



## NEWSLETTER

April 2018

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### A Message from our President

Firstly, a very big thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of our Open Day on Sunday 22 April. Such events rely heavily on the generosity of parents and local businesses volunteering their time and skills and donating products, and we are extremely grateful for all the support we received. It was a great team effort, with special acknowledgment to **Mark Harrison**, graphic designer extraordinaire (and Yellow Group Dad), who did an amazing job designing all the promotional materials for Open Day. We were fortunate to have the fabulous talents of **Alison Buchanan** (Purple Group Mum), who really added to the fun of the day, creating amazing face painting designs for very happy children! The children also really appreciated the huge bowl of healthy fruit generously supplied by **Bentleigh IGA**, and the bubble machine was a big hit too, thanks to **Alicia Koschitzke**.

Thank you to **Erin Bainbridge**, our 4 Year Old Enrolments Officer, for her hard work organising the event. Also to **Allison Biggin** and **Lauren Thorpe** for pounding the pavement to put posters up in local businesses. Thanks to Committee Members **Erin**,

**Allison, Lauren**, plus **Ruth Ellett** and **Fiona MacDonald** for volunteering on the day, and to all the BWK families who came along in support.

Thanks to **Buxton Bentleigh** for providing four advertising boards to promote the event, and to **Bree Stark, Chantelle Fox** and **Emma Rose** (and also my family!), who had them displayed at their properties. A special thanks to our dedicated staff **Nichole, Sophia, Ann, Chris** and **Di** who contributed their time in support of the Kindergarten, speaking to prospective families about our program.

It was fantastic to see the many new families interested in our Kindergarten being so well informed by our Educators and BWK families in attendance on the day. It really demonstrated what a great sense of community we have and how proud we are of our Kinder.

A reminder that our **3 Year Old Enrolment Day** is being held at the Kinder, from **8am-11am this Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May**. This is for families wanting to enrol children in our 3 Year Old Kindergarten program in 2019.

A very warm welcome to the Williams and Busuttill families who have joined BWK this term, in Purple Group.

Please note there has been an unforeseen change of date for our Parent Education Evening with guest speaker Jo Lange. The information session on 'Raising Resilient, Independent & Confident Kids' has now been moved to **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm**. We hope you will be able to join us then instead. (Full details on flyer).





Our first fundraising activity, the Easter Raffle, was a great success. Well done to our Fundraising Team, **Tanya and Aimee** for organising; thank you to our families for your generous prize donations, and congratulations to all the hamper winners.

Finally, I would like to wish all of our Kinder Mums a very Happy Mother's Day on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May. I hope you get to spend time with your family...and get some special time for yourself too!

Narelle Whiteley

### **Message from our Director:**

Hi everyone, I hope you have all had a fun holiday break and maybe even a visit from the Easter Bunny. This term the Teachers and Educators have planned a range of incursions, dress up days and events for the Four and Three Year Old programs. We have also planned some great community based excursions for our Four Year Old programs. Three Year Old enrolments for 2019 are about to open so please let any families know who maybe interested. We hope you enjoy this term even more than the first! Please remember if you need me for anything you can call the Kinder on 9557 8365 or email me at [bentleigh.west@kindergarten.vic.gov.au](mailto:bentleigh.west@kindergarten.vic.gov.au). If I'm teaching I will get back to you as soon as possible.  
Nichole (Director)

### **Nude Food Reminder**

It is great to see so many families following our nude food policy and sending foods to Kinder in reusable packing and containers. Just be mindful when packing children's lunches, as we are seeing a few pre-packed foods which aren't in reusable packing/containers. The Kinder is currently focusing on building more

sustainable practices and reviewing how we as a Kinder can reduce our impact on the environment. Currently each week the groups participate in 'Earth Hour', use recycled boxes for collage and give their food scrapes to the worms. Please keep up the great work. We are also open to your ideas and skills in this area so please feel free to speak to our Educators to share your ideas and knowledge with both staff and children.

### **Box Donations Wanted - 'Reuse Program'**

Our 'Reuse Program' encourages families to donate items for our craft and collage table. Please bring in unwanted boxes and place in our collection tubs in the Kinder foyer. Below is a list of suggested items that we can use. Please remember that we are educating children with anaphylaxis to nuts, therefore not all boxes can be accepted as they pose a risk.

