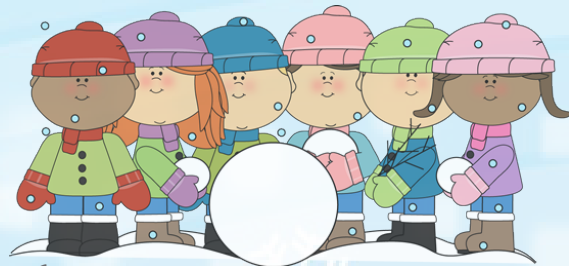


Newsletter

Farm Road Pre-school - Kindergarten

June, 2019



From the President

Firstly a big thank you to all of the families who attended our working bee in March, we had a huge turn out with over 25 families coming to help, the new grass is looking great.

Despite the terrible weather, our open day was also a great success, we had lots of new families come and have a look around. Thank you to all our teachers and Nicole and Yiota for coming in on their Saturday to help.

Our first fundraiser of the year, the easter egg hunt and fun morning was a huge success. The children had a great time and it was a nice opportunity for the families to socialize. Thank you to Jith Kumar, Rosie Cassell, Laura MacDonald, Garry Tanner and Chris Cartwright for organizing and delivering such a fun event and we raised almost \$400.

How's your child going at kinder???? Later in the year the educators will arrange parent teacher interviews, however they are always happy to talk to parents, answer questions or give you an update. Please feel free to contact your teachers and they can make a time to meet with you or give you a phone call to chat. "Stay 'n' Play" is also a great way to see how your child is progressing and socializing and get to know the teachers, we'd love if each family could do at least one "stay 'n' play" each term.

Do you have any old baby things you no longer need? There are some great local charities that re-home pre-loved baby items. We will be running a winter coat drive at kinder, but you can donate good quality items at any time to St Kilda Mums www.stkildamums.org, Mums Supporting Families in Need www.msfin.org.au or nappies to the nappy collective www.thenappycollective.com.

The big move is coming..... we are closing at 1pm on 27th June to pack up ready for our temporary move to Kingstons Heath Primary School, the children are excited about the move and the staff are working hard to make sure the move and transition is smooth for children and families. We really appreciate all of the support from you, our families, the staff and committee have put a lot of time in to working with city of Kingstons to ensure we have the best short term and long term outcomes for our children and families from this project.

If at any point you have any questions or concerns please contact the staff or myself. We look forward to seeing you all from our new site, 25 Farm Road, Cheltenham from the week commencing 15 July.

Have a great holiday break.

Caroline Brownlee

President

president.farm.road.preschool@gmail.com



June

Reminder!

Remember to check your child's pocket in the children's bathroom each session.

If your child is unwell please keep them home from kinder. This helps prevent the spread of disease and is the best place for them to recover

IF IN DOUBT...LEAVE IT OUT!

For the health and safety of all the children at kinder...

Please ensure that no food containing NUTS or foods containing NUT BY-PRODUCTS be brought to the kinder under any circumstances.

PHOTOGRAPHS

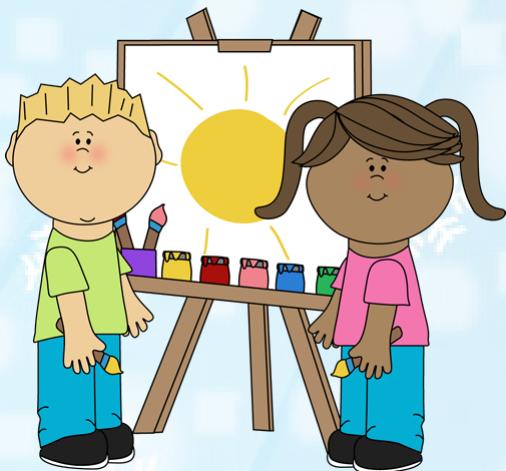
Just a reminder, inline with our IT policy, if you take a photo of any child other than your own (at an event, kinder or party) the photos can not be posted online or social media without the express permission from the child's parents.

PICK UP AND COLLECTION PROCEDURE

For the safety of all children it is essential that all parents follow the collection and drop off procedures

- At drop off sign your child in the attendance book
- Collect from the veranda at the back of the centre (off the carpark)
- Children will be asked to wait on the mat until the teacher says their name (please encourage your child to wait)
- Sign our AFTER you have collected your child.

We really appreciate your support in following to correct procedure.



