New Students Arrive Just in Time for Space Day!

Stars, Galaxies and Space excitement!

It has been an absolute pleasure this week to see our school bursting with life and excitement.

Firstly our warmest welcome goes to Liam, Emma and Claire who started at our school on Tuesday. The children have enjoyed settling into class lessons and activities and have made a number of new friendships. Yesterday our school was a buzz of excitement from daylight until late at night. Firstly, nearly sixty children from four schools combined at Hill End Public School for the day to learn all about space. The day was organised to give children learning experiences with a real scientist and undertake some hands-on experiments. It was thrilling to hear the excitement of the children throughout the school and was one of those days that make teaching such a rewarding profession.

Our special guest for the day was Aina Musaeva. Aina is a PhD astronomy student from University of Sydney and CAASTRO (Centre of Excellence for All Sky Astrophysics). Aina travelled from Sydney to volunteer her time to inspire the children with her experiences in studying the universe and her research interest – black holes.

Last night Aina and her fellow astronomer Les Dalrymple set up their amazing telescopes and spent the evening sharing their knowledge of space with adults and children alike. Two amazing highlights for me personally were clearly observing Saturn and its rings, and then viewing the Sombrero Galaxy, a mere 30 million light years from the earth!

Thank you to everyone who helped organise, care, take part and enjoy both the school activities and our community dinner. It was wonderful to see so many people, children and adults at the school throughout the day.

Enjoy the weekend.

Mr G
LEARNING ABOUT SPACE & MUCH, MUCH MORE

What an incredible day and night at Hill End Public School on Thursday! Wollar PS, Glen Alice PS and Hargraves PS joined us for a day of science. Students were divided into 3 groups to rotate around the activities provided. One group at a time spent time with Aina learning all about black holes. Judging by all the questions being asked, students were totally engrossed in the subject.

Another group were with Mrs Rayner creating their own rockets in a wonderful craft activity. Students were very excited about their creations and so were we!

Our resident rocket scientist Mr G, enthralled students with his hands on experiments with rocket dynamics, pressures and energy.
There was fun in the playground too at recess and lunch with students making new friends and catching up with old ones.

**TRANSITION**

In 'Little Diggers' this week Charlotte and Emily were joined by our new 'Little Digger' Toby. Toby has just moved to Hill End with his parents and family. He had a great first day!

Special thanks to Graham, Lee, Mandy, Marianne and Julie for their help in providing lunch for everyone.

**AWARDS**

**STUDENT OF THE WEEK**

Allen Drakeford - Progress with Reading

You Did It Award

William Drakeford - effort in Student Leadership Group

**Star Students** - settling into HEPS life.

Claire English

Emma English

Liam English

Well Done!

**SPACE NIGHT DINNER!**

On Thursday evening, many community members joined staff, parents and students for a presentation given by Aina Musaeva. This was followed by a dinner provided by HEPS as another community engagement, back to school event. Then, it was out to view the stars with the huge telescopes that Aina and Les had set up!

Everyone was amazed at what they saw, it was unreal for others, the information given by Aina and Les while viewing was incredible and brought it all to life! Many thanks to you both and to all our community members who came along for the ride. What a wonderful night!
PJ Day
We raised $40.70 for the Asthma Foundation on PJ Day.
Thanks to everyone who supported this fun day at school last week.

Lee and Mandy make use of school facilities during the week.
Don’t forget to come along to school if you need to fax, print or use a computer.