



Kinder News

A message from your President, Kylie Osborne...

Greetings!

This year started with a bang with a very successful family night on Friday 25th. We had lots of parents and kids come down to enjoy some food, conversation and of course the jumping castle and face painting.

The night wouldn't have been such a success without the help of Lewis's mum Marie for organizing the face painting and her talented team; Daniel's mum Ann-Marie and Olivia's mum Rebecca.

A special thank you to Jensen's parents, Stacey and Ritchie, for organizing the jumping castle through Jump & Bounce (read more about them in the green pages).

Over the past two weeks we have also been hosting a book fare. I'm excited to say that we smashed our target with 90 books sold. Thank you all for your support. A special thank you to the following families who generously donated books directly to the kinder; Lobert, Karabelas, Griffiths, Matthews, Bluck, Singh and McLeod.

Till next time...
Kylie

Upcoming Events at the Kinder

- Friday 4th – Friday 18th March
Tea Towel Keepsake orders
Order forms will be place in your children's files.
- Friday 25th March
Easter Raffle commences
- Thursday 7th April
Easter Raffle draw

Our Kinder values people like you- parents and guardians who want to help-

We have two positions that need to be filled and they are:

- Social Co-ordinator
- Policy Officer

For details on the position please refer to the February 2011 newsletter.

There are many benefits of being in the Parent Committee.

- The satisfaction of being able to contribute to the happy environment our children experience at the kinder.
- Become a voice and contribute to the policies that are followed and events that are held at the kinder.
- Learn new skills or rediscover old skills which can be quite useful in your resume.
- Make new friends!

Come and join us. We're a friendly bunch and we welcome your input!

Please express your interest to Kylie Osborne on 0407 648 114.



Dolphins & Penguins News



Welcome to the new families that have started at the kindergarten since the last newsletter. We have had new children commencing due to the children just having their third birthdays. There are still a few more children to commence kindergarten over the next few weeks and even next term.

On 25th February we had our Teddy Bear's Picnic. The children all brought their teddies to kindergarten. The children had lots of fun making honey sandwiches and icing their teddy bear biscuits. The children learnt about hygiene -having to wash their hands before they do any cooking, how to hold a knife to spread the butter and honey, how much water to add to the icing sugar to make it runny (but not too much) and how many sultanas they wanted to put on their teddies. It was a great learning experience and even better when the children were able to eat the end result. The children also played some games with the parachute and we counted how many times it took for us to lift the parachute up into the air with the teddies on it until they all flew off. The children thought that this was hilarious!!!!



Songs we have been singing:



Humpty Dumpty
Old MacDonald
Open Shut Them
Twinkle, Twinkle

Eency Weency Spider
Miss/Mr Polly
Heads, Shoulder, Knees and Toes
Baa, Baa Black Sheep



Happy birthday:

Max 4th, Patrick B 5th,
Patrick M 11th
Chloe 14th Hamish B 17th



**Please remember to obey the
NO PARKING sign out the
front of the kindergarten.
Emergency services need to
be able to access the kinder**

Privacy!!!!!!

The telephone lists given to parents are confidential. Please do not pass these onto third parties!!!!

Independence:

At kindergarten we encourage the children to be independent. For example, they are expected to try to put their own smocks on, find their lunch boxes, and put their art work on the racks. If children require assistance, parents and the teachers are always there to offer both verbal and physical help. We commence this at the start of the year so that both the children and the parents understand what is expected from them.

This promotes:

- Skill development for dressing and undressing (smocks)
- Taking responsibility for their own belongings
- Promotes resilience – we encourage children to persist at trying when they are faced with challenges and when first attempts are not successful. We celebrate the children's successes with them.
- Increases self esteem

Parents are always amazed at their child's abilities and what they are able to do at kindergarten. Part of the teachers' role is to assist children to become confident, resilient and independent people!!!!

Over the last few weeks I have participated in numerous professional development seminars. Two of these were about The Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF), which is the tool I engage in my daily interactions with children, families and other professionals and into the curriculum. I have included some more information about this later in the newsletter. Naomi and I also attended a conference about autism. This was very informative and was very beneficial. On Saturday Leesa and I will be attending a science workshop and on Monday I will be attending a seminar about Regulations and the National Quality Framework. This is a very busy time within the industry with lots and lots of changes occurring. It is vital that we stay abreast of these changes so we are able to remain informed and to pass this information onto families.

Over the last few weeks I have emailed children's first term goals to parent's. If you haven't received these please let me know and I can give you a hard copy. It was great to get parent's input and feedback for the children's goals. Each term I will be asking parents for their contribution towards setting goals for the children for the term ahead. These goals are evaluated at the end of each term. If you have any concerns about your child's development please arrange a time to meet with me so we can sit down and discuss any issues.

