



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

November-December 2016

Dear Parents,

This year has again flown by so fast! The children have grown so much in so many ways. The last weeks will involve a few things happening for the children and you- keep an eye on your emails or child's pigeon hole. We look forward to seeing the children in 2016 and wish the Green Room children all the best with going off to school.

Merry Christmas to you all and we wish you a safe and happy New Year!

Judy, Jenny, Sue, Shelley, Ann & Becky



Transition to School Reports

These are almost completed and will be forwarded to you and your child's school shortly.

Christmas Gifts for Staff

Staff agreed a few years ago, that while it is kind of families to give Christmas gifts to staff at the end of the year, it is not necessary. A lovely card is more than enough. If you like, in lieu of a gift, a small donation to the Pre-School would be appreciated to put towards a piece of equipment. These can be placed in the cupboard in the kitchen.

Term Clean

List of end of year jobs will be placed at each sign in area. Please come along and help where you can.

Sign In Book Reminder

Please ensure that you write the name of the person collecting your child- not just Mum or Dad. This is a legal and regulatory requirement.

Green Room Thank You's

A big thank you to Marilyn (Elora's Nana) for doing the 4 year old portfolios this year. To Timothy for bringing in some eggs to use in cooking activities and Chase and Jade for the photo frames to use next year.

Birthdays



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

Kody on 9th Nov

Mia on 13th Nov

Colt on 23rd Nov

Ronnie on 18th Dec

William on 18th Dec

Auska on 19th Dec

Vaughn on 27th Dec

Green Room Graduation

The children were wonderful in their concert and graduation held on 22nd November. The songs performed highlighted the children's eagerness to learn through music. Judy, Jenny, Shelley, Sue and Ann were very proud.

Quality Improvement Plan

In 2017 our Quality Improvement Plan will be linked with the School's Strategic Plan. This will be developed in term 2 with all staff contributing.

If you have any ideas for us to improve our service please let us know.



Great Tips

Early Learning Everyone Benefits campaign has some great tips for parents on everything. From helping children to manage their emotions to optimising play spaces. Check out their Face Book page or www.everyonebenefits.org.au

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:

6th & 8th Dec- All groups swim/sun safe

19th Dec- Last sessions of year

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Bunning's BBQ

Thank you to the following people for helping with our recent BBQ: Jo & Richard Heap, Jenny, Judy, Jon Makaay, Jade Brodie, Louise Thorp, Jason Beer, Ash Hutton and Courtney Gulpinar. Special mention to Jo Heap for co-ordinating and organising the day. We raised a fantastic \$2020.36.

Christmas Raffle

Christmas Raffle tickets have been given to all families. Hamper items can be placed in the box in the Office. Raffle will be drawn on Tuesday 15th December.

Monbulk Primary School Fair

We had a great day at the School Fair and combined with the family portrait session we raised \$531.95. Again a big thank you to Jo Heap for organising everything and to Dina Felscher who spent a busy few hours plaiting hair! Thank you also for their help on the day to- Jo Heap's parents, Leonie Jansen, Veronica Makaay, Nat Nicholls and her family, Rhiannon Williams, Becky Scott, Cherrilyn (Yue's Grandma), Anita Myres, Louise Thorp and Tanya Jones.



Dig ready to go at the start of the Fair!

Outstanding Fees 2016

Term 4 and other outstanding invoices were placed in pigeon holes recently. Please ensure these are paid or call the Office to arrange a suitable payment plan. Unpaid invoices may affect your child's 2017 enrolment or be referred to our debt collection agency.

Blue Room News

Always at this stage of the year I think "where did that year go?!". I look back on learning stories and photos of your children and realise how much they have grown- not just physically but in all areas of development. We as Educators reflect on the program, the group and individual goals and how does our philosophy and approach support and encourage an environment where the children become confident and capable learners.

We know that children learn best through play and through play we introduce "intentional teaching".

We provide the opportunities for the child to learn in all areas- social play is just as important as "cognitive development" and "motor skills". To be successful educators we need to cover all areas of development and have a sound understanding of where your child should be. All children develop differently and in planning activities we allow for that. However, my aim has been to establish strong foundations in all areas of learning and from there we build on.

There have been a few changes this year and I thank you for your patience. I truly believe that if the room and the expectations of the room remain the same, the philosophy is understood and the approach is consistent, the children will adapt to different educators and their learning will continue and strengthen. Resilience is a word we use a great deal in Early Childhood- it's a worthy quality and I think this year the children have proved that they have adapted easily to different challenges. One of the most important aspects of the program for me, and I have said this to every educator that works in the 3 year old room and it is woven through every activity, that it is the "process not the product" that is most important to me. It is in the process that skills are developed that the learning occurs. Sequential learning- and from that the children are able to transfer the knowledge into all areas.

The program for the rest of the year will very much be decided by the children. Sensory areas will remain the same however- most paints will be available with rollers, brushes and scrapers. The children can reflect on their experiences, experiment with different mediums and revisit their favourites.

Children in the Magpie Group have been enjoying butterfly printing and body painting again (either in a group or individually). The Lyrebirds have been painting their hands and finger printing- they are all different!

Blue Room News continued.....

We are practising for “concert songs” and at this stage it looks like we have a “sea theme”. I have assured Shelley it all works out in the end but I don’t think she believes me!

Concert dates are:

Magpies- Tuesday 13th December 11am-12pm
Lyrebirds- Wednesday 14th December 11am-12pm

End of Year Party dates are:

Lyrebirds- Thursday 15th December
Magpies- Monday 19th December

These days are your child’s last kinder session for the year so please bring along a plate of food for them to share with their friends.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their help and support throughout the year. A special thank you to Shelley for fitting in so perfectly to our team at Monbulk Pre-School. I look forward to another wonderful year in 2017.

Thank You

Thank you to Damien Howard for helping us with the new sand for the sand pit. Thank you also to Damien (again!), Ange Radley and Jakob and Zoe’s Oma, Monika for helping with the tan bark. The children had fun bringing it in.



Green Room News

Please also refer to Judy’s most recent email. We are trying to keep things low key in the last few weeks.

Monday 5th December- Murrundindi’s last visit
Wednesday 7th December- Make a Meal Day (lunch will be provided for your child this day)

End of year Luncheons for children and parents:
Tuesday 13th December @12.30pm
OR

Wednesday 14th December @12.30pm
If these are not any of your child’s days please feel free to pop in and join us. We do have some allergies so please ensure no nut products or uncooked egg ingredients.

The Christmas tree will go up in the foyer shortly and plenty of Christmas resources will be available for children to use.

Last week of Amazing Me coming up. Learning topics include wellbeing, belonging, contribution, communication and exploration.

Group selections and information for 2017 sessions will be finalised shortly. It is never an easy process as we have to take into account many issues around families preferred session choices, overall enrolment numbers, staffing, budget etc etc. We appreciate everyone’s patience.

DET Parent Opinion Survey 2016

An email (and information card placed in your child’s pigeon hole) was recently sent to you regarding a survey the Department of Education and Training is doing for all families whose child attends a funded 4 year old program. This is the first time DET has conducted this type of survey on state-wide levels of satisfaction with kindergarten in the year before School (only ever done at School level). It would be very beneficial to the Pre-School staff and Monbulk Primary School Council (as the licensee) for families to complete this survey. As DET mentioned it is completely anonymous and we will only receive summary results- no individual responses. We need as many responses as possible as we will only receive feedback if a minimum number are received. The survey only takes a couple of minutes and is open now until 11th December. If you require the link again please see Becky in the Office.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Eva Van Graas and her family on the recent arrival of baby Archie

