



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2018

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A Message from our President

I can't believe we have nearly reached the end of another term. Term 3 has been a busy one - both the 3 Year Old and 4 Year Old Groups have had many fun dress-up days and excursions, along with the highly popular Bring a Bloke to Kinder Day/Nights. Thank you to our staff for organising such an exciting and varied program.

Big thanks to those parents and friends of BWK who supported our recent 80s Night Fundraiser at The Deck Brighton. Everyone went to such a great effort and looked fabulous in their 80s gear. With the hilarious outfits and the DJ spinning 80s classics all night, it was like a trip back in time! Thanks and congratulations to our Fundraising team Tanya and Aimee for organising a fun night at a great venue. The Lucky Dip was a big hit and there was some competitive bidding on the fantastic array of Silent Auction prizes! Thank you also to Amy Ashford for assisting with sourcing many of the prize donations. Approximately \$3,000 was raised from the event, so well done and thank you everyone.

Another thank you...this time to Mark Gardiner and the families who joined him at our Term 3 Working Bee and worked hard to get a number of jobs done and get the garden in great shape for Spring. A friendly reminder the final Working Bee for the year will be held on Sunday 18 November from 9am-11am.

2019 Committee Positions Available

As the end of year is approaching, it is time for this year's Kinder Committee to give thought to establishing a Committee of Volunteers for 2019. Being part of the BWK Committee is a fun and rewarding opportunity for you to be involved in something special – a wonderful group of community-oriented parents who care about the education and wellbeing of the children and staff at the Kinder. It is also an opportunity to meet new people and guide decision-making around current operations and the future of the Kinder.

If you are a returning family in 2019 and would like to join a dedicated team of volunteer parents on the BWK Committee for 2019, please contact me. I am very happy to answer any questions and chat about what is involved.

Have a lovely Term Break and see you all in October,

Narelle Whiteley





Message from your Director:

What a busy time we have had this term. I can hardly believe that the term is almost over. Term 4 has been filled with lots of fun incursions and dress up days for all 3 groups. Both 4 year old groups went on their first excursion by bus and had an amazing adventure at Myuna farm, riding ponies, milking a goat and feeding animals! The 3 year old group had the farm visit them, they even got to make butter!

Now that spring is here I'm looking forwards to the warm weather that term 4 brings, but not the hay fever.... I'm definitely not ready to say goodbye to the children yet!

I know many families are eagerly waiting to see the kinder photos taken during the second last week of term. Next term the teachers and educators have made some great plans to celebrate the achievements of this year, so take a good look at the diary dates and mark them in your calendars.

From all the teachers and educators, we hope you have a wonderful holiday break and keep safe. For those lucky ones heading away on holidays we hope you create some special memoires.

Until next time,
Nichole

School Transition Visits

Most families should have received some communication from your child's school regarding transition/orientation visits. This can be exciting and nerve-wracking for both parents and children. It is important to remember that the majority of children can take school transition in their stride as long as there is not too much emphasis placed on the change, or too much pressure placed on the children. Remember starting school is still several months away, and this is a long time in a child's life. Please let your child's teacher know if they will be absent for a session due to school transition/orientation. If they are returning to the kinder later then 10.20am after their transition/orientation please make sure they have had their brain food. If you think your child is unusually worried, please don't hesitate to talk to us about this.

Quality Improvement Plan

As you know this year the committee, teachers and educators have worked hard to continually update the kindergarten's Quality Improvement Plan (QIP). As part of the assessment process ours has already been submitted.

The QIP supports the kindergarten to highlight what is going well and the areas where support is needed. This year we have made great progress in ensuring the kindergarten is operating at a high standard. If you are not already aware the QIP is located in the foyer and families are free to read it and make suggestions at any time. We can also email you a copy upon request.



Assessment Update

The staff have been busy double-checking things before our upcoming assessment. We have also been creating a folder with samples that link to the 7-quality areas and the standards to show all the amazing things we are doing. Recently Nichole spoke to Megan who is the Authorised Officer who will be visiting and assessing the kinder on Wednesday 19th of September. The impact on the program will be very minimal as Meagan's job is to observe. If you see her during her visit or you are on kinder duty she may speak to you, just be honest and remember she is assessing the kindergarten not you. If you have any further questions about the process, or any concerns, please speak to Nichole.