Thanks

Theresa and Leesa

Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework

The Victorian Early Years learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF) is what Naomi and I engage in our daily interactions with children, families and other professionals and into the curriculum. The framework has 5 learning outcomes –

1. Children have a strong sense of identity
2. Children are connected with and contribute to their world
3. Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
4. Children are confident and involved learners
5. Children are effective communicators.

These learning outcomes are used to develop the children's individual and group goals for each term. These outcomes are also used at the end of the year to write the children's transition statements to four year old kindergarten and to school.

Both Naomi and I have been involved in learning more about the framework and have been attending seminars about other components of the framework. This training has been broken into 4 modules.

Module 1: Leading the way: reflecting on the frameworks.

Module 2: Working together: Collaborative Practice Principles

Module 3: Decision Making: Effective Practice Principles

Module 4: Documenting and Assessing: Engaging with the Outcomes

This newsletter will look at modules 1 in greater depth. Over the next few newsletter reports, I will focus on Modules 2, 3 and 4.

Module 1: Leading the way: reflecting on the frameworks.

This module explained that the framework is like a frame of a house. The framework provides the foundation of the VEYLD and each service operates differently inside. The services are different to reflect the community's needs and wants. The services also reflect the teacher's personal and professional philosophies. The framework acts as an umbrella and includes other documents that guide our practices e.g. Child First (Child protection). The teachers are encouraged to critically reflect on their practices. Critical reflection involves closely examining all aspects of events and experiences from different perspectives. We do this on a daily basis and ask parents formally and casually throughout the year for their feedback. We are constantly reviewing our practices and constantly improving things. Just because we have done something one way for a long time, does not mean that it can't be changed.

Two examples of this for this year are with the threes:

1. We are going outside each day the children attend kindergarten.
2. We are allowing the children to take their shoes off in the sandpit.

We encourage feedback and there is a suggestion box in the foyer for anyone who wants to do this anonymously.

In the next issue of the newsletter I will explore Module 2: Working together: Collaborative Practice Principles.



Seals & Jellyfish News



Students/Volunteers

We are very fortunate to have students and volunteers working with us this term. Sarah, Hannah and Bridget are undergoing the Catholic Action Program at Aquinas. They visit each Monday and they have been a huge help with preparation of teaching resources. Chris, Declan and Francis are also involved in the CAP program. They will help out every second Thursday afternoon. Last week they mowed our lawn, filled the green waste bin, swept the paths in preparation for the family night and helped laminate teaching resources.

Happy Birthday to....
Karen for the 5th of March
Seals: Chloe (17th)



Congratulations to the Nedza family on the birth of their son Dominic. A baby brother for Thomas (Seals group)

Coming Up:

8th March: Pancake Day
14th March: Labour Day Holiday (No kinder)
16th March: Seals Teddy Bear Picnic
17th March: Jellyfish Teddy Bear Picnic
21st March: Harmony Day (Please wear orange to kinder)
29th March: Evacuation Practice
6th April: Easter Bonnet Parade (SEALS) Parents welcome
LAST DAY OF TERM 1 FOR THE SEALS GROUP

7th April: Easter Bonnet Parade (JELLYFISH) Parents welcome
LAST DAY OF TERM 1 FOR THE JELLYFISH GROUP

27th April: Term 2 Begins
20th April: Children's library begins
2nd May: Seals children's library borrowing begins
5th May: Jellyfish Children's library borrowing begins
17th May: Wild Action visits

Kindergarten Curriculum

The newsletter contains highlights of our program- if you'd like to know more, please have a look at our weekly program displayed on the notice board.

We have been singing:

As we learn new songs at kinder we write them on the song list located on the display board near the mat. As the year progresses this is a wonderful record of all the songs the children know. These are some of the songs we have learnt so far:

- Open Shut them (the children really love the opposites version)
- Heads, Shoulders, Knees & Toes
- I wonder what your name is?
- Fuzzy the clown
- Skinner Marink
- A Ram Sam Sam
- Here is the beehive
- This is my singing voice
- It's a rainbow

We have been talking about:

- Different voices: eg talking voices, singing voices, whispering voices, squeaky voices etc
- Colours and mixing new colours
- Rainbows
- Routines and limits at kinder
- Our faces
- Gentle and friendly ways to use our hands and how to be a good friend.

Some stories we are reading:

- The Rainbow Fish
- Picasso the green tree frog
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar
- Big Bug Little Bug
- The Very Cranky Bear
- Where's Spot?