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

We regularly post reminders and updates follow us to make sure you are up to date with everything.



UPCOMING DATES

- Wednesday June 5th – Obstacle-a-thon, Kookaburra Group
- Thursday June 6th – Obstacle-a-thon, Rosella and Bilby groups
- Friday June 7th – Excursion to Woolworths, Kookaburra Group
- Monday June 10th – Queens Birthday Public Holiday – No Kinder
- Wednesday June 12th – Dental Visit from Central Bayside CHC. Bilby Group
- Friday June 14th – Dental Visit from Central Bayside CHC. Kookaburra group a.m. and Rosella Group p.m.
- Monday June 17th – Grandparents morning – Kookaburra Group
- June 17th – 21st - Walk, Ride, Scoot to Kinder week
- Tuesday June 18th – Grandparents morning – Rosella Group
- Thursday June 20th – Road Safety Incursion, City of Kingston, Bilby Group
- Thursday June 20th – Excursion to Woolworths – Rosella Group
- Wednesday June 26th – Last day of term for Bilby and Kookaburra Groups
- Thursday June 27th - Last day of term for Rosella Group
- Monday July 15th – First day of term 3 – from Kingston Heath Primary School.

3yo Bilbies Group Newsletter Term 2

Hi Everyone!

It's hard to believe that it's already June and we are half way through the year!

The Bilbies have had a busy term of growing and learning! One of the highlights this term was our preparations for Mother's Day. The children made a special gift for their mum and were very excited to invite their mums and grandmothers to our special 'Mothers and Grandmothers Morning' for a play at kinder. It was a lovely morning spent together and we hope all our mums and grandmothers had a very special day with their families on Mother's Day!

We also spent time learning about the season of autumn and the changes it brings in the weather and natural environment. The children enjoyed observing the vibrant autumn leaf colours and participated in creative activities, songs, stories and discussions aimed to deepen their engagement with this topic.

Our final focus has been concentrating on Road Safety. The children have been participating in art activities, songs, stories and discussions which highlight the importance of being safe when we are passengers in a car, pedestrians or bike riders using the roads.

Special Events the Children have Participated in this Term:

23rd May-3rd June – Reconciliation Week

6th June – Obstacle-a-thon Fundraiser

12th June - Dental visit (Central Bayside Community Health)

17th June – Walk, Ride, Scoot to Kinder week

20th June – Road Safety Incursion (City of Kingston)

Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held for the Bilby Group on Friday 21st June.



With the cooler weather upon us, we've had a number of children ill with colds and related viruses. Many thanks to our parents for their phone calls informing us of their child's illness and for keeping their child home until they recover. This certainly helps reduce the spread of illness among the children and staff. We kindly ask that parents send a warm coat, jacket or extra jumper for their child to wear for winter play outdoors. A warm hat/beanie is also helpful for chilly days. Thank you to all our families who have been able to "Stay and Play" during our sessions. This is a great opportunity for you to see all the wonderful things we do at kinder. Children love having their parent stay and we greatly appreciate the extra help.

Term 2 for the Bilbies concludes on Wednesday 26th June and resumes for Term 3 on Wednesday 17th July at Kingston Heath Primary School.

We wish all our Bilby families a very safe and restful term break.

Kind regards.

Jeanette and Metaxia



4 yo Rosellas Group Newsletter Term 2

Hi Everyone,

We have a very busy Term 2 with lots of events and different activities happening. We welcomed Linda back after her long awaited holiday. Delphine (our lunchtime carer) filled in for Linda who took 4 weeks leave at the beginning of term 2. Delphine assisted on Tuesdays and Fridays. Thursdays were shared by Narelle and Louise.

We began by exploring Anzac Day which is a significant day for our community. We made Anzac biscuits and painted paper plate poppies.

The children enjoyed making their Mother's Day gifts. I hope Mums are wearing them now! They had a go at writing their names in the cards. The children made scones which were served with jam and cream during a successful Mother's Day morning tea. The children sang songs that they had been practising for their mothers. The children also helped set up and clean up afterwards.

