



Newsletter Issue 5 November 2017



Term 4 Newsletter

We hope you have had a warm start to Term 4, despite the inclement weather we have been experiencing!

It's been such a wonderful year and I'm sure you will agree how much our little munchkins have grown and developed with the help of our amazing teachers Helen, Tamara, Janine, Sharyn, Jo, Merilyn, Pauline and Ilona.

As our Children embrace the final term of the year, our educators have planned many fun and exciting activities, which you are invited to share in. Dates to diarise are choc-o-block, with more to come, so as the silly season sets in, please note these dates.

Until next time, take care.

Thanking you,

Kirsty Eccles
Newsletter Officer



WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN

Thank you for supporting the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Our Kinder received overwhelming support which enabled us to add to the ever popular Magnetic set.



FUNDRAISING

Personalised Tea Towel order forms have now been sent home. With our children all involved in putting their creative touch on this project, this is one opportunity you might not want to miss. Great for Grandparent Xmas pressies too! Many thanks to our teachers who assisted with this process.

DATES TO DIARISE:

Mon 13 November: Yellow Group Pyjama Day

Wed 15 November: Red Group Pyjama Day

Fri 17 November: Blue Group Pyjama Day

Wed 29 November: 4yo Excursion to Healesville Sanctuary

**Sat 2 December: Major Working Bee
(Wicklein & Wee & Towt & Walkley & Saxena & Spanner)**

Thur 7 December: No kinder for 4yo due to Orientation

Fri 15 December: Annual Christmas Party

Fri 15 December: Yellow Group End of Year Concert

Mon 18 December: Yellow Group Term 4 ends

Tue 19 December: Blue Group Term 4 ends

Wed 20 December: Red Group Term 4 ends

KINDER CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Kinder Christmas Party is on Friday 15 December from 5-7pm at Eltham North Adventure Playground, Wattletree Rd, Eltham North. Notices will be sent home in a couple of weeks with further details.



REMINDER: SUN SMART

A friendly reminder to apply sunscreen to your child prior to the session starting. Please also make sure your child has their hat at Kinder.





BLUE & RED GROUP

Welcome to term four. We hope you all enjoyed the break spending time with your families. We look forward to the warmer weather and spending more time outdoors.

The end to Term 3 was a fun filled day with the children enjoying the experience of Footy Day at kinder. We had children arrive in sporting colours and attire and some of blue groups children's faces were painted on the day in the colours they chose. The children had the opportunity to complete footy jerseys using pasting materials in their favourite team colours. Outdoors football goals and a handball target were set up and the children were busy either kicking goals or dancing to the footy theme songs which played throughout the day. Blue Group enjoyed party pies and sausages rolls for lunch on the day along with their fruit snack. Red group made sausage rolls for morning tea.



To begin Term 4 the children have enjoyed the arrival of the chicken eggs and were fortunate to observe the hatching process at kinder on the first Tuesday and Wednesday. The children have observed the chicks as they have hatched grown and developed over their time already at kinder. They have all had the opportunity to hold a chick at kinder and watch them playing at group time. We have decided to keep a few chicks that we think may be hens for a few more weeks

after the program concludes. Tamara has brought in her hutch for them. The chicks will be looking for a home at the end of their time here.

As the chicks have been the main topic of interest for the children, we have had a chicken game for them to play; they have also sequenced the hatching process.

The children have been provided with paints and craft materials to encourage and extend on their interests in chickens. We have also been singing songs and reading stories relating to chickens and other farm animals.

Both groups have been on excursion to fly kites at Partington's Flat. The children have really enjoyed the excursion and it provides a great opportunity to venture out into the community as a group. The children were able to fly their kites with enough space to run freely. Thanks to all the parents who helped make this excursion possible.





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Kinder Photos were held on Monday and Tuesday 16th and 17th and the photographers worked nicely with the children. Photos will be available for families to view after about three weeks.

Grandparents and special friend's day have been held. These days provide an opportunity for special people in the children's lives to visit and share time with them at Kinder. This year the children made potato people with their special visitor. The children had a special song to share with their grandparents on the day.



Educators have begun working on the children's transitions statements and part of this process has included a one on one discussion with each child about their thoughts about beginning school. This will form the child section of the statement. Once the teacher section is complete they will be forwarded to each family through email. The statements are very different to previous years so are taking a little extra time for staff to get familiar with.

The children have begun school transition programs and we have the days and dates of future school transitions that will occur in November. We have tried to make arrangements for special activities around them. We expect varying numbers throughout the group due to these transition times.

