

HIPPY HAPPENINGS

HIPPY GIRRAWHEEN NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 5
NOV/DEC 2010

Just what do Home Tutors do?

HIPPY Girrawheen Home Tutors are chosen from the local area because they understand what it is to be part of this community. They receive their initial and ongoing training to the HIPPY philosophy and program from the HIPPY Girrawheen Coordinator, Jacquie Mayne. Our Tutors have various work and life experiences and diverse cultural backgrounds. However, one thing all of our Home Tutors have in common is they have a child enrolled in HIPPY. So they really can relate to parents' frustrations and successes!

Home Tutors are employed for up to 15 hours per week. They attend weekly training sessions with Jacquie and prepare the materials for each home visit in advance. They try to organise appointments to suit their families, visiting 8 to 12 families each week. Some Tutors work only two days per week and so have up to six families to visit on each day, in addition to keeping accurate records and preparing for visits.

We hope that parents look at their Home Tutor and think, "she's like me, if she can do it, so can I!" This is peer learning. Home Tutors become role models for parents...but remember they are also women, mothers, wives, sisters, daughters and friends, just like you! They too have good days and some not so good.

Our Home Tutors enjoy working alongside HIPPY parents. They love hearing all the success stories of their children, sharing ideas and experiences with parents, seeing the excitement of the children in the program and observing their wonderful progress. The Home Tutor role offers ongoing support and training, flexible hours and the opportunity to gain valuable knowledge and experience.

We are now recruiting new Home Tutors and families ready to start in Term 1, 2011. If you, or someone you know, is interested in joining HIPPY either as a Tutor or a new family, please call Jacquie on 0407 992 604.



HIPPY Girrawheen Graduation 2010

Our Age 4 Celebration and Age 5 Graduation will be held at Noranda Family Centre on December 17th, 2010 from 5.00pm to 7.00pm.



Food, drink and entertainment will be provided. Mark your calendar—your invitation is on the way!

SO YOUR CHILD IS STARTING SCHOOL!

Preparing for school is an exciting time for you and your child. We all want to see our children happy and settled, and a good start to school has long term benefits. As a parent, you have an important role in helping your child start with confidence. You can be the 'bridge' for your child as they move between home and school.



Children are expected to be more independent and responsible for themselves at school. There are some basic skills, including following instructions, taking turns, dressing themselves and going to the toilet by themselves, that children need to be able to do at school. Provide opportunities for your child to practice these skills and encourage their efforts.

Go on a picnic to help them practice wearing a backpack and eating from a lunchbox. Keep reading to your child daily—including the HIPPY Age 5 book 'Charlie Starts School'! Make sure they have crayons or pencils and paper to draw and write on. Talk with your child about school and let them ask questions in their own way and in their own time. Talk positively about school and your own experiences of school. Meet your child's teacher. Get involved with the school; if you are confident and comfortable at the school, your child will notice. Encourage your child to ask questions when they need help, and let them tell you about their feelings and thoughts. Ask them about other children in their class and organise 'get-togethers'.

Any new stage or major change can be challenging, but it need not be frightening or difficult. Starting school is an exciting event—try to make it as fun and positive as possible!

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ANOTHER PARENTING MYTH

"I should know all the answers!"

You don't have to know everything. No parent has all the answers. Have reasonable expectations of yourself, your strengths and weaknesses and those of your children. Have confidence in what you know, but also feel okay saying you don't know something. Find out more about things you are less confident or know less about. Showing an interest in learning sets a great example for your children!

~ Anglicare WA

This is YOUR newsletter and we value your input. If you have any stories or experiences to share, we'd love to hear from you! Please email HIPPYGirrawheen@ngala.com.au or call Jacquie 0407 992 604

The Brotherhood of St Laurence (BSL) is licensed to operate HIPPY in Australia.

The Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

HIPPY GROUP MEETINGS

Group meetings are an important part of the HIPPY program. Meetings are held at Hainsworth Centre, Hainsworth Avenue, Girrawheen.

At the meeting on Friday 12th November, we will be talking about what to expect at different ages and stages—what is 'normal'? On Friday 26th November, we will be doing some craft activities for the school holidays. Our last meeting for 2010 will be on December 10th and we will be celebrating our achievements over the past year!

Free crèche and morning tea are provided.

We look forward to seeing you at a HIPPY Girrawheen group meeting!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Friday November 12, 10am-noon

Friday November 26, 10am-noon

Friday December 10, 10am-noon



Brotherhood
of St Laurence
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HIPPY
Girrawheen

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Parenting with Confidence

Celebrating
120 years
1890-2010