We will encourage children to have a go at writing their names on their art work if they feel confident to. A good habit to get them used to is to start with a capital letter followed by lower case letters and to start on the left-hand side of the page. We write their names on the top left-hand side of the page. We offer drawing every day and encourage children to tell us about their drawing. Often, we write down their story which gives them the opportunity to see the words they say, in text. Drawing is an important pre-reading activity as they can see their spoken word in writing. Some of the children like making their own books now. We have looked at Autumn leaves and explored the season of Autumn noticing the changes in the weather it brings. The children enjoyed their Autumn walk around the neighbourhood and took the leaves they collected home which promoted further discussion about Autumn at home. Some children brought leaves from home for art or to share.

Science Day was a great hands on, learning experience. The children were divided into groups rotating around the different experiments. Some activities included colour mixing, weights, magnets, creating a volcano, prisms, floating and sinking and looking at x rays. We had 2 parents assist which helped make the session more beneficial and educational. There are so many simple experiments that promote science for young children.



During Reconciliation Week we introduced Acknowledgement to Country and discussed why people say it at different events. It is said to remember that the Aboriginal people were the first people here before Captain Cook discovered our country that we now all live in. We talked a little about explorers and how they came in big ships to discover different lands. The children are learning to recite it and do the actions as well. The children have painted didgeridoos, painted on rocks and paper bark, drawn with charcoal and dot painted as well. We have quite a large collection of puzzles and books which also promote learning about indigenous culture. We had a time outside when they could play their didgeridoos. The children baked delicious, hot Australian damper to eat on that day also. Children will continue to learn about keeping safe near our roads with the Road Safety Incursion on Friday, May 31st.

There will be more information following about the upcoming Grandparents/Special Person Morning, Dental Visit and our excursion to Woolworths in June before the exciting move to KHPS.

Warm Regards,
Belinda, Linda and Delphine



4 yo Kookaburra Group Newsletter Term 2

Hi everyone,

The children in the Kookaburra group have had a very busy term. Since last term we have welcomed 3 new children into our group. We finally got to meet Tanya who had been holidaying in China with her family for the whole of first term. Tanya has a younger brother and her parents are Jessie and Yu. A few weeks afterwards we welcomed Jay into the group. Jay and his family have moved from Bundoora and Jay also has a younger brother. Jay's parents are Yan and Wei. Finally, this week we had Audrey begin kinder with us. Audrey's parents are Renata and Paul. All three children have settled in very easily and it has been wonderful to see how welcoming the other children in the Kookaburra group have been to our new children. We are now at capacity in the Kookaburra group with 22 children in total.

Recently we held a Road Safety Information session here at Farm Rd. for all the early childhood services in the Bayside and City of Kingston municipalities. I see Road Safety as extremely important and it is very important that we work with parents to promote and teach road safety to our young children so that they can be safe years down the track when they are crossing the roads independently. The Road Safety Information session was run by ELAA, (Early Learning Association of Australia) who provided us lots of worrying statistics in relation to Road Safety and young children. For instance, 70% of child restraints are not installed correctly. Parents may want to look at the following website for further information Carseatssavelives.com.au

At kinder, Road Safety is embedded into the program in many ways – e.g. the children wear helmets when riding the trikes, we go on regular walks around the neighbourhood so that the children can practice crossing the roads safely, recognise the traffic signs, we have books, puzzles, posters etc. that reinforce the road safety message. We also talk to the children about how to be safe pedestrians and passengers. We have Road Safety incursions which further promote the Road Safety message. In a few weeks we have the Road Safety Officer from the City of Kingston coming to kinder to talk to the children about how to be safe in the traffic environment. Next term we also have Dr Eric Speriment, (Experiment) coming to kinder with Thingle Toodle (also known as TT) to teach the children about road safety. This is a fun but educational Road Safety incursion that is not only entertaining for the children, but also gets the message across. This incursion has been arranged for both 4-year-old groups. Do we have a parent from each group who is willing to dress up in the Thingle Toodle suit? It is not a difficult role as Dr Eric will guide you through it. If you are interested in helping with this, please let Belinda or myself know.

BUSH KINDER PROGRAM

We are very excited about the pilot Bush Kinder program that we will be starting next term with both 4-year-old groups. As you all know, children just love being outdoors. We should not underestimate the learning that goes on when children are engaging with and connecting with nature. Learning doesn't just happen indoors. We are holding a Bush information evening on Thursday June 6th and invite all families in the 4-year-old groups to attend to find out more about this exciting initiative. Our Bush Kinder program will take place every Friday at the Kingston Heath Reserve for the Kookaburra and Rosella group children.