#### **Yes please**

- Please bring assorted cardboard boxes: tissue boxes, shoe boxes, toothpaste boxes, soap boxes, golf ball sleeves, boxes from coffee pods, boxes from glad bags, cylinders/rolls from paper towel (not from toilet paper), cling wrap
- Please bring **washed** containers: butter, yoghurt tubs, milk bottle lids, jar lids and coffee pods

#### **No thank you**

- Please don't bring boxes that contained foods e.g. cereal boxes
- Please don't bring toilet paper cylinders/rolls
- Please don't bring large boxes or containers (nothing bigger than a shoe box) ·

**Thank you for helping us reduce our impact on our wonderful planet!**



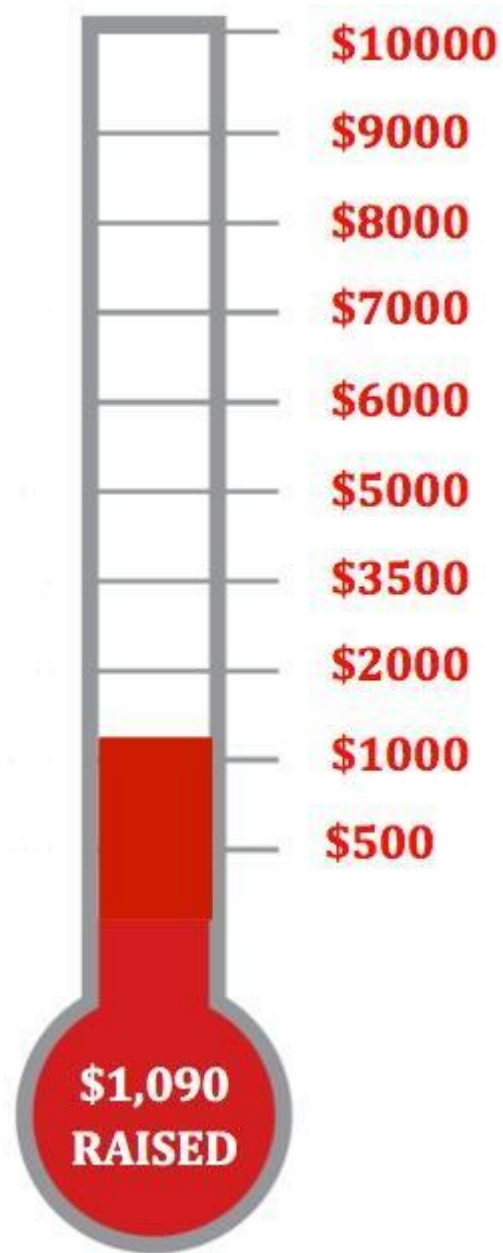
### Fundraising 2018

Congratulations once again to the winners of the Easter Raffle, Tim Ashford (Green Group), Sharleen Munro (Yellow Group), Sophie Galer (Yellow Group) Maura McLellan (Green Group), we hope you enjoyed all the goodies provided by your generous fellow Kinder families!

Our next exciting fundraising activity will be the **Kids Disco!** We have the amazing guys from “Kids Disco Parties” coming along to take the kids through dance moves, games and activities. Date TBC in June.

### Burgers on the menu for the month of May

We are thrilled to announce that Bentleigh West Kinder has been selected by **Grill'd at Southland** to be the community matters for the entire month of May! Please send all family and friends to get a burger or snack and place their token in the BWK jar!





## Open Day

Huge shout out to all those who made the Open Day a wonderful success!



Welcome to Bentleigh West Kinder!!!



Fabulous bowl of fruit generously donated by Bentleigh IGA



More fantastic face painting designs by Ali Buchanan, enjoyed by the kids...and even Ann!



One of our great advertising boards provided by Buxton Bentleigh, and Jasper (Yellow Group) having fun as 'Catboy'!





## Working Bee - Save the Date

Our next Working Bee is scheduled for **Sunday May 27th, from 9-11am.**

We will send out a reminder and there will be a sign up sheet at the Kinder in the coming days. We hope you will join us for a wonderful community building experience, giving you a chance to not only make improvements to the Kinder but to have a lovely morning with your fellow BWK families. We look forward to seeing you there!

