

HIPPY AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER



HIPPY
Australia

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HIPPY Australia Welcomes a New National Manager

We are very pleased to advise that Carmen Calleya-Capp has been appointed as the National Manager, HIPPY Australia. Carmen commenced her role with HIPPY Australia on the 11th August and has hit the ground running!

Beginning her career as a primary school teacher and working in the Disadvantaged Schools Program, and also as an Infant Education and Ethnic Community Consultant Carmen brings to this role a strong background in education leadership and disadvantaged communities.

Carmen brings a strong understanding of policy development and funding. As a member of the State Board of Education (1985 - 1989), Carmen chaired the Aboriginal Languages

Project and was on the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Multicultural and Migrant Education. She was the Secretary of the Victorian Ethnic Affairs Commission (1988-1990). She has extensive experience of grants and projects, having headed up the Victorian Women's Trust Grants Programs and as a member of the State Government's Education Grants Committee.

Carmen has held a variety of positions in the community sector, including as Chair of VICSEG, the state-wide pre-school CALD children's services body and as Director of Welfare for the Maltese Community Council of Victoria. She has also undertaken locum manager roles with Women's Health in the

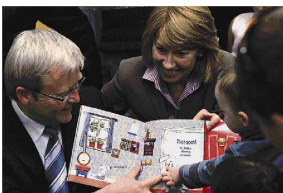
North and Northern Metro Migrant Resource Centre.

For the past 13 years, Carmen has been with Centrelink, as Operations Manager and more recently as Business Manager responsible for three large demanding Centrelink offices where she built a strong reputation for achieving excellent staff morale and performance levels in very difficult community environments.

We welcome Carmen to the team and wish her the very best in her new role with HIPPY!



Prime Minister announces HIPPY Locations for 2009



At the announcement of HIPPY Locations for 2009 Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, and Parliamentary Secretary for Early Childhood, Education and Child Care, Maxine McKew, read a storybook to children and their families.

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations in partnership with the Brotherhood of St Laurence has announced the locations that will be considered in the first year of the federal HIPPY roll-out.

The announcement was made by Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, and Parliamentary Secretary for early childhood, education and child care, Maxine McKew, in Western Sydney on Tuesday the 16th September.

Sites funded from 2009 will

include our current sites in New South Wales (La Perouse), Tasmania (Smithton and Burnie), and Victoria (Colac, Fitzroy, Geelong, Moonee Valley, Moreland and Winchelsea).

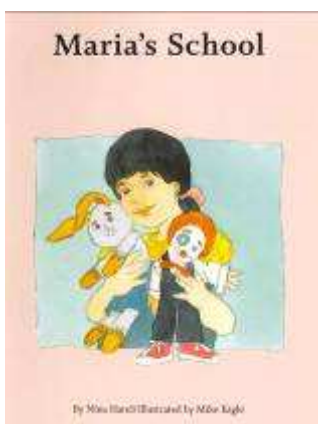
Thirteen additional locations have been identified for a HIPPY site in 2009, including implementing a program in Launceston, Tasmania in partnership with Anglicare.

The 12 new HIPPY site locations where a partner is required are:

- Claymore (Campbelltown) NSW
- Windale (Newcastle) NSW
- Inala (Brisbane City) QLD
- Riverview (Ipswich City) QLD
- Elizabeth Grove (Adelaide) SA
- Girrawheen (Perth) WA
- Rockingham WA
- Rosebery TAS
- Sheffield TAS
- Clarendon Vale (Hobart) TAS
- Charnwood (Canberra) ACT
- Alice Springs NT

The Expression of Interest form will be available on the HIPPY website until applications close at 5pm on the 20th October 2008. Please contact HIPPY with any roll out enquiries.

A Word From the HIPPY Moonee Valley



The HIPPY book *Maria's School* that helped Seatal learn the days of the week.

Nicola Mackenzie, Coordinator for HIPPY Moonee Valley, wrote this reflective story after a visit with Muluk Hamid and her daughter Seatal in August...

Today Muluk talked about how happy she was with HIPPY. She mentioned that although she has lived in the area for a number of years she didn't know about HIPPY until she met me at a play group in Ascot Vale at the end of 2007. She said that she was ready to teach her children but just didn't know where to start. She has been doing HIPPY with

her daughter Seatal since March 2008 and can't believe the difference it has made. She said that her daughter has learned so much already. She is listening, beginning to ask how to write her name and those of other family members. She loves stories cutting and colouring.

Recently Muluk has noticed that Seatal has been confused about the days of the week. For example, on Saturday asking "is it a Kinda day today?" Muluk was thinking what can I do to teach her? She hoped

that learning about the days of the week would be part of HIPPY? That week her Tutor, Hassina, came to visit and introduced a new storybook. Muluk was amazed to find that Maria's School was able to help Seatal learn about the days of the week. It came along at the perfect time. She said "HIPPY thinks of everything!"

Muluk feels confident that when Seatal starts school next year she will be well prepared. She is also looking forward to starting HIPPY with her younger daughter next year.

'Through HIPPY my child learnt counting, colours and shapes in an interesting way. It made learning fun.'

NSW Parent Feedback 2007

A National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care by Catharine Hydon

Diversity is one of the strengths of the early years service system in Australia. It also brings its challenges. Each state has different names for the year before school, each have different regulations and licensing arrangements and we are not clear about what we want in a quality program for children and their families. The Australian Government

has announced plans for a new national quality framework for early childhood education and care. It is hoped that the process will assist to create stronger quality standards for the care and education that we offer children and their families. It aims to implement a common regulatory and licensing framework that will address the anomalies that exist

across states and create a robust platform upon which we can offer the best outcomes for children.

