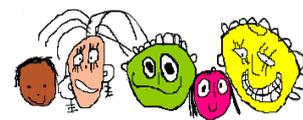


Hamilton Community Pre-School

"Where discoveries, learning and fun connect"



Information Sheets for Parents:

Calendar of Important Days, Celebrations and Events

National Quality Standard – Quality Area 6

Element 6.2 – Collaborative Partnerships

Below is a list of significant dates, celebrations and events that occur within the community.

January:

- ❖ *New Years Day -1st*
- ❖ *New Year Holiday -2nd*
- ❖ *Chinese New Year - 21st*

This new year celebration is also called Lunar New Year and celebrated also as Spring Festival. It is celebrated in January or February in many countries around the world, especially in countries with larger Asian communities. Where ancestors are honoured and traditional ceremonies are held where people get together and welcome the new year with customs that shall bring good luck, good fortune, wealth, prosperity and happiness.

- ❖ *Vietnamese Lunar New Year Festival -22nd*
- ❖ *Survival Day -26th*

This is a celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and people. Events are held around Australia showcasing different aspects of culture including dance, literature, music, food, language and history

- ❖ *Australia Day- 26th*

The official national day of Australia, it marks the 1788 landing of the First Fleet, and raising of the Union Flag by Arthur Phillip, at Sydney Cove in New South Wales.

February:

- ❖ *National Apology Day – 13th*

To mark the anniversary of the formal apology by the Parliament of Australia to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, particularly the Stolen Generations, for past injustices

- ❖ *Valentine Day – 14th*
- ❖ *Sydney Gay Pride / Mardi Gras – 25th*

March:

- ❖ *World Wildlife Day* – 3rd

It is a United Nations International day to celebrate all the world's wild animals and plants and the contribution that they make to our lives and the health of the planet.

- ❖ *Clean up Australia* – 5th

It encourages every member of our communities, both young and young-at-heart, to get out and get cleaning.

- ❖ *Saint Patricks Day* – 17th

It's the Day of the Festival of Patrick and is a cultural and religious celebration

- ❖ *National Close the Gap Day* – 20th

This is held to raise awareness about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health crisis and promote equality in life expectancy and health status between Indigenous and Non - Indigenous people

- ❖ *Shrove Tuesday or Pancake Day* – 21st

The traditional feast day before the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday

- ❖ *Harmony Day* – 21st

A celebration of our cultural diversity – a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home.

- ❖ *Ramadan Begins* – 22nd

Observed by Muslims worldwide as a month of fasting (*sawm*), prayer, reflection and community

- ❖ *Earth Hour* – 25th

An event which asks you to switch off all your lights for one hour. The aim is to involve as many people as possible in positive change for our planet.

April:

- ❖ *April Fools Day* – 1st

- ❖ *Easter* – 7th – 10th

- ❖ *Orthodox Easter* – 16th

- ❖ *Ramadan Ends* – 20th

- ❖ *Earth Day* – 22nd

Celebration that honors the achievements of the environmental movement and raises awareness of the need to protect Earth's natural resources for future generations.

- ❖ *World Book Day* – 23rd

A celebration to promote the enjoyment of books and reading

- ❖ *Anzac Day* – 25th

Commemoration of the anniversary of the landing of Australian and New Zealand troops at Gallipoli, Turkey

May:

- ❖ *Mother's Day* – 14th

- ❖ *International Day for Families* – 15th

To raise awareness about issues that families face and to increase understanding about all the other factors that influence a family as a whole.

- ❖ *National Sorry Day* – 26th

Australians participate in services and survival celebrations and community gatherings to honour and commemorate the Stolen Generation

- ❖ *National Reconciliation Week* – 27th

Celebrates the anniversary of the 1967 Referendum and High Court decision. It to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements

- ❖ *World Play Day* – 28th

Celebrates children's right to play

June:

- ❖ *Reconciliation Week Ends* – 3rd
- ❖ *Mabo Day* – 13th

Anniversary of the High Courts decision led by Eddie Koiki Mabo, which overturned the legal fiction of *terra nullius* and recognised Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander as the original custodians of this land.

- ❖ *World Environment Day* – 5th

Encouraging worldwide awareness and action to protect our environment.

- ❖ *World Ocean Day* – 8th

Celebrate our world's shared ocean and our personal connection to the sea, as well as to raise awareness about the crucial role the ocean plays in our lives and the important ways people can help protect it

- ❖ *King's Birthday* – 12th

July:

- ❖ *Coming of the Light* – 1st

Recognises the point in time when Christianity came to the Torres Strait and the acceptance of Christianity (the Light).

- ❖ *National NAIDOC Week Begins* – 6th

Celebrates the history, culture and achievements of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

- ❖ *National NAIDOC Week Ends* – 13th

August:

- ❖ *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day* – 4th

A day to reflect on the human rights of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and have the opportunity to understand and practice their culture

- ❖ *International Day of World's Indigenous Peoples* – 9th

Affirms the importance of protecting and promoting the rights of Indigenous people all around the world

- ❖ *National Science Week Begins* – 12th

Celebration of all things science and technology.

- ❖ *Book Week Begins* – 20th

Celebrating books, and Australian authors and illustrators

- ❖ *National Science Week Ends* – 12th

- ❖ *Book Week Ends* – 25th

September:

- ❖ *Father's Day* – 3rd
- ❖ *Indigenous Literacy Day* – 7th

Aims to raise awareness of the need to support literacy in remote and isolated indigenous communities of Australia

- ❖ *Early Childhood Educator Day* – 7th

Recognises and celebrates the work of Australia's educators in early learning services for their wonderful contribution to the wellbeing and healthy development of the young children in their care.

- ❖ *R U OK? Day* – 13th

Dedicated to reminding everyone that any day is the day to ask, 'are you OK?' and support those struggling with life.

- ❖ *Anniversary of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Day* – 14th

Recognising that Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and develop their political, economic and social systems or institutions, to be secure in the enjoyment of their own means of subsistence and development, and to engage freely in all their traditional and other economic activities

September continued:

- ❖ *International Literacy Day* – 14th

Recognise the importance of literacy and acknowledge the need to create a globally literate community.

- ❖ *Moon Festival* – 29th

To pray for the harvest, fine weather and peace for the country.

October:

- ❖ *World Space Week Begins* – 4th

Celebrates science and technology and their impact on the development of the human condition.

- ❖ *World Teacher's Day* – 5th

It is a chance to recognise and celebrate the teachers who are making, or have made, an impact in our lives.

- ❖ *Children's Week Begins* – 21st

Highlights that all children and young people can participate in and make a valuable contribution to their society.

- ❖ *Children's Week Ends* – 29th

- ❖ *Grandparents Day* – 29th

- ❖ *Halloween* – 31st

November:

- ❖ *Remembrance Day* – 11th

An occasion to remember those who died or suffered for Australia's cause in all wars and armed conflicts.

- ❖ *Diwali* – 12th

A festival of lights that celebrates the triumph of light over darkness, good over evil and the human ability to overcome

- ❖ *National Recycle Week Begins* – 13th

Aims to educate and empower people to do the right thing when they're at the bin.

- ❖ *National Recycle Week Ends* – 19th

- ❖ *World Children's Day* – 20th

To promote international togetherness, awareness among children worldwide, and improving children's welfare.

December:

- ❖ *Hanukkah Begins* – 7th

- ❖ *Hanukkah Ends* – 15th

- ❖ *Christmas Eve* – 24th

- ❖ *Christmas Day* – 25th

- ❖ *Boxing Day* – 26th

- ❖ *New Year Eve* – 31st