We have been practicing:

- Using other children's names when talking to them
- Saying hello and goodbye to peers and adults at kinder
- Observational drawing
- Mixing colours
- Using different voices, especially talking voices inside
- Using walking feet inside
- Fine motor skills by threading, using play-dough, sorting small objects, finger painting etc

Some of the children's favourite experiences:

- Trying a science experiment called "Rainbow in a Jar"
- Playing games such as "Magic Blanket", "I wonder what your name is?", "Duck, Duck, Goose" and "I Spy"
- Drawing self portraits by looking closely at our faces in the mirror and drawing what we saw
- Pretending to be fire fighters outside and working together to put out fires with a hose
- Mixing red, yellow and blue coloured water with eye droppers into small containers to make new colours. The children came up with some interesting potions
- Dancing to "It's a rainbow" with rainbow streamers
- Playing parachute games outside with Naomi
- Threading different coloured objects for a group rainbow project.



Kids Go For Your Life

Child-friendly fruit and vegies

Set a good example and make it fun



- **Lead by example:** if you want your child to eat fruit and veg, make sure they see you enjoying yours every day.
- Pretend that mashed potato is 'potato glue' that other vegies love sticking to. Kids can dip spoons of mash into piles of other vegies such as peas, corn and diced carrot.
- Turn a simple pita bread pizza into a fun Mr Vegie face by arranging pizza toppings to make eyes, nose, mouth and ears.

Hide it or disguise it



- Sneak more goodness into your child's diet by hiding vegies in favourite food. For example, add grated carrot and zucchini to bolognese sauce.
- Kids love burgers, so 'beef up' the patty with extra vegies such as peas, diced celery, grated pumpkin or carrot.
- Soups such as pumpkin or homemade tomato are popular with kids and full of goodness. Serve in a favourite fun mug with toast 'soldiers' for dunking.

Make it kid friendly



- Ready-cut pieces of fruit and vegetables in the lunch box are easy for kids to manage. Check bananas to make sure their tops can be broken easily. Choose mandarins that are small and have loose skin – these are easier to peel.
- **'I can eat a rainbow'**: for parties, make a fruit rainbow using strawberries (red), pineapple (yellow), watermelon (pink), kiwifruit (green), red grapes (purple), oranges or rockmelon (orange) and blueberries (blue). Encourage kids to try each fruit of the rainbow.
- On special occasions when lollies are being served, try to combine them with healthy foods. For example, include a marshmallow on a skewer of fruit rather than offering sweets on their own.

Source: Raising Children Network, (<http://raisingchildren.net.au>)

Check out the Australian Parenting Website <http://raisingchildren.net.au> for more information on nutrition and healthy recipes for all the family.

Quality Assurance Update

Near the end of Term 1 we will be distributing our 1st Kinder Survey. The staff and Committee of Management value your ideas and opinions as users of the Kinder.

Keep an eye out in your child's kinder pocket for the survey, as on completing and returning your survey, you will go into the running to win one of two **\$25.00 Coles Myer Vouchers**. The surveys will be due back at the beginning of Term 2 and we will draw the prize shortly after. One prize will be drawn from three's and one from four's. Good Luck!



**Extra! Extra!
Read all about it...**

GREENPAGES ADVERTISEMENTS



Want to place an ad?

You can place an ad in Kinder News for as little as \$10.

1. Place your payment in an envelope, marked "Greenpages advertisement".

Please also include on the front of the envelope:

- a. your business name
- b. contact name, and
- c. contact details

2. Place your envelope in the Fees box located at the foyer.

3. Once payment is received, your advertisement will be published in the next Newsletter.

Note: For more information or for details on providing artwork, please contact Marie on 0409 774 644 or email her at m.mucha@bigpond.net.au.

One Free Trial Class – Zumba (for adults)



Wednesdays 7pm
Our Lady's Primary
School Hall, Cnr
Bedford Rd & Wilana
St, Ringwood

DITCH THE WORKOUT, JOIN THE PARTY!

One Free Trial Class – Tinies Combination class (for pre-school (from 3 yrs) to Prep children)



We are proud of our Early Childhood Dance Program which was specially developed in the U.S. It is designed to provide children between three and six years with a strong foundation in dance and movement. It teaches the young dancer the basic elements such as: space and how we relate to it, both as an individual and as a member of a group; the eight basic locomotor movements; musical rhythm, beat and time; opposites and direction; some elementary positions of ballet and the fun of basic jazz movements.

Through participation in these classes, students also learn the basics of classroom behaviour and manners. These concepts include learning how to take turns, following another dancer or leading the way, waiting patiently, working with others and having a positive attitude. Educators now know that training young children in the concepts of movement sequencing, patterning and spatial relationships lays a strong foundation for the later development of reading, maths and other educational skills.


CONDITIONS

- Bring this flyer to participate in the free trial class
- Must be a new student to Ringwood Dance & Music School or Ready Set Go! Expires 30/4/11

CALL 0419 586 198 NOW!

For a full list of our classes check out our timetable page at
<http://www.danceandmusicschool.com.au>

Email: info@danceandmusicschool.com.au



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