



Monbulk Pre-School Newsletter



We acknowledge and pay respects to the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, their Ngurungaeta- Murrundindi, their Elders as the Traditional Owners of the land on which the Pre-School stands

July 2017

Dear Parents,
Welcome back for term 3! We hope you had a fun and relaxing break (the weather was kind to us!). We welcome to Monbulk Pre-School the new families who have started this term.
Judy, Jenny, Sue, Shelley and Becky ☺

July Birthday's



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

Blue Room- Ava, Ari, Archer and Zara
Green Room- Angus, Madison and Tashlyn

Vic roads App

Vic roads have a fantastic App available to download for free off their website called "Road Mode". This App allows you to drive without distraction, silencing your incoming calls and text messages while you are on the road. Those calling or texting you will receive an automated text response to let them know you are driving and can't answer. When you arrive at your destination, Road Mode will provide a summary of the calls and messages you received.

Fantastic App for both adults and young drivers.

Child Care Benefit

For all families who claim CCB the form you are required to submit to Centrelink is the FA018 form. This is located at www.humanservices.gov.au under forms. We then provide the fee payment form once fees are paid (terms 1 & 2 and then terms 3 & 4).

Congratulations

Congratulations to Alex and his family on the arrival of baby Eliza.

Thank You

Thank you to Harvey for donating some craft materials and to Morgan for the new and repaired dress ups.

Maintenance

We have had lots of maintenance items to repair/replace and pay for at the Pre-School over recent months with leaking toilets, broken boiler units and faulty hand dryers! Over the holidays we also had installed our long awaited privacy door at one of the toilet cubicles in the children's bathroom.

Quality Area 7- Leadership & Service Management

Principal/Licensee

Welcome back to Term 3! I hope your child has settled in nicely despite the cold weather. I am just reminding you that it is time to begin enrolling your child into school (current 4yr old's). It is an exciting time but can be quite daunting as it is an important decision. If you have decided to send your child to Monbulk Primary school and haven't enrolled yet please do as soon as possible. If you are still deciding and would like a personalised tour please ring the office on 9756 6481 to book. I would love to spend that time showing you our wonderful school. Our prep transition sessions will be starting in October.

Looking forward to hearing from you. Lynn Ordish

Policy Updates

The following policies were updated and approved at the last School Council meeting.

- Enrolment
- Child Safe (former Child Protection)
- Code of Conduct

Copies are available in the foyer to read or contact the Office if you would like a copy emailed.

Community Awareness

Over the last term it has come to our attention that there has been a bit of talk in the community about a variety of issues. It is natural that people talk amongst themselves but when it hurts other peoples self-esteem, a reputation or people's feelings it becomes more sensitive.

Valuing others is very important- we are all different. Some topics we have heard about are behaviours of other children. All children learn at different stages. This includes behaviour (no one is perfect). We work with the behaviours that we are presented with. We do not judge the parent/care giver. We want to support the child/parent in their journey. Children don't think like adults when they hurt others and we have to work through it with them. If your child is involved in this (ie. hurt or offended) then we will speak to you confidentially. It would be beneficial if you don't pass on names of children involved or pass harsh judgement to others. Please display empathy for those who are faced with challenges. Maybe you could offer your support. Every child should have the same opportunity regardless of their ability. In an equitable society some need a little more support at times. Empathy for others is important to develop, we do not know what journey others take.

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:

End of Term 3- 22nd September

Bunning's BBQ- 2nd December

Quality Area 6- Collaborative Partnerships with Families & Communities

Charitable Donations- Jeans for Genes Day

It is Jeans for Genes Day on Friday 4th August. The 4 year room will have a jeans dress up day on Thursday 3rd August. A donation box will be in the foyer if you would like to help raise funds for this charity and purchase some merchandise.

Donations can also be made via the link below- all donations made this way receive a free gift of a key ring and badge.

The link is www.jeansforgenes.org.au/fundraiser/monbulk-pre-school. Last year we raised over \$200.

Upcoming Dates

Below is information on upcoming events that involve both the 3 and 4 year old groups combined. Further information will be provided by teachers as dates get closer.

Fathers Night- 31st August



Starting Out Safely

Child Car Seats Save Lives

Road Trauma is still the number one killer of Australian children and around 3000 are seriously injured each year on our roads. Choosing the right child car seat and using it correctly can make children some of the safest occupants in your car.

Child car seats – it's all about size, not age

The law in Australia states that all children under the age of 7 years old must use a child restraint when travelling in a car. Research shows that it is a child's height, not age that determines when a child is safe to use an adult seat belt.

Remember the law is just the minimum and we can do far more than just the minimum to keep our children safe.