Family Feedback

Based on feedback received we have switched our monthly question system from jars to a paper based system. Each month each group selects one session where they give each person collecting a child a quick question to answer and then place in the box. There is also room for further comments. A big thank you to everyone who answered the questions last month. Your feedback is vital. We are hoping to get a large notice board to help draw families attention to this more, and also cut back on the amount of paper used. Keep your eyes and ears out for our next question.

MS Readathon

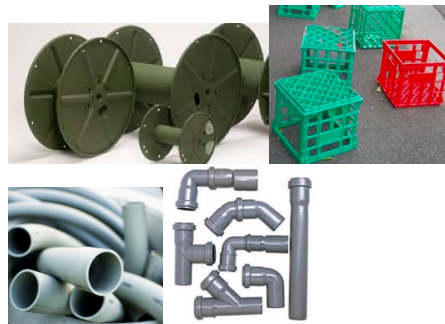
A big thank you to everyone who read books to the children, donated or signed up and went on your own MS Readathon adventure at home. On the kindergarten page we were able to read 63 books and raise over \$350. When we add in the children

who set up their own pages which were linked to the kindergarten's page we as a community read over 153 books and raised over \$1250. What an amazing effort!!! This money is going to make a big difference in the lives of the children who have a family member diagnosed with MS. We cannot thank you enough for your support!

Your trash is our treasure! Can you help us!

Here at BWK we are very mindful on our impact on the earth and therefore we often buy second hand items or ask for donations before buying things new. Often the things you might be throwing away might be useful to us. Currently we are seeking the following items

- Screws, washers, nails, bolts of all sizes
- PVC pipes all sizes (see photos)
- Electrical cable wheels plastic and wooden in an assortment of sizes (see photo)
- Bricks
- Milk crates (see photo)
- A large tractor tyre
- Tools including screw drivers, measuring tapes and pliers
- Any cedar wood cuts off (or other soft wood offcuts)





****NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING****

The Annual General Meeting of Bentleigh West Kindergarten Inc. will be held on: Wednesday 14 November 2018, 7.30pm, 21 Patterson Road, Bentleigh (at the Kinder). The AGM Agenda will be available on the Kindergarten's website at bentleighwestkinder.org.au one month prior to the AGM.

For any general enquiries, please contact our AGM Officer, Katrina Busuttill at agm@bentleighwestkinder.org.au

4 Year Old Enrolments

We have a vacancy in the 4 Year Old program for next year, so please spread the word amongst your friends, family and neighbors, about this rare opportunity to join our magnificent kinder!

Please send all inquiries to:

Erin: 4yoenrolments@bentleighwestkinder.org.au

Glen Eira Council Building Safety Improvement Project

We have been notified by Glen Eira Council that they will be undertaking a project in all Council-owned buildings, including our Kinder, to label any materials containing asbestos, for identification and regulatory purposes. Council will also be installing essential safety cabinets containing documentation specific to our building such as essential services information, safety data sheets and emergency plans. So you may see tradespeople around Kinder in the coming months carrying out this work. We will receive a full report after our building has been inspected and will provide any relevant information to families. Any enquiries or concerns about the project can be directed to Council's Buildings and Properties team on 9524 3333.

Special Offer for Kinder families!!!

Lunar Drive In
115 SOUTH GIPPSLAND HWY, DANDENONG. 9706 9988

Disney **Christopher Robin** SEPTEMBER 13
DC **MOVIES** SEPTEMBER 13
SMALL FOOT SEPTEMBER 20
JOHNNY ENGLISH STRIKES AGAIN SEPTEMBER 20
NOVEMBER 1
GOOSEBUMPS 2 HORRORLAND
COMING SOON
THE HOUSE WITH A CLOCK IN THE WALLS

ALL CARLOADS ONLY \$25*
EVERY MONDAY, TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY
(per movie)

ALL CARLOADS ONLY \$30 PER MOVIE
THURS-SUN

SESSIONS AT WWW.LUNARDRIVEIN.COM.AU
Information correct at time of printing. All dates and films are subject to change.



