

The HU4K Focus



March 2023



Dear volunteers and friends,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2023. It is wonderful to see most schools have returned to standard operations this year. Our zone coordinators are reporting our volunteers are operating in most schools.

We are very lucky to have Suzanne Gratwick to be editing and producing our newsletter. Suzanne recently volunteered herself for this role and we are very grateful. If any volunteers have any questions or suggestions, please contact Suzanne to help keep our newsletter relevant and vital. (email: suzgratwick@gmail.com)

A reminder for all to check the expiry on your Working With Children's Check. The easiest way to renew is online before the expiry date.

Most schools have an electronic sign in system now. It takes a little getting used to but hopefully will be useful in the future as reports are easily downloaded. Zone Coordinators are able to ask for a download of our HU4K volunteers list a couple of times per term to view and assist any volunteers.

Congratulations to Jan Pedersen on being named as City of Bunbury's Citizen of the Year at this year's Australia Day Ceremony. We are so fortunate to have her so passionately involved with HU4K, in amongst her other community interests and commitments. Congratulations, and thank you, Jan.

Don't forget to **talk to your friends** and acquaintances about volunteering for HU4K. New volunteers are always welcome. Just pass on Jan Akaczonk's contact. (0499240371). Of all the many and varied ways of promoting HU4K to the community to find new volunteers, we have found 'word of mouth' to be the most effective. So don't be afraid to share your experience.

Congratulations and thank you for continuing to be a valued part of our HU4K's community. I look forward to seeing you throughout the year. Kind regards,

Helen Foan, **Chairperson**

Welcome

Welcome to all our new volunteers. Happy volunteering from the HU4K community. Your time is greatly valued by all in our community and we thank you for joining Hands Up 4 Kids.



Hands Up 4 Kids 10th Anniversary celebrations. Featured are photos of Australind, Kingston and Maidens Primary



Thankyou

We wish to gratefully acknowledge the support for our 10th year celebrations, City of Bunbury events grant; Bunbury CWA; and the Bunbury Leschenault Rotary Club

Did You Know?

Research has proven that impoverished children in Australia are more likely to start school at a literacy disadvantage, and lacking these literary foundations hinders overall future cognitive development as these children progress through higher levels of education.

The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority data indicates that children living in poverty have around a 30% negative difference in educational outcomes based on Year 12 graduation rates and standardized testing scores. Technological advancements and increasing skill-level requirements for jobs will only further contribute to the financial burden for impoverished families and will surely lessen educational outcomes.

ONE OF THE
GREATEST GIFTS
YOU CAN GIVE IS
YOUR TIME

#VOLUNTEER

Dear reader, we need you. The greatest way to attract new volunteers to HU4K is via word-of-mouth recommendations. Please, share your experiences with people you meet and encourage others to join. No other advertising is as valuable or successful as word-of-mouth recommendations. Please pass on to prospective volunteers HU4K phone number : 0499 240 371 OR email: handsup4kids@gmail.com

