



Tecoma Preschool

Term 1, 2014

President's Note

President's Report - Newsletter No.1

Hello to all our families! I can hardly believe it is already the end of Term 1 with Easter just around the corner! I hope that your little people have settled into their new routine with ease and I trust they are enjoying their sessions. I have had the pleasure of being able to meet a few of the children as they pop their head into the office to say "Hi Hannah", the smiles that I see in the mornings are always so big and happy. No doubt they will be exhausted after their sessions, but just keep in mind that this is excellent preparation for the 4yr old program and the foundation year of school.

Monthly committee meetings have been held since the beginning of term and will continue on a Monday evening for the remainder of the year. They are generally an open meeting, so anyone and everyone is welcome to come along and be a voice in the preschool. So far, works have been scheduled for the repair of the cubby house which will be conducted during the holidays. I am also very happy to announce that after almost 1.5 years of calls to the council - We will be getting new signage in the car park! Yes, that is right - the old signage that hasn't been applicable for some years will be replaced with "No parking, except for Preschool Families" and also 3 designated spots for the staff! This will hopefully help with the parking issues I am sure many of you have begun to face. On behalf of the Committee I would like to say a thank you to Kelly Stutsel for her work as a Grant's Officer during Term 1. Kelly has resigned from her position as her son will be continuing Preschool in Menzie's Creek.

Lastly, a reminder to those who may have any questions, concerns or comments to feel free to contact either myself or Amy Richards at any time. Our details can be located in the preschool office and confidentiality will always be respected.

Please stay safe and well over the break and Happy Easter!
Hannah Schroeder
President of the Committee of Management

Easter Raffle

Pleased to announce the winners.....

First Prize: Joy Cluster

Second Prize: Oliver Oswald

Third Prize: Logan Taylor

Thank you for supporting our first fundraising event of the year! We raised \$ 170.00 This will be used to purchase a new sandpit digger.

Thank you everyone for purchasing!!

Our next raffle will be a "Care for Kids" fundraiser.

Tickets on sale in Term 2.

WORKING BEE

Sunday the 6th April
9am-12pm

We need your help... Please come along to help give the kinder yard a lovely freshen up before the start of Term 2. Bring along your hedge clippers, shovels,

wheelbarrows & your gardening gloves!!

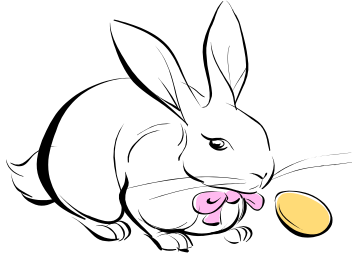
All families who attend will receive a \$50 refund off their maintenance levy.



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FUNDRAISING



Thank you for supporting our first fundraising event, the Easter Raffle. The money raised will purchase a new sandpit digger. Our next raffle will be a 'Care for Kids' fundraiser.

Tickets go on sale from the beginning of Term 2.

Just a reminder that we are always looking for help to secure any goods or service donations that can be raffled or auctioned in our fundraising events. Please contact me if you can offer any assistance in this area, however big or small. Thanks, Jacqui 0414370407 or lees.jacqui.1981@hotmail.com

CPR REFRESHER COURSE



Any parents who are interested in completing a Refresher course for CPR we are running one at kinder on Monday the 12th May 6-8pm. Please let one of our Educators know.

HELP!!!!!! MAINTENANCE PERSON NEEDED!!!!

We really need a parent or group of parents to take on the role of Maintenance for our wonderful kinder. The occasional Working Bee & odd jobs around the place is all that is required. Please see one of our Educators or Committee Members.

Car Parking



The new signs are up! The council put these in last week stating

"Designated Parking for kinder patrons"

We are aware of the hassles at times with our limited parking. The school will place another reminder in their newsletter too. This is a matter that we will continue to work on. Just a reminder NOT to use the Pathology car park next door.

**PLEASE ONLY PARK IN OUR CAR PARK IF YOUR CHILD IS ATTENDING A
KINDER SESSION**

Thank you.



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From Lauren.....

3 & 4 year old Report Gawa, Bullen Bullen, Bunjil, Mirram & Wareen

A big welcome to all families ☺

We hope you all enjoy your year here at Tecoma Preschool.

All kinder groups have settled into 2014 with enthusiasm and excitement. Old friendships are developing and new ones are made every day, which is wonderful to observe and be part of. We have been busy chatting about our new kinder rules and making sure we are all following them.

We have also had beautiful weather allowing both 3's and 4's to get the most out of our front and back gardens. It was especially very exciting to head out into the front garden and say a big hello to our scarecrow Poldy and plant some vegetables for him to watch over. We planted Roly Poly Carrots, Cucumbers, Onions, Leek, Snow Peas and Broccoli. The children were very respectful of the front garden as this is a quieter more tranquil place than the hustle and bustle of the back playground.