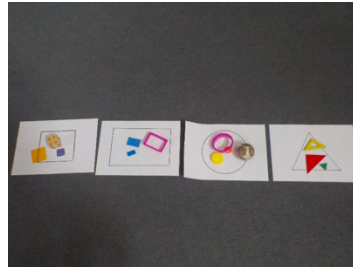
Three-Year-Old Report

We have a new student in Green Group by the name of Angela. She has had several kinder sessions so far and seems to be a great fit for the group! Please make her and mum Shierly feel welcome.

The threes recently had a 'Blokes Day' at kinder. We opened the doors a little early inviting fathers, grandfathers and uncles to join in the program. Another excellent turn out so a big thank you to the guests who attended! The photo booth area was very popular in the three-year-old program and many adults enjoyed taking a 'selfie' or two with their child. In addition, we offered hand printing indoors and ball sports outdoors. To conclude we read a story about dads and performed the 'chicken dance' with our blokes!

Recently we put our detective glasses on and became 'Shape Detectives' at group time. The children took turns selecting objects from the basket identifying them by shape and placing them on the shape card that corresponded. This was a popular game as many children were eager to play, raising their hand to have a turn.

Shape recognition is an important skill which helps pre-schoolers solidify their understanding of two-dimensional structures. This supports children in many areas of learning throughout life including literacy, maths, categorising, comparisons and problem solving.



In addition, we have been taking part in 'Earth Hour' on a regular basis. This is where the children help us by turning off all non-essential lights in the playroom to educate them about caring for our Earth and saving electricity.



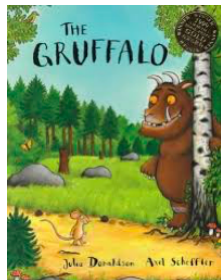
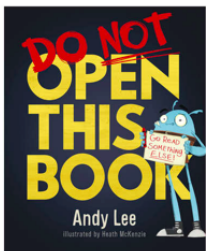
The mobile farm incursion delivered by 'Rain, Hayne and Shine' was a huge success recently. We discussed how to handle animals appropriately prior to the incursion and what we can do if we don't want to hold an animal. We also reflected on the incursion the following session and mentioned the animals we saw. The children had many comments to make about their experience. Furthermore, we provided buttered sandwiches for the children to take home using the butter they made during the incursion.

-Sophia and Di



4 –Year- Old Report

The fours have had a busy month in both Yellow and Purple Group. We recently had a 'Blokes Night' for both groups here at the kinder. The turn out was fantastic! Many families enjoyed a range of learning experiences indoors and outdoors with the woodwork, joint hand printing and treasure hunts being most popular of all! This was a good opportunity for the children to bond with their bloke as there were a range of interactive experiences on offer. The sessions concluded on a high with an animated story and performances. Thank you to all the special blokes for coming!



Every session, the fours look forward to 'Show and Tell' (otherwise known as 'Surprise in a Bag'). We are currently having second turns in both groups and incorporated a range of messages to encourage children to bring many educational items. This experience builds children's confidence, self-esteem and performance skills.



The farm excursions have come and gone. We had discussions about the things we might see at the farm before we went to build children's anticipation and test their prior knowledge. We then reflected on our ideas after our return. We have also read books, sang songs such as 'Old MacDonal had a Farm' and talked about excursion rules at group time.

Recently the children have taken responsibility for signing out at the end of each session. This is a working success and we have noticed a huge improvement in the children's ability to write their name since the beginning of the 'sign in' process asserting their independence.

To extend on 'Science Week' which occurred recently, the children have been involved in some science experiments on the long days. So far, we have conducted the milk experiment and grown grass heads. The children were very curious to experiment with cause and effect, make predictions and use their problem-solving skills. We will endeavour to offer further opportunities to explore science in the coming months.

Sophia, Nichole, Ann and Chris



Personal note

Can you believe it's the last week of Term 3?!?
Thank you once again for taking the time to read
The newsletter and we hope you have a memorable holidays!
Can't wait to see you for Term 4!

A few suggestions for over the holidays:



<http://www.tulipfestival.com.au>

www.royalshow.com.au

ROYAL
MELBOURNE
SHOW
★ ★ 2018 ★ ★