Mark Gardiner (Maintenance Officer)



## Reminder for 3 Year Old Enrolments:

A friendly reminder to all BWK families that our **3 Year Old Kinder Enrolment Day** is being held this Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> May. If you or any family/friends have a child/children you would like to enrol in our 3 Year Old program for 2019, please come along on Saturday.

Here are the details:

- Applications open at 8am on **Saturday 5th May 2018** for our 3 Year Old group next year. The Kindergarten will be attended from **8-11am**. (Early applications will not be accepted). From 11am-6pm on 5<sup>th</sup> May, completed application forms can be left under the Kindergarten front door.
- Please bring with you a completed Application Form (available on the Bentleigh West Kindergarten website [www.bentleighwestkinder.org.au](http://www.bentleighwestkinder.org.au)), a copy of your child's Birth Certificate and a \$10 non-refundable application fee in cash.
- As per the priority of access in the 3 Year Old Enrolment Policy (available on our website), the day of receipt gives priority of access, not the time of receipt.
- After 6pm on this date, please mail applications to the Kindergarten Attention: 3 Year Old Enrolments Officer. Please do not hand applications to staff at the Kinder.

**Any questions, please do not hesitate to contact 3 Year Old Enrolments Officer, Anna Kletz, on [REDACTED]**

We look forward to welcoming a new Green Group to the Kindergarten in 2019!



**Reminder to families that Glen Eira Council enrolments for 4YO Kinder in 2020 open on 1 May**

<http://www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/Community-services/Family-and-Childrens-Services/Four-year-old-kindergarten>

**Change of Date for Parent Education Night:**

Thank you so much to the families who responded to attend the Parent Education Night with Jo Lange. Due to unforeseen circumstances we have had to postpone this session and it will now be held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June, from 7:30pm – 9:30pm (see attached flyer for more information).

If you wish to attend this session, please RSVP to Allison Biggin (BWK Vice President) by May 25th via email to [vicepresident@bentleighwestkinder.org.au](mailto:vicepresident@bentleighwestkinder.org.au), as seats are limited. An email will be sent confirming your attendance.

We apologise for having to change the date of this session but hope you are still able to make it on the new night.

**SHOW ME THE MONEY!**

Do you work for a major bank, Telstra, Origin Energy or other major corporate organisation? Perhaps you have a friend (especially a well-connected friend) or know another well-connected person who knows a program officer at a local foundation. Most of these businesses have Community Grants Programs that BWK may be eligible to apply for to raise funds for equipment, resources or special projects.

If so, please contact:

**Grants Officer, Chantelle Fox** on [redacted] email [grants@bentleighwestkinder.org.au](mailto:grants@bentleighwestkinder.org.au)

**Raising Resilient, Independent & Confident Children**

Guest presenter Jo Lange will explore what resilience is, and how families can help their child build resilience

**When:** Tuesday 5th June  
**Where:** Bentleigh West Kindergarten  
 21 Patterson Road, Bentleigh  
**Time:** 7.30 – 9.30pm  
**Cost:** Free for BWK Parents/Guardians & \$5 cash for wider community members  
**RSVP by Friday 25th of May:** [vicepresident@bentleighwestkinder.org.au](mailto:vicepresident@bentleighwestkinder.org.au)  
 \* Seats are limited RSVP early

**Bentleigh West Kindergarten Inc.**

**This month's policies being reviewed:**

- Administration of First Aid
- Administration of Medicine
- Dealing with Medical Conditions

If you would like a copy or any further information on these policies please ask at the Kinder.



## 4 Year Old Report

Welcome back everyone. We hope you all had an enjoyable holiday break and are ready for another fun and exciting term. Over the holiday break the Teachers and Educators have reset the room with a range of new learning experiences. During the last week of Term One we asked each group what they would like set up and what they would like to learn about in Term Two. We used these ideas, the children's current interests and staffs' expert knowledge to plan for the room set up and program.

This term both groups will have Victor from Playball coming fortnightly for fun and interactive sports sessions. In past years this has been a highlight for many children. Through the program, children build a range of motor skills, learn about sportsmanship and have lots of fun!

This term Yellow and Purple Groups will have special visits from Percy who is the Kinder's take home pig (soft toy). Twice a week he will be given to a child to take home to care for. During the holiday Percy was cared for by the teachers and Percy is excited to see who is taking him home next. This will be Percy's last year visiting the children - at the ripe old age of 14+ years Percy is ready to retire!!!