Go to www.carseatssavelives.com.au and take the 'five-step test'

To find out if it's safe for your child to be in an adult seatbelt take the 'Five-Step Test' by visiting www.carseatssavelives.com.au where you can also watch ELAA's new video 'Child Restraints and Booster Seats – What You Need to Know' and access more essential information on keeping your child safe in your car.



ELAA delivers the Victorian Government's early childhood road safety education program, Starting Out Safely, on behalf of VicRoads. Contact the RSE team on (03) 9489 3500 or email rse@elaa.org.au



EARLY LEARNING ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA



Quality Area 6- Collaborative Partnerships with Families & Communities

FUNDRAISING

Entertainment Books

These are still available for sale via the online link (forms in foyer) or see Leonie Jansen (number on brochure) to purchase a hard copy.

Woolworths Earn and Learn

Woolworths Earn and Learn program begins again on 26th July so start collecting your stickers! We have boxes for sticker collection in the foyer, upstairs in Shire area and at Monbulk Woolworths. A few sticker books are in the foyer and more can be downloaded at woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn.

Picture Plates

Jo will be organising these this term for the 4 year old group. An information brochure will be put in your child's pigeon hole shortly.

Bunning's BBQ

Just a reminder to pop into your diaries/calendars that we have our Bunning's BBQ booked for Sunday 2nd December at the Bayswater Bunning's.



Quality Area I- Educational Program & Practice

3 Year Old Room

Welcome back for term 3. The 3rd term is traditionally a busy one. The children are becoming very comfortable in their environment, their play is now moving from observer/solitary to parallel and now co-operative. It is a difficult and demanding stage where the children are challenged in all areas of their development. Getting along with their peers requires negotiation and language skills, understanding the ideas of others, listening, co-operation and sharing and cognitive skills. Co-operative play involves co-operation/sharing, cognitive skills and the list goes on!

A great proportion of the program in the 3 year old group centres around what we call "social and emotional skills".

Throughout the year this is reflected in table top activities and mat time. Moving the children through the stages of play- designing activities to both support and develop skills- allowing time for practice and repetition- accepting that each child will develop at their own pace.

At this stage the children have found each other- the room becomes noisier (through chatter), mat times are noisy as everyone has something to say and usually all at once!

Encouraging and guiding the children to be aware of others and their needs is critical because at this stage they still think they are the centre of the universe!

Staff are often required to support the children through some difficult play situations where there are disputes over toys/equipment, who can and can't play, being able to express their ideas to their peers and then getting them to listen.

Conflict- we as adults model the behaviour we would like to encourage. We ask the questions- "Can you solve the problem or do you need help?" This is giving the power back to your child. "Can you walk away from this? Do you need help in telling him/her to stop?"

We never take over the situation but rather allow the child to work through the issue- we talk it over and break it down into small steps. We are empowering your child with simple age appropriate strategies to deal with difficult and challenging behaviours from their peers.

There will always be challenging children and I believe it is best to teach your child the strategies of how to deal with conflict. It is very easy for an adult to step in and solve the problem for the child but that is nothing more than a bandaid. It is important that we show the child that we trust that they can solve the problem and we are here to support them through this.

At the moment we are practicing "Stop it- I don't like it"- using a clear loud voice and to look at the person you are talking to. We are also talking about our emotions- what makes us feel happy, sad or angry.

Pilar is teaching Spanish on a Thursday this term. It will be starting at 9.15am so please ensure your children are here on time at 9.00am- allowing them to settle in before Pilar arrives.

Mat time at the beginning of session allows children to walk into a predictable place, we greet friends and we work as a group. We learn to make a choice where to sit- is there enough room- can we make room for our friends. We listen and respond, Shelley and I have the opportunity to incorporate intentional teaching at this time- it is planned and developed through children's interests and needs. It is an extremely important part of our session- it enables the children to start the day with the group and enjoy the experience of games and music with their peers. Please ensure you try to be on time (especially the Wednesday group)- sometimes we are waiting for 20-40 minutes for everyone to get here and by that time the children are well over it!



4 Year Old Room

Refer recent email from Judy and Jenny. Copy also available in the foyer to read.

Children have been doing brain gym type activities which encourage relaxation and calming techniques.

Please see teachers anytime if you have a concern, suggestion or worry. All plans for the classroom are based on children developing- not just for their future years at school but for life.



Quality Area 7- Leadership & Service Management

Term 3 Invoices

Term 3 invoices have been distributed. These are due by Friday 11th August. Some families also owe more than one term. If you have not made a payment plan, non-payment could result in your child being excluded from attending in term 4. If you would like to arrange a payment plan please see Becky in the office or contact our Business Manager, Sandy Sloane, on 9756 6481.

Quality Area 1- Educational Program & Practice

- Please ensure your child have a warm hat and coat for outside play
- Some children (especially in 3 year old group) are still having difficulty opening their lunch boxes- please check with your child



