



President's Report

From Shona Richards

Newsletter 2, 2019

Term 2 Key Dates:

- **Monday 15th July: First day of term 3**
- **Wednesday 17th July: Committee Meeting**
- **Wednesday 14th August: Committee Meeting**
- **Thursday 15th August : Kinder will be closed due to the Yarra Ranges Early Childhood Educators Conference**
- **Friday 20th September: Last day of term 3**

A big hello to all our families,

Thank you to all the Mum's that supported our Mother's Day afternoon tea that the 4yo's provided for us. A big thank you to our Educators in both 3yo and 4yo for the flowers and Mother's Day cards. It was so cute to see the kids trying to hide the surprises behind their backs during pick up. I also hope you loved the Mother's Day tea towels which were available to purchase and contribute to our kinder fundraising.

The 13th Annual Belgrave Lantern Parade is almost here. While the kinder will not be taking up a float to the main event this year, we have decided to celebrate the occasion with a smaller version at the kinder on Thursday 20th June. The children have been busy making lanterns for our mini parade, and some of the Committee members will be making cups of pumpkin soup to keep everyone warm.

Thanks to all those who helped with the Working Bee in May, and a special thanks to Steve Gray who looks after maintenance as part of the Committee, for organising us all. Thanks to the beautiful weather and multitude of people, we got so many jobs done to keep our kinder looking shipshape.

Our fundraising team have been busy getting ready for our Bogan Bingo night being held on Saturday 17th of August. It is our largest event on the fundraising calendar, and if you are able to donate any goods or vouchers for the night, we would be most appreciative of your support. Tickets are selling fast and I encourage you to come along, dressed in your finest bogan attire!! It promises to be a great night of fun, prizes, bingo and karaoke. I wish everyone a safe break over the holiday period and look forward to seeing you all again at the start of Term 3.

GAWA Happenings So Far...

From Sami and Denise

We have had a busy term 2 at kinder, celebrating Mother's day with our morning tea, with the children busy potting plants and painting to pots to give as gifts. Our dramatic play area with the dress ups has been a big hit, this area encourages social interactions with the children. We also had discussions about Autumn with Denise bringing in some beautiful leaves from her tree, we were able to create some leaf artwork.

We were also lucky to try out the Bee Bots on loan from the Melbourne Museum, the children were fascinated by the little bees moving to their instructions.

While I was away Jo stepped in for me and introduced the children to the fire truck book and a new puppet called Fireman Ted. We also had a visitor, Ben's dad Chris, who kindly came into kinder and spoke to the children about fire safety and his job as a firefighter. The children got to see and hold his special uniform.

With Winter weather already upon us we ask that all children come to Kinder with a warm coat. We'd like to have the option to get outside so the children can have a run around.

With the Lantern parade nearly upon us, this year we have decided as a kinder we would do a parade here within the kinder grounds. The children have been busy making a lantern for the evening, so hopefully you can make it. Thanks once again to all of our wonderful helpers who stay and assist with fruit for the children. We couldn't do it without you.

In term 3 we look forward to another fun term and an incursion (more info to follow). We hope you have a lovely 2 weeks.

3-year-old report





4-year-old report

Bullen Bullen, Bunjil, Mirram, Wareen and Gurrborra

From Lauren, Jo, Noeleen and Denise

This term has been very busy one with many areas of learning. We continued our exploration of the new playground, recognised ANZAC Day, explored the seasons of Autumn & Winter, learnt about Road Safety, Recognised Mother's Day & much much more..... 😊

*** SUPER HEROES** - Many children enjoyed dressing up as super heroes this term with our dress up capes and talked about super heroes they had seen on TV. Lauren decided to explore their imagination and asked each child to create their own super power. It was great to see that their super powers were quite original and a bit of fun. 😊



*** ANZAC DAY** – The children enjoyed cooking ANZAC biscuits with Noeleen and we read 2 special books that focused on “remembering the brave soldiers”.



