



Hunter Mobile Preschool

February 2016
Newsletter



Welcome

A warm welcome to Hunter Mobile Preschool to our new families and a cheerful welcome back to returning families. We are looking forward to a busy year.

Fees

Our fees have gone up by \$2 from this year. Please ensure that if you are continuing internet payments for your fees, that you have changed the amount to suit the increase. If you have any queries regarding your preschool fees, please contact Liz in the office from Monday to Thursday on 49346725. Our service depends on fees in order to operate, please ensure that your fees are kept up to date.

Next Committee Meeting

The next committee meeting date will be Monday 14th March 2016 at 10.30am. Children are welcome and morning tea is provided.

Facebook

If you haven't done so already, please "friend" us on Facebook. We post weekly updates and will use it to get important information to parents regarding preschool in the case of natural disasters if staff cannot access the office to contact families.

Signing your child in & out

It is important that you write down the actual time you are picking up your child, not the time preschool finishes. These daily sign in sheets are a record in case there is any accident or incident at preschool.

Our service approval states clearly the operating hours of each venue. It is important that staff are the only ones on the premises outside the hours listed below.

Gresford	9.00am – 2.45pm
Millfield	9.30am – 3.00pm
Vacy	9.00am – 3.00pm
Gillieston Heights	9.00am – 3.00pm
Lochinvar	9.00am – 2.45pm
Wollombi	9.45am – 3.15pm

Please remember that by initialling the conditions on your child's enrolment form, parents have agreed to be bound by these conditions.

Preschool parents & carers afternoon tea

At the first committee meeting for 2016, the suggestion to have an afternoon tea at the venues, for parents to get to know each other was raised.

We will be holding afternoon teas at each venue during week 5 of preschool. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided.

This will also be an opportunity to discuss amongst yourselves who would like to take on the role of venue representative at committee meetings. Information about this role will be available at the afternoon tea.

For catering purposes, please indicate on the sheet at preschool whether you will be attending.

Afternoon teas will be held on the following dates during week 5 (22nd – 26th February)

Vacy – Monday 22nd
Gillieston Heights & Gresford – Tuesday 23rd
Lochinvar & Wollombi – Thursday 24th
Millfield – Friday 26th

Please see the notes handed out at your venue for the time.

Management Committee

Hunter Mobile Preschool is a Not-for-Profit Community Based Preschool. This means that all money received by the preschool such as Government Grants, Fees and Fundraising money, is put back into the preschool. It is used to pay the staff that run preschool, maintain and run the vans we use to travel to preschool, purchase new equipment and craft resources for preschool, maintain the base at Maitland where the vans and equipment are stored and to pay rent and help upgrade the venues in which we hold preschool.

The preschool service is operated by The Lower Hunter Children's Activity Van Association Incorporated which is made up of a Management Committee of Parents and Interested Community Members and the best way to have an input into the way the service is run is to join this Committee. While it is great for parents to discuss needs that may be specific to their venues, the only way for these issues to be dealt with is at an official meeting of the Management Committee.

As an Incorporated Association, we have legal reporting obligations to The NSW Department of Fair Trading and to The NSW Department of Education, both regarding the operations and finances of the service and all decisions regarding the running of the preschool must be minuted, audited and presented to these bodies annually. The Incorporated Association also holds a Charitable Fundraising Authority issued by The NSW Department of Gaming and Racing and therefore, all fundraising done in the name of the Preschool must be done through the Association and included in our financial records for annual audit.

The next meeting of the Management Committee is the Annual General Meeting, it will be held on Monday 14th March at 11.30am at our base 3/5 Anlaby Street Maitland. It will be preceded by a short final meeting of the current Committee commencing at 10.30am.

AGM Agenda

1. To receive reports from the committee on the activities of Lower Hunter Children's Activity Van Inc for the year to December 2015, including Audited Financial Statements.
2. Election of office bearers for the ensuing year:
 - President
 - Vice-president (& Publicity Officer)
 - Treasurer
 - Secretary
3. Election of up to six ordinary members to the committee for the ensuing year (total of 10)
4. To discuss the future of Lower Hunter Children's Activity Van Inc.
5. To transact any other business that may be brought forward at the discretion of the Chairman of the meeting.

We encourage all parents to attend the AGM if possible and to consider joining as a Committee Member.

Preschool Hats

Our adjustable hats are available in 2 sizes, small 51-55cm, and large 56-60cm. They are \$12 each, and come in pink, purple, light green and electric blue. If you are interested, check with the staff at your venue. We have just placed an order for more preschool hats.



Healthy eating at preschool

We encourage healthy eating at preschool. Our healthy eating guidelines are being taken from the 'Good for Kids' program that was developed by Hunter New England Health. Please start to look at the nutrition panels on packaged foods as they will need to fit into the following guidelines to be eaten at preschool.

Fat: less than 20g of total fat per 100g and less than 5g of saturated fat per 100g

Sugar: less than 15g sugar per 100g

Sodium: less than 600mg of sodium per 100g

If your child does have something at preschool that doesn't come under these guidelines, it will be placed into a zip lock bag with an information slip in it, and returned home. This will only be if they have enough healthier options for the rest of the day.

**"The first five
years have so
much to do with
how the next 80
turn out."**

Brought to you by
the **Ounce**
ounceofprevention.org

- Bill Gates Sr., Co-Chair
of the Bill and Melinda
Gates Foundation

Hunter Mobile Preschool Staff

Sarah, Leanne, Bek, Jacquie, Paula, Alex & Liz