For more information or to make a comment check out the discussion paper - 'A national quality framework for early childhood education and care: a discussion paper' available at www.deewr.gov.au/COAGdiscussionpaper

Joining Hands — Story telling festival



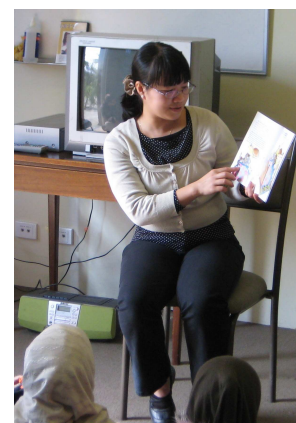
HIPPY Fitzroy recently took part in a Story Festival, with the theme 'joining hands', at Gasworks Arts Park in Melbourne.

HIPPY Fitzroy, along with Readings bookstores, a long time supporter of the program, and other local groups took part in this festival. The event was aimed at children aged 4 to 10 celebrating the written word in a variety of languages.

Marisa Pizzini, the Fitzroy

Coordinator, set up a HIPPY room where Tutors read the translated HIPPY books aloud in their own languages of Vietnamese, Somali and Arabic.

The festival also included talks by well known authors and illustrators, with story readings and activities, roving performances and characters, art exhibitions by local schools, loads of art & craft making activities and a wonderful culturally influenced food village.



HIPPY Fitzroy Tutor, Mai, reading a storybook to children at the festival

HIPPY Winchelsea Families Stop, Drop and Roll!

On Tuesday 22nd of July, HIPPY Families who attended the Group Meeting in Moriac were lucky enough to have Brett McManus from the CFA come out to talk to us about Fire Safety in the home.

Brett arrived in his fire truck and the children were delighted. Brett spoke about fire safety and awareness within the home and what do in the event of a fire emergency.

Parents received a great package of fire safety information which had great tips and ideas on how to create your personal home fire escape

plan with the whole family.

Children were also taught important safety techniques within the event of a fire such as:



- Get Down Low and GO GO GO
- STOP, DROP and ROLL
- Call 000

After Brett had finished talking to us about fire safety we were able to go outside to the fire truck. The children were ecstatic when Brett turned on the lights and siren. The children were also able to put their potential fire fighting skills in place when they held the hose and sprayed water.

It was a fun learning experience for all involved.

AXA Hearts In Action — Cookie Decorating for Charity!

AXA has been a strong partner of HIPPY Australia for many years now and their support often goes beyond financial contributions. Over the past year the AXA Hearts In Action Program has run series of events for their staff to inspire community involvement. As one of the many charities they support, BSL and HIPPY were invited to take part in these events.

The AXA Hearts in Action Challenge is a global event aimed to inspire all AXA employees to get involved with the Hearts In Action

program.

During this global event, Hearts In Action invited employees to join the 'challenge' and take action to benefit the community before Friday 20 June.

As a final event to celebrate their achievements, and as a way of thanking employees for their efforts in benefiting the community, AXA planned a series of fun filled lunch time activities on each floor of their building for 'Challenge Day' 20 June.

Hearts In Action donated \$1 for each employee who participated

in any of the activities.

HIPPY was in charge of the very successful cookie decorating table, where employees won prizes for the best looking designs, and went back to work on a sugar high!

Many AXA employees took part and Hearts In Action were really pleased with the amount of names on the volunteer sign up sheets.

HIPPY Australia would like to acknowledge AXA's valuable and continuous support.



'HIPPY is a fantastic program and we have been very fortunate that both our kids have been given the opportunity to graduate from HIPPY. It would be great to see HIPPY expand so that more families can access this wonderful experience' 2007 parent feedback (NSW)

I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand. — Confucius



Enquires can be made to
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The Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters (HIPPY) is a home-based parenting and early childhood enrichment program targeted at disadvantaged families in our community.

HIPPY empowers parents as their children's first teacher and fosters parent involvement in school and community life, to maximise the chances of a successful early school experience. For some parents, it also offers a supported pathway to employment and local community leadership.

HIPPY Australia would like to thank all of its funding bodies and individuals for their support. We couldn't do it without you.



Brotherhood
of St Laurence

Working for an Australia free of poverty



SIDNEY MYER FUND



And now a word from HIPPY La Perouse...

HIPPY La Perouse will soon have two additional NSW sites to keep them company when the federal roll out begins in January 2009.

Sherri Longbottom, HIPPY La Perouse Coordinator, has been with HIPPY since the site opened in 2002 and she was trained in Israel where HIPPY was developed.

As an established site and through Sherri's expertise and program experience, La Perouse will be able to provide valuable advice and assistance to the new programs and Coordinators in the NSW network.

Sherri recently recorded the following story about a family in her program...

'HIPPY La Perouse mum, Raelene, is doing HIPPY with her daughter, Indiana (Age 4). Raelene applied for a Teachers' Aide job at a local school.

About 15 other people sat for interviews and Raelene was short listed as one of the last few candidates.

During her interview she told the Principal that she was involved with HIPPY and explained to him what she does at home when teaching her daughter.

The Principal was so impressed that her offered the job to her. She was happy to accept and Raelene now works part time as the Teachers' Aide.'

La Perouse have also had lots of great feedback about our new book *Merinya and Nupia*. This story book was introduced into the program during the last quarter.

Sherri says 'the children love it and so do the parents'.



The children at Gujaga painting the spinning tops. They had lots of fun decorating the tops and the tops will be kept at Gujaga so the children can get to play with them.