*** SHAPES** – The educators have been busy working with the children on their shape knowledge. We have explored sides, corners and have been looking to see where we can see these shapes in our everyday environments



Flexibuzz

We're using the 'flexibuzz' app as a way to communicate with you.

You'll be notified of our news, messages, events and other communications.

Simply download the flexibuzz app to your phone or tablet. To download, search flexibuzz in your app store.

Once downloaded, locate and select Tecoma Preschool in the Early Learning section. You can then choose to get updates from the 'General' section as well as your child's group name.

Find out more at www.flexibuzz.com.au



* **THINGLE TOODLE** - We were very excited to have Thingle Toodle visit us at Tecoma Preschool this term. It was Thingle Toodle's birthday and we gave him a surprise party. Eric Sperment helped us organise the party and we also learnt about the 5 things you do before you cross the road. He was VERY VERY funny!!

A BIG THANKYOU TO 2 VERY SPECIAL MUMS WHO HELPED THINGLE TOODLE COME TO LIFE - YOU WERE AMAZING 😊

* **NUMERACY** – We have also explored our numbers 1 – 10 this term in a variety of ways. Songs, visual recognition, dancing, cutting/pasting, colouring & stories. Although there is no pre-requisite as to what level a child should be at when heading off to school, the educators at Tecoma Preschool aspire to send them off with a base knowledge that can be extended upon as soon as they begin school. If they wish to explore it..... we extend it. 😊



* **LANTERN MAKING** - Not only do we belong to this beautiful kinder, but we also belong to the local community. It is therefore important that children start to explore the community they belong to and open their eyes up to special events. The educators thought it would be nice to explore our creative skills and join in with making a lantern of our very own for the **TECOMA PRESCHOOL LANTERN PARADE**.

* **DINGAH & TARGOOT** - (our Australian Aboriginal Dolls) have begun their home visits. All children are being very patient waiting for their turn. These dolls were developed to encourage children to be more aware of the Australian Indigenous Culture and background of others. The children really enjoy taking a photo or drawing a picture for the folder and absolutely love getting a turn to show their peers what they have done at home with the doll - this in turn developing their ability and confidence to speak in front of a group



* **MELBOURNE MUSEUM ROBOTICS & CODING KIT** - We absolutely LOVED playing with the coding robots that we borrowed from the museum. Everyone got to have a turn and explore their skills in giving instructions to the robot. What a fun way to explore technology

* **INTERVIEWS** - Thank-you to all those parents who attended their parent/teacher interview. We hope that you were able to learn something new about your child and feel comfortable with their progress so far. We hope it helped to establish some goals for the future for both at home and at kinder. ☺ If you missed out, please speak to Lauren and we can organise a time.

Pyjama Day

* We are going to finish off Term 2 with some FUN Pyjama Days!

Safe Holidays & Keep Warm

Lauren, Jo, Noeleen & Denise



Mother's Day

Although a little while ago now, thank you to everyone who came along to the Mother's Day Afternoon Tea in May. We hope you all enjoyed your time at kinder chatting to other mums and receiving your very own flower.

We hope you were taken care of on Mother's Day. ☺

You deserve it!!!



Maintenance Update From Steve

Firstly, I wanted to thank all those families that attended our working bee on Saturday 19th May. The results speak for themselves, with the Pre-School looking especially smart and tidy...all the way from the carpark entrance right through to the nature strip on Burwood Highway. There was hardly a rock unturned!



Front garden tidy

Apart from the tasks that were completed, it was a lot of fun with parent's enjoying themselves, meeting other parents and watching the children laughing and having fun.

No doubt our children and educators will have a spring in their step walking into a smart and tidy environment, which is our main objective.



