



Monbulk Pre-School Newsletter

March 2016

Dear Parents,

A short term and hasn't it gone fast! We hope you and your children have enjoyed the start of the Pre-School year and that you all have a wonderful break and Easter. We can't wait to hear all the stories of the adventures the children have had over the holidays.

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



March Birthdays



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

- Mitch on March 10th
- Sophia on March 13th
- Ann on March 19th
- Aurie on March 20th
- Ryder on March 21st
- Slade on March 23rd
- Nate on March 24th
- Morgan T on March 26th
- Hadley on March 29th

Useful Websites

- Packing a healthy lunchbox- www.nutritionaustralia.org/national/resource/packin-g-school-lunchbox
- Healthy snacks for under 5's- www.nutritionaustralia.org/national/resource/healthy-snacks-under-5s

Wanted

- We desperately need some wood off cuts for our carpentry table as we have none at the moment
- If you have an old (but in good repair) sun umbrella you don't need we would love to use it at Kinder

Pre-School Photos

Photos of the children will be in the first couple weeks of term 2. Notices will go out notifying families of exact dates beforehand.

QA6- Collaborative Partnerships with Families and Communities

Bike-a-Thon

All the children and staff had a wonderful time at our bike-a-thon. It was lovely for all the parents to meet each other and the children could have kept on riding all night! Please send in your sponsorship money so we can give out the prizes for most raised money in each room. Please see Judy if your child has still not received their certificate.

This wonderful event/fundraiser is organised by the teaching staff and has been very popular and successful over the last few years.



Thank You

Thank you to the following family for their generous donations:

- Summer for the paper, cards and dress-ups



Teddy Bears Picnic

Monbulk Pre-School

Mailing Address: PO Box 375, Monbulk, 3793

Address: Main Road, Monbulk, 3793

Telephone: 9756 7379

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

Dates for Your Diary:

March 23rd: Brendan O'Hara Session

March 24th: Last Day Term 1

April 11th: First Day Term 2

QA7- Leadership & Service Management

Policy Reviews

Our policies are reviewed annually or as required. Any amendments need to be approved by School Council. We will keep you informed of what policies are being reviewed and how you can make any comments (will usually be displayed in foyer). We currently have 42 policies. Copies of all policies are in the folder in the foyer. See Becky in the Office if you would like a copy of any of our policies.

Two policies will be referred to the April School Council meeting are a new Road Transport and Safety Policy and amendments to our Enrolment Policy due to the recent changes in immunisation laws. Copies of these policies can be viewed prior to approval by School Council if interested.

Blue Room (3 year old)

The children are settling in well and adapting to their new environment, following the routine, relating to both staff and peers, beginning to accept "class rules and expectations" and most importantly exploring their environment and being comfortable and confident.

We are continuing to talk about our environment and community- where do we live, what is our home made of, do we live on a dirt, smooth or bumpy road? The children have enjoyed creating roads through different art mediums and play. We have used blocks, rocks, play dough, pebbles, finger paint and collage to create 'Monbulk Town'. Have a look at it on the back wall of our room next time you are in.

We have been working on scissor skills- simple snipping with play dough, strips of paper and wool. The children enjoy cutting these as they usually only have to snip once or twice to achieve success! Some children are confident with scissors and we are able to challenge them by cutting curves or zig zags. Some are even more than happy making their own creations with paste, paper of different shapes, foil, boxes and sticky tape.

Teddy bears, children and staff enjoyed a wonderful picnic- the Teddy's bounced on the parachute (one brave Teddy went to the moon he bounced so high!). They were a bit cheeky and hid, enjoyed the song "Two little Teddy Bears jumping on my knee", listened to Teddy stories and ate Teddy bear biscuits.

Sarah and I would like to thank you for your support this term. It's a huge change for your children being in a different environment with all that that entails. Thank you for trusting our judgement on what is best for your child in this situation and having the confidence to follow through on suggestions. We hope you have a happy and safe Easter and look forward to seeing you all next term.

Safety Reminder

Kid Safe and the Victorian Government are continuing an education campaign reminding families not to leave children unattended in cars- even in cooler weather. If necessary ask another parent to collect and sign your child out for you to meet them in the car park.

QA1- Educational Program & Practice

Today!

Some days if I don't bring home anything, I will have learnt to share a story, to make decisions, to talk to a friend, take turns, solve problems, to take care of myself.

I may have gained skill, anticipated a problem, lost a fear, increased my vocabulary, broadened a concept, developed a relationship, gained in confidence, independence or self respect.

I may not be able to tell you all of these, but they are signs of development.

(Just as much as growing out of my clothes!)

General Reminders

- We continue to practise our monthly fire, earthquake drills and lockdowns as part of our regular compliance
- Practice hand washing at home with your children- 20 seconds wash, 20 seconds rinse, 20 seconds dry (or sing happy birthday song twice)
- Families are reminded not to put lollies, chocolate biscuits etc in their child's snack box. These are treat foods and we try to promote healthy eating
- Sunscreen is in the foyer for you to put on your child when they arrive
- With late hot weather please ensure children have appropriate clothing for the day (or a change of clothes in their bag). With hot weather we are also having a lot of water play so again a change of clothes is advisable

Green Room (4 year old)

- From an educational perspective a rotational model of sessions is not ideal but is required this year due to low enrolment numbers. Therefore some children may participate in an activity twice in one week. We would much rather this happens than a child missing out completely
- Please place lunch boxes on the trolley (top or bottom shelf) on their side with the drink bottle beside it. This helps children find their bag or staff to move the trolley inside without them all falling off

Fundraising Reminders

Just a quick reminder that the following fundraisers are due back before the end of term:

- Bike-a-thon sponsorships
- Easter Raffle- all tickets and donations due by 21st March (raffle drawn on 22nd March)

