



Monbulk Pre-School Newsletter

April/May 2020

Dear Families,
Welcome back to a very different Term 2 for us all. We miss seeing all the children at the Pre-School and hope you all are safe and well and we all look forward to seeing everyone again.

Rachel, Jenny, Shelley, Sue, Veronica & Becky ☺

Quality Area 7- Leadership & Service Management

Principal/Licensee



What a big change has happened since the last time our newsletter went home to families! Congratulations and thank you to all of our families who have been so supportive and understanding during this time. Our educators have been doing a wonderful job organising remote learning and also a modified class program as well. There's some wonderful learning happening at home. You are your child's first teacher, and spending time with you is a special opportunity. To stay connected with the children we are starting to use Class Dojo, and I know many families have connected and are enjoying the videos. Please take care, and stay safe and well.
Estelle Alder

Photos 2020

Pre-School photos were booked to happen this term on the 26th, 27th and 28th May. Due to COVID-19 these will most likely be postponed. We will let families know when we receive new dates from Schoolpix.

Quote

In our "new normal" of remote learning this is a perfect quote:
When I say to a parent, "read to your child", I don't want it to sound like medicine. I want it to sound like chocolate.
Mem Fox

Quality Area 7- Leadership & Service Management

Term 1 Fees

Term 1 fees are now overdue. Please ensure they are paid as soon as possible. If you would like to start a payment plan please speak to Becky in the office. As per Department Education & Training directive, term 2 fees are not required in the funded 4 year old program. Any families that attend for the 3 year old program will be invoiced accordingly.

April/May Birthday's



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

**Milla F
Lyla
Amelie
Asher
Atlas
Alissar**

Flu Vaccine

Are you aware that Victoria provides free flu vaccine for all children from six months up to five years of age? With the upcoming flu season and the Government encouraging people to get the flu injection to help with the potential strain on the health system in regards to COVID-19, see your Doctor or local Council for more information (Shire Yarra Ranges are still doing community immunisation sessions- see their website).

Shade Sail

In the next couple of weeks our new shade sail in the upper corner of the play space will be installed ready for sunny Spring days after Winter!



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:
Friday 26th June: Last day term 2
Monday 13th July: First day term 3

Quality Area 6- Collaborative Partnerships with Families & Communities

FUNDRAISING

Ice-Creams

As the community movie night was cancelled in March we now have all the ice-creams to sell. Some families have already paid and placed orders but due to COVID we are unable to distribute them. Once we are operating normally families will be able to place orders (forms in pigeon holes if not collected last term) and collect orders. If you have already paid and would like your money returned please contact Becky on 9756 7379.

Bunning's BBQ

Due to COVID-19 Bunning's has currently suspended all community BBQ's. Hopefully as our BBQ was booked for 15th November we will still be able to have it. We will keep families informed as the date gets closer.

Scholastic Book Club

For the first time in history Scholastic Book Club has a virtual catalogue for term 2. Below is the link if you would like to have a look. Orders for this catalogue must be placed online by 8th May. <https://scholastic.com.au/book-club/virtual-catalogue-1/>

Congratulations

Congratulations to Annabelle and her family on the recent arrival of Macy.



**Monbulk and District
Community Bank
Tokens of Appreciation**

Make your banking work for you
and your club

Product = Tokens Awarded

- Bendigo Home Loan = 10
- Bendigo Personal Loan = 5
- Bendigo Credit Card = 3
- Bendigo Smart Start Super = 2
- Insurance Cover = 2
- New Business Account = 2
- New Term Deposit over \$10,000 = 2
- Personal Account = 1

Our in branch Tokens of Appreciation wall allows customers to support your club in the process of banking with us

Monbulk and District
Community Bank Branch  **Bendigo Bank**

Quality Area 1- Educational Program & Practice

3 Year Old Room

Dear Families, this is one of my favourite poems that I always like to refer to when life and expectations become overly complicated. It is definitely appropriate for our "new normal".

"If I Had My Child to Raise Over Again"

If I had my child to raise over again:
I'd build self-esteem first and the house later
I'd finger paint more and point the finger less
I would do less correcting and more connecting
I'd take my eyes off my watch and watch with my eyes
I would care to know less and know to care more
I'd take more hikes and fly more kites
I'd stop playing serious and seriously play
I would run through more fields and gaze at more stars
I'd do more hugging and less tugging
I'd see the oak tree in the acorn more often
I would be firm less often and affirm much more
I'd model less about the love of power
And more about the power of love.

Diane Loomans



Trevor, Possum & Wombat making friends



Trevor, Wombat & Possum playing hospital

4 Year Old Room

So much has changed since our last newsletter, but hopefully only temporarily. At the end of last term children were role playing doctors, nurses and patients, going on 'bear' hunts, learning what a face looks like and drawing one, playing instruments, counting backwards from 10 and learning what it means to be a bucket filler (kind, helpful and loving), as well as many other things. Due to closing a few days early at the end of last term, we were unable to have our last day Epilepsy Foundation Purple Day fundraiser. Hopefully we can do this later in the year, as it is a wonderful cause.