Our Pyjama Days are being held on Wednesday 15th November for Red Group and Friday 17th November for Blue Group during normal session times. The children will practice many independence skills on these days. The children will come in their pyjamas, have breakfast at Kindergarten, clean their teeth and then dress themselves ready for the rest of the day.

We have taken the opportunity to have the rethink program about sustainability, Little Sisters Do Lunch, on 23rd November for both groups during their normal session times. This theatrical performance is offered for free. We have also accepted the offer of having this incursion again in term one next year.

We are in the process of organizing an excursion to Healesville Sanctuary for both groups. The date we have selected and is available is Wednesday 29th November. We are planning to take both groups on the same day in one bus. All blue group families were willing to change their kinder day to a Wednesday. This excursion includes a wildlife educator to show us around the sanctuary. We felt this would be a great end to the year for the children and staff. Buses still need to be organized and times for arrival and departure discussed. We will also need families to assist on the day.





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The 2018 orientations for Red, Blue and Yellow Groups are on 7th December so there will be no sessions for Red and Blue Group children on this day.

We will then be looking at holding a special celebration for families with the sharing of songs the children have learnt throughout the year. The children will finish their kinder year with a celebration. Dates and times are to be confirmed.

The last session for Blue Group is on Tuesday 19th December and Wednesday 20th December for Red Group.

We look forward to the remainder of the term.

Helen, Tamara, Janine, Sharyn, Jo and Marilyn

YELLOW GROUP

Welcome to Term Four. Wow where has the year gone??

Yellow Group children have all returned happy, settled and ready to learn for their final term of Three Year Old Kinder. We have been enjoying the warmer weather and making the most of it, utilising the outdoors and water play.

Our last day of Term Three, which seems forever ago, was celebrated with a footy colours day. It was great to see the enthusiasm on Yellow Group's faces as they arrived in their favourite team colours, jumpers and accessories. Staff offered face painting for those children who wanted it. Cocktail frankfurts were served with fruit for those children who wanted one. A footy memory game and craft activities were based on football. Lots of the children pasted crepe paper on their team's jumper and some children painted footballs at the easel. Outside the footy goals were set up on the grass area. Staff kicked the footballs with the children back and forth, creating a lovely time outside to finish off the term.





We have continued to discuss the season Spring with the children. Lots of creative spring themed craft activities have been available for the children to do. For those children that wanted to, they made butterflies with dropping paint on card and then folding it to reveal a wonderful butterfly pattern.

This term we have altered the home corner slightly, offering natural materials for the children to use when cooking. This was inspired when staff attended the Dekta Conference on the last day of Term Three. Some of the guest speakers showed wonderful areas of play with doilies, flowers in glass vases, natural materials and wooden cooking equipment. Yellow Group have been busy using all these materials in the home corner creatively.



Many of the children have been keen on using the trucks in the sandpit. We brought these inside with some road signs with some grey delta sand mixed with the sand in a trough. The children really enjoyed this sensory experience of the combination of the two different textures.



Photo day last Monday went well. The ladies worked well with the children in the short amount of time they had with Yellow Group. The ladies spoke appropriately with the children





and moved with them as the children changed activities. Overall I was impressed with their work and look forward to hearing back from families what their photos are like.

The arrival of the chickens created a lot of interest amongst the group. It was unfortunate that Yellow Group didn't see the incubator arrive. However we discussed this as a group and they were thrilled to see 9 little chickens at Kinder on Friday. We discussed caring for them and the safest way to hold them. All the children had a turn to hold a chicken and washed their hands straight afterwards. We even learnt the CHICKEN DANCE which we believe the chickens were watching and enjoyed. Chicken based activities have been available for the children to use during this time, such as, chicken puzzles, tongs with eggs and chicks to place in bowls and lots of lovely stories about chickens.



This term we have altered our fruit duty parent's role slightly. In the past, parents had cut and prepared a fruit platter in the kitchen and then sat and served it to the children as they chose to eat. We found that a lot of fruit was being wasted. We have now asked parents to sit with the children and cut fruit as it is asked for, therefore limiting our food wastage. It is also a nice opportunity for the children to watch the parent cutting the fruit and talking about it in more depth as questions are raised.

Staff have been looking at all the children's observations so far this year, and determining individual and group goals for Term Four. Pauline and I have been reading over all their written observation and planning suitable experiences to foster their learning and skills required for Four Year Old Kinder next year. Our activities reflect the goals we have set to challenge and support their individual learning. Lots of independence skills are encouraged as well as working as a team.