So far this term the children have settled quickly and adapted to the 'Kiss and Go' practice. We have had some parents mention how this has supported their child's confidence in saying goodbye and taking responsibility for their own belongings. The next step will be children having their own 'sign in' station.

The new room set up has been a big hit with the children particularly the space area, yoga area and the maths themed light box table. Outside the children have enjoyed completing the new obstacle course, making cubbies, shopping at the BWK Bunnings store and digging in the mud pit.

Both groups have recently learnt about and celebrated Greek Easter. Yellow Group made koulourakia biscuits using Sophia's Grandmother's recipe. With the help from Penny, (Madelyn's Mum), Purple Group dyed and decorated eggs. We love to learn about celebrating cultural events, so please let us know of any your family celebrate during the year.



This month's focus area is the Fire Station area. This area was a suggestion from a child. The Fire Station area provides a great opportunity for the children to role-play and learn about the different roles of firefighters. In this area children use their imaginations to create scenarios in both real-life and make believe situations. The addition of the incident forms allows children to develop and practice literacy skills. The Fire Station also



provides opportunities for lots of social interactions and children have to take turns and negotiate and share ideas for the play to be successful.



### 3 Year Old Report

The children in Green Group have settled back into the program smoothly. There were a few tears at the beginning of the session but soon after everybody was happily engaged with all the new learning experiences on offer. The space, Fire Station, box collage and Post Office areas were most popular indoors.

Outdoors, the children were very keen to role-play in the 'Bunnings' shop, blow bubbles and dig in the mud pit.

We discussed the holidays at group time and many children raised their hand to contribute their experiences. Some children said they went away on family holidays, had Easter egg hunts, play dates with friends and sleepovers. This led to a discussion about Greek Easter later in the session. Sophia dyed some eggs the colour red with the children and talked about an egg cracking game which her family played on Easter Sunday. Three children were chosen to play the game

and the person with the strongest egg was the winner. We also learnt about some of the foods and sweets Greek people eat on Easter Sunday. At the end of the session everyone was given an egg to take home as a memory of the day's learning experience.



The children are busy making some surprise gifts for Mother's Day over the coming weeks. We will be asking the children what sorts of gifts they would like to make for their mothers also and offer a balance of adult and child-led experiences.

This term there are many special events to look forward to in the Three-Year-Old program, including a visit from our friendly dentist Donna, 'Walk to Kinder Day', 'Mother's Morning', a visit from 'Wild Action' (Australian Animals) and 'Pyjama Day'. Please check the diary dates section of the newsletter to confirm dates and times.



This month's focus is the box collage area. In the box collage area children can use their imagination to create anything they desire - the opportunities are endless! There is also opportunity to self-select materials, practice problem solving, sharing and turn taking skills.

Thank you,  
Sophia and Di



### Personal Note:

Thank you for your continued support! You have made it through your third edition of the Newsletter! Go high five someone in celebration! Your next edition will be at the end of the month, so please let us know if you have any community or Kinder related news you would like included.

[Communications@bentleighwestkinder.org.au](mailto:Communications@bentleighwestkinder.org.au)

### Community News:

Thank you!



The Committee would like to officially thank the **McKinnon Hotel** for hosting our monthly meetings and always being so fantastic!

We highly recommend the hotel for family dinners, a casual catch up or a big event (the room is perfect for any occasion)<http://www.mckinnonhotel.com.au/>

### Food Waste Recycling

Glen Eira Council will start Food Waste Recycling this month. You can sign up to receive your complimentary

counter-top bin. All scraps are cleared to go in your green bin and will be used as compost to keep Glen Eira green and gorgeous! Well done Glen Eira!

<http://www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/Resident-services/Garbage-and-recycling/Food-waste-recycling>

### Free 4 Year Old Vaccinations:

Wednesday May 2, 4-6 pm

Carnegie Library and Community Centre  
7 Shepperson Avenue, Carnegie

### Auskick Free Trial :

Auskick in Bentleigh East are having a trial session for kinder kids to give Aussie Rules a go. It's on Saturday May 5 from 9.15am for about an hour. This is an open invitation for both boys and girls to have a go without forking out the \$95 to join. Please call Andrew Goldfinch 0400 056 668 for more info.

### Food Allergy Week:

Click here to find out what you and your family can do to show support to those suffering from food allergies

<https://www.foodallergyaware.com.au/>

