



Monbulk Pre-School Newsletter

April 2016

Dear Parents,
Welcome back everyone to Pre-School for Term 2.
We hope you all had a lovely Easter and break.

Judy, Jenny, Ann, Sue, Sarah & Becky ☺

April Birthday's



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

Timothy on April 3rd

Lily on April 4th

Adele on April 7th

Chase on April 7th

Eva K on April 11th

Jakarn on April 11th

Flynn on April 12th

Benjamin on April 28th

Jakob on April 29th

Eva V on April 30th

Quality Area 6- Collaborative Partnerships with Families & Communities

Big Thank You's

Thank you to Jakarn's Dad for repairing our dog house and to Grace's family for some wood pieces for the wood work table.

Thank you also to Nunawading Good Guys for providing us with a discounted television and to Scarlett's Thorp's family for paying the balance and providing the wall bracket. Thank you as well to Scarlett's Dad for installing it in the foyer. Make sure you have a look at all the photos that are on display on the TV. We will regularly update the photo's and ensure that photos of all children are included at some stage

Pre-School Photos

Kinder photos will be taken as detailed below:

3 year old room: week of 18th – 21st April

4 year old room: week of 26th – 29th April

Bendigo Bank

Monbulk Bendigo Bank offers a Club Rewards Program. If you choose to be a customer you also make a choice that can benefit your chosen local clubs etc. For example, if you nominate Monbulk Pre-School by opening a new account we would get \$25, a new home loan, we would get \$500 or \$250 with a personal loan etc. If interested drop into the branch at 70 Main Rd, Monbulk or call 9752 1130.

Quality Area 7- Leadership & Service Management

Quality Improvement Plan

Our plan for 2016 will be developed shortly and as always placed on display in the foyer to look at. If you have any ideas where we can improve please place them in the suggestions box in the foyer. Our service is best practice, not minimum standard and therefore our expectations are higher.

Policies

Two policies were approved at the April School Council meeting. This included amendments to our Enrolment Policy due to changes in legislation around immunisation requirements and our new Road Safety and Safe Transport Policy. Copies of both are available on request and also displayed in folder in the foyer.

Survey

As part of our funding agreement with the Department Education and Training we are required to conduct annual satisfaction surveys with all families. Part 1- Administration will be sent out shortly. This is generally done online via survey monkey.

Quality Area 2- Children's Health & Safety

Very Important Reminder!

Due to children enrolled at the Pre-School who are anaphylaxis, please be aware that bringing nuts can have severe consequences for children in our classes and therefore nut and nut products should not be included in your child's snack/lunch box.

Nutrition News

Updated Dietary Guidelines for Australians reinforce what dieticians have been saying for years. Recommendations include eating more foods from the core food groups such as vegetables and legumes, grains, fruits, reduced-fat dairy foods, fish, seafood, poultry, eggs and nuts and fewer "extra" foods high in saturated fat, salt and added sugar. See eatforhealth.gov.au for more information.

General Reminders

- With the cold and wet weather starting it is essential you include in your child's bag a change of clothes, waterproof coat and gumboots. Hats are also to be worn all year, beanies in the colder weather. This is a must for outdoor play. Staff attended a PD by a renowned expert in the field regarding the value of outdoor play for children, whatever the weather. No excuses for children not having waterproof coats for play- if concerned about cold you can put thermals on them. If you like you can also bring some slippers for your child to wear indoors. Please ensure all items are named. There is no bad weather- just bad clothing.
- Remember to always check your child's pigeon hole for any notices or information

Monbulk Pre-School Centre

Mailing Address: PO Box 375, Monbulk, 3793

Address: 21 Main Road, Monbulk, 3793

Telephone: 9756 7379

Email: monbulk.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

Dates for Your Diary:
Monday 25th April- ANZAC Day Public Holiday
Saturday 7th May- Mothers Day Stall
Friday 24th June- Last Day Term 2

Quality Area 6- Collaborative Partnerships with Families & Communities

3 Year Old News

The children have settled well. They are confident in their room and are beginning to notice their peers (engaging with them). This happens in many ways and usually on the mat through talking, poking and holding hands. They are beginning to invite children into their play and in turn asking if they can join in. During second in particular a great deal of our intentional teaching revolves around social skills and supporting the children through some challenging situations.

Spanish lessons have begun with Pilar which will continue over the next 5 weeks. The children are learning colours- rojo (red), azul (blue), Amarillo (yellow) and verde (green) and numbers one-five.

As the children are moving towards being more independent it is important to remember to set them up for "success".

Clothing- that is easy to take off or put on (for toileting etc)

Shoes- perhaps gumboots or boots for winter

Hats- that fit and are clearly named

Lunch boxes- and containers that they can undo themselves. 80% of the children need help with opening containers. Remember that it is only a snack so don't pack too much as sometimes there can be too many choices

More information will come but we will be having Mother's Day morning tea on the following dates:

Magpies- 3rd May

Lyrebirds- 5th May

Farewell Sarah

We would like to take this opportunity to let you know that Sarah will be leaving us as she is moving away from the area. Her last session with the Magpies will be Tuesday 3rd May, the Lyrebirds Thursday 5th May and Friday 6th May in the 4 year old room.

It has been lovely working with Sarah over the last couple of years and we are all going to miss her. We thank her so much for her support, conviction to the program, her beautiful and honest interactions with the children, the laughter and the friendship. We wish her and her family all the best in their future endeavours.

Families will be notified as soon as we fill the position.

4 Year Old News

As updates are provided weekly to families we have only a few items this month.

- We had a very busy start to the year but the children are settling quickly into routines and play
- Shortly we will be sending out "Abacaderian" ideas on areas of play for families to use at home so we can work on them together.
- Staff are continuing to keep up with their professional development with two recent workshops on the value of outdoor play and how to document easily and successfully

Brendan O'Hara Seminar

As part of the grant money we received we hosted a seminar by Brendan which was open to all families, school staff and families and staff from other Pre-School's and Schools' in the area.

We had well over 60 participants attend.

We have been incorporating many of the theories into our program for a number of years. Brendan is offering a 2 day seminar to follow up if anyone is interested (see Judy). Many of his ideas are for all ages with simple techniques you can incorporate into daily life.

FUNDRAISING

We have already got off to a busy start with fundraising for the year. Thank you to everyone involved in organising and participating in all the fundraising for the Pre-School.

Bike-a-thon

This year we raised \$554.95. Prizes were given to the children who raised the most money in 3 and 4 year old groups. Congratulations to Eva Van Graas and Lily Hutton.

Easter Raffle

Thank you to everyone who donated so much chocolate eggs and bought raffle tickets. We had 12 hampers as prizes and raised \$380.

Mothers Day Stall

Our annual stall will be held on Saturday 7th May. Notices have already been distributed requesting items to sell on day. A board will go up in the foyer shortly for volunteers on the day.



Mud Pit Fun!