The 3's have enjoyed cooking Jam Drops with Lauren and Denise while the 4's enjoyed celebrating Pancake Tuesday and cooked up some yummy pancakes. Other things explored so far are colours and other celebrations from around the world.

Here are a few points:

- 4 year old groups would have started well with their lunchboxes. The children have been very excited and taken ownership of their property. Please continue to be aware of our "aim to be a nut free kinder" when packing your child's lunch.
- Being Sunsmart has been a hot topic over the first few weeks. Please encourage your child to be aware of the 5 S'. (Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek & Slide)
- Hats are to be worn at all times outdoors until the end of April.

Spacers and Schools/Preschools: Reminder for Parents & Carers

Schools/preschools in Victoria have been informed by The Asthma Foundation of Victoria about new guidelines regarding the use of spacers for children with asthma. Spacers are essential equipment when following Asthma First Aid best practice, however schools/preschools will no longer be able to wash, sterilise and re-use spacers from their asthma emergency kits when assisting students with asthma symptoms.

Asthma first aid kits should only ever be used as a back-up for when a student does not have their own spacer available, if it is a first asthma attack or the cause of breathing difficulty is unknown. Some schools/preschools may implement a policy where parents/carers are responsible for the cost of the spacer if one must be used from the asthma emergency kit.

Even if your child has mild asthma, it is essential that their medication and spacer is always available to school/preschool staff. Please make sure your child always brings a spacer with them to school, or has one that stays at school.





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- Thank-you to those parents that have helped out at “Stay & Play” duty already! It has been wonderful getting to know you and we look forward to having you back again and also meeting more of you. Please remember that you don’t have to stay for the whole time. Any time you can share with us is wonderful!
- Please remember to regularly check your child’s filing cabinet to collect newsletters, artwork and reminders.
- Parent/Teacher interviews will be held at the start of term 2 for those who wish to have a quick chat to see how your child has settled into kinder and how they are progressing.
- Just a quick reminder: if you feel you want to share a special talent or have a family member/relative that has something to share, please approach staff. We love learning about who is out in the community and what they do!!!!

Eg – special occupation, play an instrument, arty?

All staff have already been very busy developing an exciting and creative ‘interests based’ program for your children. The process involves observations, planning and reflections on individuals and groups. Please also take the time to re-read your information booklet (About our preschool program) to remind yourselves of how the staff develop these educational programs. The staff look forward to planning and organising excursions, incursions, special nights, birthdays and a whole lot of fun for 2014!!

- Please remember to check your child’s portfolio’s regularly to gain an understanding of your child’s involvement in the program. They will love to show you their work and photos!!
- When signing in and out, please read the reflection book to see what we have been up to.

We look forward to a wonderful year full of learning, fun and laughter!!

Lauren, Jo, Noeleen & Denise

“Stay & Play” Parents



Please remember you are setting a good example of Sunsmart behaviour. Please bring a hat along for when we play outside.



WANTED

Lauren is searching for a volunteer who is able to kindly offer some time to assist her with the upkeep of the vegetable garden here at Tecoma Preschool. Recommendations for planting or a simple tidy now and then would be greatly appreciated! Please see Lauren for more information





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Term 2 Key Dates

- Tuesday 22nd April - First day of Term
- Friday 25th April - Anzac Day (no kinder)
- 28th April - 9th May - Parent Teacher Interviews
 - Monday 5th May - Committee Meeting
 - Sunday 11th May - Mothers Day
 - 18th - 24th May Education week
 - Wed 21st May - Kinder Open Day
 - Monday 2nd June - Committee Meeting
- Monday 9th June - Queens Birthday (no kinder)
 - Friday 27th June - Last Day of Term 2

OUR NEW GROUP NAMES

The Tecoma Preschool Educators felt it was important to name the 3 & 4 year old groups this year with a very meaningful name. In consultation with a member of the Yarra Ranges Council who specialises in Indigenous knowledge, we decided on the names:-

Bullen Bullen - Lyerbird
Bunjil - Eagle
Wareen - Wombat
Mirram - Kangaroo
Gawa - Echidna

These names are from the Traditional Wurundjeri language - Woiwurrung. The traditional owners of the Shire of Yarra Ranges are the Wurundjeri people. The Wurundjeri people have inhabited the land for at least 35,000 years. We felt it was important to acknowledge the traditional land owners and begin to share this with our community.



KINDER OPEN DAY
Wednesday the 21st May
1pm - 3pm

Let your friends with young children know of our Open Day supporting Education Weeks theme of Science! Your child can participate in their own experiment! Look forward to seeing you



All proceeds to:  **goodFridayappeal**
Rides, Food, Entertainment & Easter Egg Hunt

www.belgravecarnival.org
9754 1122