This term we are looking at possible dates for activities and special events with Yellow Group children. We are having a pyjama morning, where the children and staff will wear their pj's for the entire session. This will coincide with the Fours who have their pyjama day the same week, ours will be on Monday 13th November. Our end of year concert, with school pick up in mind, we have decided to hold on Friday 15th December. Times will be confirmed. This will allow parents the opportunity to watch the concert, and have plenty of time to do school runs. Our last day, Monday 18th December, we will have a relaxed fun session with the children and staff to enjoy our favourite things from the year with a final special morning tea for Yellow Group.

We look forward working with Yellow Group children this term and also to meeting all the little children on our orientation day for 2018. (Thursday 7th December.)

Yellow Team,

Jo, Pauline and Ilona.





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APOLLO PARKWAYS PRE SCHOOL 2017 MAITENANCE ROSTER

Please see the roster below and make note of your allocation. If the allocated date is not convenient please contact Fiona (fiona_posterino@hotmail.com) to arrange an alternative date.

Please Note:

- Parents with children in 3 year old group are required to do 1 Major Working Bee
- Parents with children in 4 year old group are required to do 1 Major & 1 Minor Working Bee
- Major Working Bees are on the exact dates.
- Minor Working Bees can be either Saturday or Sunday of the stipulated weekend at the family's discretion
- Every effort has been made to have families from the same group together but again, this was not always possible.

Date	Working Bee Type	Families
Sat 4 Nov 2017	Minor Working Bee Mel Cup Tue 7th	Donaldson
Sat 11 Nov 2017	Minor Working Bee	
Sat 18 Nov 2017	Minor Working Bee	
Sat 25 Nov 2017	Minor Working Bee	Johnson
Sat 2 Dec 2017	Major Working Bee #6	Wicklein & Wee & Towt & Walkley & Saxena & Spanner
Sat 9 Dec 2017	Minor Working Bee	
Sat 16 Dec 2017	Minor Working Bee	
Sat 23 Dec 2017	Term Break	
Sat 30 Dec 2017	Term Break	

Guiding Children's Behaviour



Families may like to look up some of the information from Dr Louise Porters website. She has a very interesting approach to guiding children's behaviour. Some of her Frequently Asked Questions have some interesting information on a range of topics. The web address is: <http://www.louiseporter.com.au/>

This is the blurb from her welcome page.

Best regards, Helen

This website is dedicated to children: those spirited young people who value being in command of themselves and who protest when adults attempt to control them, the gifted learners whose needs





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are seldom appreciated but from whom we can gain such insights, and those children whose learning style or needs make it a challenge to conform to school.

I am passionate about safeguarding children's self-esteem, promoting their social skills, and supporting their resilience in the face of the challenges that life often raises, and to teach them to behave considerately, being mindful of how their behaviour affects others, rather than what consequences it may earn them.

I have taught at university, conducted a private practice for 30 years, and worked in both mainstream and disability agencies and schools. I am an author and have spoken extensively throughout Australia and internationally.

Check out some of my ideas on the Your questions page, or get information about some resources that might guide your parenting or your work with children on the Resources page.

Louise Porter, PhD, MA(Hons), MGiftedEd, DipEd, BA, BlntStuds
Child Psychologist

Apollo Parkways Preschool Quality Improvement

Families are encouraged to participate and QIP. Please chat to or email one of our committee of educators if you have improvements that you would like made to our Kindergarten and we can look to having them included in our QIP.

Below are listed some of the things that we are currently working on in our QIP.

Our more detailed planning can be sighted in our QIP at Kinder.

2.3.4	Refer to educators about further PD on Child Protection. Child Wise training??
3.3.1 3.3.2	Look to plant more sections of garden with indigenous plants with the children taking responsibility for caring for these areas
3.3.1	Investigate the possibility of installing solar panels to assist with power usage
3.3.2	Children's interest in planting and caring for vegetable to be sustained throughout the process
6.3.4	Develop stronger relationships with local schools
7.1.5	Working with children check and signed code of conduct for all workers and parents
7.3.2	Adequate space for educators to work needs to be provided. A space to meet with families and specialists is not available when required.





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ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

Apollo Parkways Pre School are fundraising, and we need your help! This year we are fundraising with the Entertainment Book! Order the NEW 2017/2018 Entertainment Book or Entertainment Digital Membership now. You'll receive hundreds of valuable offers for everything you love to do, and help our fundraising at the same time!

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