MOVING TO KINGSTON HEATH PRIMARY SCHOOL

As you all know, we will be moving to KHPS at the end of this term and will be there until the end of the year whilst our Kindergarten undergoes some very exciting renovations – see concept drawings in the foyer. The staff have already begun packing up some of our equipment and I am sure that you can all appreciate what a mammoth job this will be for staff. As a result of this the staff have been given time at the end of term to do the packing up.

There will be no session for the 3-year-old Bilby group on Thursday June 27th and there will be no kinder for the 4-year-old Kookaburras and Rosellas on Friday June 28th.

We hope to be able to take the children down to KHPS towards the end of this term to have a look at our “temporary home.”

Just a few other reminders

- 3 year old families – Don’t forget to enrol your child for 4 year old kinder with the City of Kingston for 2020.
- Only a few more weeks left for the “Earn and Learn” promotion at Woolworths. Sticker sheets can be brought to kinder or you can place your Earn and Learn stickers in the Farm Rd. Pre-school promotion boxes at Woolworths Southland or Thrift Park. Tell all your friends, neighbours, grandparents etc that we are part of this program and will gratefully receive any stickers. Last year we were able to exchange the stickers for some wonderful educational resources with the Educational Experience.
- A big thank-you to all those families who have donated coats, disposable nappies etc. for our Winter Coat Drive in association with St. Kilda Mums. Some families really struggle to clothe and feed their children and it is wonderful to see the generosity and caring shown to vulnerable families by our kinder community.

Finally, that’s all for now. Wishing you all safe and happy holidays. We’ll see you next term at KHPS.

Rebecca

4-year-old Kookaburra group teacher and Director, Farm Rd. Pre-school



(Going on regular neighbourhood walks is a valuable learning experience in the 4 year old groups.)

National Reconciliation Week at Kinder – 27-05-19 – 03-06-19

National Reconciliation Week is a time for all Australians to reflect on and learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of Australia and all other people who now call Australia home.

Reconciliation Week aims to foster continued and respectful relationships between the wider Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

As stated in our Kindergarten Philosophy, we acknowledge and respect the traditional owners of this land – the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Where our kindergarten now stands was once the home of the local Bunurong people.

The children in the Kookaburra group have been very interested to learn more about Aboriginal culture and this week we have done the following
– learnt about the 3 flags of Australia – the Australian flag, the Aboriginal flag and the Torres Strait Islander flags. We talked about the significance of the colours in the Aboriginal flag – the yellow circle represents the sun, the red colour the colour of the earth and some of the ochre that is used in Aboriginal paintings, and the black colour which represents the dark skin colour of Aboriginal people.

The children in the Kookaburra group have also been listening to and reading stories of the Dreamtime, doing Aboriginal puzzles, learning Aboriginal songs, painting in earthy colours, doing dot paintings on wooden hands, making didgeridoos, learning about Australian animals and having discussions about how the Aboriginal people used to live and look after the land. We have also talked about the fact that nowadays, most Aboriginal people live just like we do – they go to school, go to work, etc.

We hope to make contact with a local elder of the Bunurong people and invite him/her to kinder so we can learn more about the amazing culture of the Aboriginal people. The Aboriginal culture is the oldest and most continuous culture in the world. We have so much to learn about this amazing culture.

We have also begun doing an “Acknowledgement of Country” each day with the children – see below.

“Acknowledgement of Country”

Here is the land. Here is the sky
Here are my friends and here am I
We thank the Bunurong people for the land on which we learn and play
Hands up! Hands down. We’re on Bunurong ground.”



HAS YOUR CHILD RECEIVED AN IMMUNISATION SINCE ENROLLING AND COMMENCING AT OUR SERVICE?

If so, you will need to provide your child's teacher with an updated Immunisation Certificate.

For information on how to do this please see below -

- through Medicare online accounts, or the Express Plus Medicare mobile app*
- by requesting a statement to be posted to them in the mail*
- by asking their vaccine provider to download the statement using their online access facility, (called Health Professional Online Services of HPOS)*
- at a local Medicare service centre*
- by calling the Australian Immunisation Register on 1800 653 809*

Accessing an AIR Immunisation History Statement online

Parents/carers with a Medicare card number can log into the Medicare online services website, can print or download a copy of the AIR Immunisation History Statement.

- Parents/carers will need their Medicare card number*
- Parents/carers who have not previously registered for online services will need to do so.*
- Visit [Medicare online accounts](#).*