Front tidy up



Decking high pressure cleaned, including roof



Chalk board installed



Step installed – Peter Addams



Shed shelf installed



3m³ of soft fall tan bark spread



Garage door remote motor installed

Tecoma Preschool Satisfaction Survey 2019

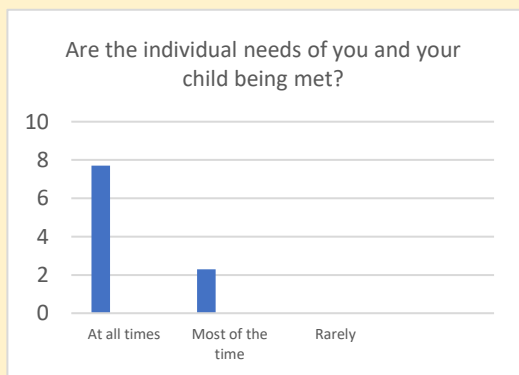
Thank you to all who completed the satisfaction survey. The survey provides a valuable insight into the service we provide and helps ensure that we continue to provide a high standard of service in all aspects of the kinder. Overall it was a very positive result.

The reputation of the kinder, and its proximity to home and the primary school the child will attend, rank highly as to why the kinder is chosen. Word of mouth and the welcome pack /Open Day continue to help keep enrolments strong. The quality of the educators and program are extremely important and continue to receive praise from parents. Social aspects also ranked highly, with comments suggesting there be more social events with kids. We have our family Lantern Parade coming up on the 20th of June, which all families are invited to attend. The Flexibuzz App and email continue to be the most popular ways to communicate with parents, as well as Story Park for the 4 year olds.

Parents are satisfied with the service information provided and with the kinder facilities. A special mention to the playground, with most parents being extremely satisfied with the new playground. There were a couple of comments regarding the ease of parking, which will be discussed further at the next committee meeting. 100% of parents believe that the needs of their child are being met either all or most of the time. The educators are available to parents to discuss their child’s development at any time throughout the year. The 4 year old program offers an additional mid-year development / school transition preparedness meeting; parents are encouraged to attend.

99% of parents state they feel welcome and encouraged to stay and contribute to the program by the educators and committee. Remember to add your details to the roster to attend all, or part of a session, as a helper. It’s a great way to see your child interacting with others and the running of the program at first hand.

Thank you again for the valuable feedback. Our Educators and Committee welcome feedback at any time.



‘Happy with everything’
 ‘The educators make every day so special’

Fundraising Report from Paris, Melania, Tara & Kelly



The Scholastic catalogues are placed in your child's drawer on the deck. A proportion of the funds raised from orders help provide resources for the Preschool. Thank-you to those that have already purchased something, we encourage you to have look through & consider an order.



Just a reminder to book and pay for your seats ASAP for this ripper of a night mate! It's on the **17th of August**, so book a babysitter and get your flannie on!

Lots of tickets have already been sold so get in quick to make sure you don't miss out.

DONATIONS NEEDED!

We are asking for donations to make up raffle/ silent auction items for our major fundraiser, Bogan Bingo, to be held on 17th August.

If all families would donate just one item (large or small) we should have sufficient items to make up several prizes to raffle and auction at our event to raise funds for our wonderful preschool.

There will be a box on the deck for any donations.

Many thanks in advance!

Fundraising Committee



Our group names

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

Bullen Bullen – Lyrebird

Bunjil – Eagle

Wareen – Wombat

Mirram – Kangaroo

Gurrborra – Koala

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 landowners and begin to share this with our community. 😊

We'd love to talk to you!

We know it can be tricky to talk at the start/end of sessions, so feel free to make a time to see us to chat more!

Just a Reminder!

Please send your child to kinder wearing clothes that are suitable for play. This means clothing in which they can safely climb and jump and which does not increase the risk of tripping when running or playing.

Please provide a warm coat and beanie to keep them cozy when playing outside in the winter months!

ENROLMENTS

Places at Tecoma Preschool fill fast, so if you have any siblings or know of friends or family that would like to attend in the future, be sure to complete an enrolment application



Tecoma Preschool 2019!