



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 2019

Dear Parents,
Welcome back for term 3! We hope you had a fun and relaxing break. This is just a short newsletter due to beginning of new term.

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

July Birthdays



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

**Willow M
Aleesha
Kit
Milo
Indie
Aiden
Jack K
Archer
Lenny**

Quality Area 7- Leadership & Service Management

Principal/Licensee

Enrolments are underway for 2020 and we are beginning to plan our Prep classes and program. In term 4 we have a prep orientation program called "Step into Prep". Over the course of four weeks children will become familiar with the school, their classroom and what to expect. There are also concurrent parent information sessions from myself and other school staff to support the children's transition into school. Further information will be provided soon.

We recently had a parent information forum for our upcoming building program. Parents had the opportunity to learn about the building project, ask questions, and also provide feedback. It was a very positive night, and we're excited to get started. Our incoming students will have full benefit of our new facilities, as they will be complete when our new students reach middle and senior school.

If you are interested in organising a school tour please call as on 9756 6481 to arrange a suitable time.

Estelle Alder

Maintenance

We have had a few maintenance items to repair/replace in recent months. All our shade sails were repaired and cleaned, the playground area had a general tidy/repair (we will be ordering more soft fall tan bark shortly), installed new safety mats at doors and removed the old couch/chair in the foyer which we are replacing with reception chairs.

Term 3 Invoices

Term 3 invoices have been distributed. Some families have outstanding invoices. 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, Nicole Baird, on 9756 6481.

Quality Area 6- Collaborative Partnerships with Families & Communities

Upcoming Dates

Below is information on our upcoming Fathers Night which involves both the 3 and 4 year old groups combined. Further information will be provided by Educators as the date gets closer.

Fathers Night- Wednesday 28th August

Partnering with Parents

The Partnering with Parents research trial project with the Parenting Research Centre has come to an end. If you completed the initial online survey, you will have been sent an email with a link to do the final survey.

Quality Area 6- Collaborative Partnerships with Families & Communities

FUNDRAISING

Woolworths Earn and Learn

Thank you to everyone who collected earn and learn stickers for us. We collected 7020 points- the highest we have ever raised!

This enabled us to order for the children kinetic sand, buckets and construction/engineering sets.

Bunning's BBQ

Just a reminder to pop into your diaries/calendars that we have our Bunning's BBQ booked for Sunday 13th October at the Bayswater Bunning's.



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:

Kinder Closed- Thursday 15th August

Fathers Night- Wednesday 28th August

End of Term 3- 20th September

Bunning's BBQ- Sunday 13th October

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.

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.

4 Year Old Room



Since our last newsletter the children have participated in Refugee Week (learning about what a refugee is), made soup (thank you for sending them with vegetables), participated in pyjama/breakfast day (thank you to Damon, Misty, Brhydi and Carolyn for helping on the morning, Nicole for oranges, May and Yom for the strawberries and Kerry for showing the children how to make kiwi fruit icy poles), they learnt about lizards, turtles, frogs and snakes, how to crack an egg and grate zucchini (made zucchini slice) and also learnt lots about playing percussion instruments from all around the world.

Don't forget you can see the detailed fortnightly educational program next to the sign in register and some program reflections/photos/children's voices in the folder on the shelf near the door.

Spanish lessons on the iPad for 10 minutes each day (maximum 30 minutes per week) are becoming increasingly popular as the children become more confident with Spanish words, including numbers, greetings and colours. Our Spanish teacher Pilar is here for 6 weeks this term, using song, puppets and activities to make learning a language in the real world fun and engaging. Thank you to our students Madison, Alexandra and Nadia for their help during study placements and work experience last term. The children enjoyed making new teenage friends. The children are progressing well in their development of self-help skills, thanks to opportunities for supported practice at home and at kinder. They can put jumpers, coats and shoes on and off, pack their bags, access food and water, toilet and wash their hands independently, sometimes with a little support and encouragement.

All year we have been focussing strongly on developing great social skills, such as greeting by name and using eye contact, and solving social problems (sharing, negotiating, compromising and working together). Now that many children have mastered or are developing great social skills, we are adding in learning about more complex topics such as: solving problems, friendship issues, interrupting and making mistakes.

Rachel has recently completed professional development in the areas of family violence, exercise physiology and outside home care.

A list will shortly be placed next to the sign in register for you to indicate which school your child will be attending next year (this is so we can complete your child's transition to school statement and give school's an idea of enrolments for planning). Please make sure you have officially enrolled your child with your chosen school, do not assume they know your child is coming even if they have older siblings.

