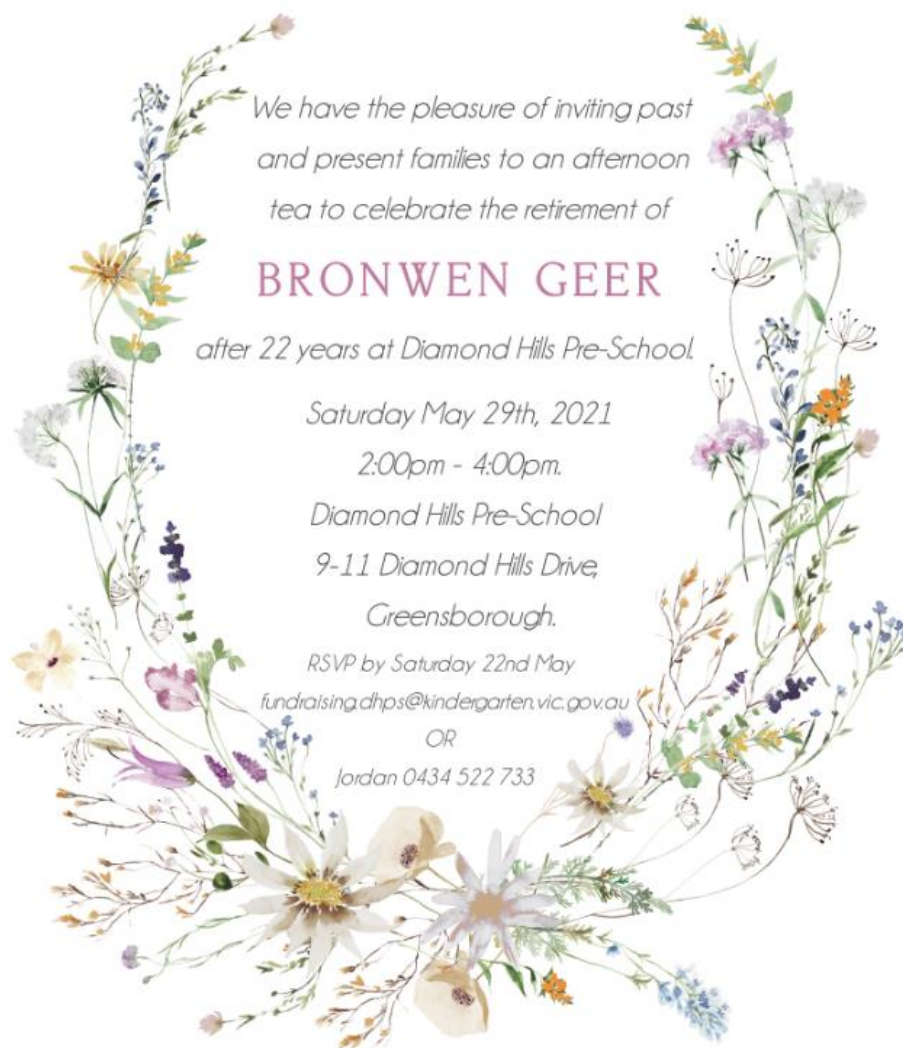
Regular positive parent-child interactions help kids pick up the basic social skills needed to interact with their peers, as well as more subtle resilience skills such as humour, goal-setting and persistence. So, parents need to look for as many opportunities as possible to spend time with and talk to their kids.

Kids also learn optimism from home. Martin Seligman, author of *The Optimistic Child*, found that kids pick up the explanatory style of the parent they spend most time around, usually mothers, by the age of eight. If that parent tends to be optimistic, it's likely the child will be too. In other words, a 'can do' attitude pays off.

Promoting resilience in kids is not a single event but a continual process. It requires parents, teachers and other adults to look for opportunities for kids to stretch themselves socially, academically and even emotionally.



James Penson, Janine Hough, Roslyn Mackie and Betty Hajichristou
Connected Schools Team



*We have the pleasure of inviting past
and present families to an afternoon
tea to celebrate the retirement of*

BRONWEN GEER

after 22 years at Diamond Hills Pre-School.

Saturday May 29th, 2021

2:00pm - 4:00pm.

Diamond Hills Pre-School

9-11 Diamond Hills Drive,

Greensborough.

RSVP by Saturday 22nd May

fundraising.dhps@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

OR

Jordan 0434 522 733



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smile **experts**

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teeth. Book an appointment online
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