We hope that you are all doing well. At the moment most children are learning from home, and families have told us that they are remaining positive and spending more time than ever at home and together. Many are finding that they have been surprised to find that this is a special time with no rushing around, discovering parenting skills they never knew they had that our siblings are playing together more. While our relationships with each other may deepen, we also acknowledge that this will not be the case for every family and that even families who are coping well will also have difficult times. We will continue to make regular contact with you by phone or email to check in and see how we may be able to help, as part of our remote learning program, and talk to your child (if they want to) to help maintain that connection with Pre-School.

Every two weeks we will be emailing a few activities for your child to try, based on their interests/requests, your suggestions, and links to what we would have been doing at Pre-School if everyone was there. We would love you to send us some feedback about these, so that we can tailor them to better suit your needs. Thank you to the families who have already shared their ideas.

We have also set up an app called Class Dojo, for sharing group time style learning videos, challenges and messages with you. You can even send us your photos or videos on the app (only educators can see them, so privacy is maintained). If you have not received your email invite to the app, please let us know straight away. While most of us are currently separate physically, you are all in our minds and in our hearts. If you can think of anything that we may be able to support you or your child with, please ask and we will endeavour to help (or find someone who can).

Thank you to all the educators and support staff for their resilience, flexibility and dedication at this difficult time. Remote learning is new to us all, so we are finding new ways to do things and developing new skills every day.

Inspiro Services April - May 2020

COUNSELLING, DENTAL & ALLIED HEALTH

Call: 9738 8801



DENTAL

Emergency services only e.g. those in significant pain from a tooth infection, abscess, swelling or trauma

COUNSELLING

Available via phone &/or video call:

- General
- Youth & Family
- Drug & Alcohol
- Family Violence
- Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies



CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Available via phone &/or video call:

- Children's speech therapy
- Children's occupational therapy



NDIS

NDIS appointments are available via phone &/or video calls

ALLIED HEALTH

Public and private appointments available via phone &/or video call:

- Diabetes Education
- Dietetics
- Exercise Physiology
- Occupational Therapy
- Physiotherapy
- Podiatry
- Speech Therapy



LIMITED FACE TO FACE CONSULTATIONS AVAILABLE FOR ESSENTIAL, URGENT CARE ONLY



Rainbow doing a painting

Quality Area 6- Collaborative Partnerships with Families & Communities

Eastern Regional Libraries

Our local library is now doing home delivery. You can select books, DVD's, games, magazines and more. All will be delivered direct to your home! Visit yourlibrary.com.au or call 1300 737 277.

Casey Cardinia Libraries are also providing a home delivery service and online videos to entertain families- www.cclc.vic.gov.au or 1800 577 548.



Dr Billy helping in the hospital

Quality Area I - Educational Program & Practice

Remote Learning

We are aware that you may be bombarded with information from various sources, but here's a short list of other resources that may be useful for families.

- Museums Victoria for young learners (dinosaurs and fossils) <https://museumsvictoria.com.au/longform/dinosaur-walk/>
- Little Science (specific to early learners) <https://museumsvictoria.com.au/learning/little-science/>
 - Museum at home- <https://museumsvictoria.com.au/museum-at-home/>
 - Zoos Victoria live animal stream- <https://www.zoo.org.au/animals-at-home>
 - Eastern Regional Libraries story time- <https://www.yourlibrary.com.au/>
- Talking to children about Corona virus- <https://emergingminds.com.au/resources/supporting-children-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak> and <https://raisingchildren.net.au/toddlers/health-daily-care/health-concerns/coronavirus-and-children-in-australia#talking-to-children-about-coronavirus-covid-19-nav-title>
- ABC- <https://www.abc.net.au/abckids/early-education/>
- Yarra Ranges Council have under the Yarra Ranges Families department are providing information and resources to help families support and engage their children- fun learning ideas and activities, interesting posts, information and support for parental wellbeing. These are available at <https://www.facebook.com/yrfamilies/> and <https://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/Community/Family/Activities>
- CIRE Services free activity packs- <https://www.facebook.com/cireservices/posts/2955448861145241>



Let's look after each other

Our community is really feeling it now.

If you are concerned about a friend or neighbour in your area, please drop this post card into their letterbox.

How can we help?

At Yarra Ranges Council we appreciate Covid-19 is raising new challenges for individuals, families and businesses.

How is it affecting you? How are you coping? *It's ok to ask for help.*

We are keen to hear from you. If you need help, our dedicated team can direct you to the relevant services in your area.

This includes:

- financial support
- food relief
- mental health support
- family violence support
- disability support services
- business support
- housing/homelessness support and more.

📞 **1300 368 333**
✉️ **mail@yarraranges.vic.gov.au**

Stay up to date at yrc.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

