

Bush Baby News

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TERM 1 WEEK 4 2019



CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

Term 1 is now well on the way and it is lovely to hear feedback from our educators that all students are settling in well. It's particularly great to see our new friends growing in confidence in the preschool environment week after week, and I have loved seeing old friendships being rekindled after the summer holidays and many new friendships being formed.

I would like to advise the Annual General Meeting for The Oaks Preschool will be held on Monday March 11 commencing at 7.00pm. A general information session will also be incorporated into the evening. The evening provides a wonderful opportunity for preschool families to come along and get an update on the 'state of play' in terms of the governance and financial position of the preschool as well information about our preschool and the year ahead. Child minding will be available (provided by our educators) but please be sure to advise that you will require this when prompted a little closer to the AGM so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

The upcoming AGM will also see the election of the 2019 Board of Directors for our preschool. As a community-based preschool we are governed by representatives from our community - most commonly parents of preschool students. As we draw closer to the AGM I would encourage you to consider whether you might be placed to contribute to the governance of our preschool by nominating for a Board position in 2019. Prior experience serving on a Board is most certainly not required, you simply need to have a commitment to the ongoing and future success of your preschool. There is some information detailing the various

DATES TO REMEMBER

Term 1

**Tuesday 29th January -
Friday 12th April**

18th- 22nd February
Blue & Yellow week



25th February – 1st March
Red & Green week



Monday 11th March
Annual General Meeting



Board positions further along in the newsletter and if you are interested in nominating in 2019 please don't hesitate to ask Mrs Downie or myself for some more information or a nomination form.

As always, if you have any feedback, questions or queries please don't hesitate to chat to myself, another board member, Mrs Downie, or of course, pop it in the Suggestion Box at the sign in desk.

Kind regards,

Bec Pollard

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

It has been a wonderful start to Preschool, with most children settling well so far. Please don't be worried if the next few weeks see some tears, as the children realize how long our day is!! They very quickly realize how much fun the day is, and how wonderful the teachers are.

A few reminders about Preschool:

- ✓ Toys need to be left in the car for reunion after Preschool. Teachers can't be responsible for items brought to Preschool, they cause issues with other children wanting a turn, and they may get broken
- ✓ We encourage children to tell news, however the adult bringing them to Preschool must tell a teacher and ensure their name is written on the board. This is so we can schedule time for news, as well as being able to support the child with extra information you have given us. Kinderloop is a good way to communicate news items and pictures. It can only be seen by educators.
- ✓ Snack items are not refrigerated so yoghurt is not appropriate
- ✓ Afternoon crunch and sip must be fruit only
- ✓ Please only bring water to preschool in the drink bottle.
- ✓ Label all items, especially drink bottles and food containers

Thursday 21st March
Harmony Day



Monday 8th April
Wednesday 10th April
Friday 12th April
Easter hat parades at
preschool



Term 2

Monday 29th April –
Friday 5th July

Term 3

Monday 22nd July –
Friday 27th September

Term 4

Monday 14th October –
Friday 20th December

COLOUR WEEKS



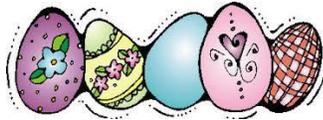
In order to reinforce correct colour labels, Preschool educators like to focus on individual colours for a week. We invite all children to join in by wearing as much of the nominated colour for the week as possible. We will plan many educational and fun activities to do during these weeks to learn colour labels. We hope everyone can join in.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



The AGM will be held on Monday 11 March at 7pm in the Wattle Room. All welcome. Educators will provide child care if required, and we will have a presentation of how we program and plan for your children before the AGM. Tea/ coffee provided.

EASTER HAT PARADE



Preschool will be holding our usual Easter Hat Parades this year at the end of term, even though Easter is in the middle of the holidays. We ask families to create their hats at home with the children and bring them on the morning of the parade, which will be held in the afternoon before pickup. More information to come closer to the time. Resources for hat creating are in the shops already!!!

A BIG THANK YOU TO...



The Pollard family for taking our chooks over the holidays, caring for them and giving them a holiday

The Ryan family for installing our new washing machine, taking the old one away, cleaning our gutters and mowing our lawn before we came back for the new year!

Hobson family for the puzzles and box of toys

Cunninghame family for the large donation of mega blocks

The Duck family for the donation of different an interesting magazines

Mrs Angilley for the ipad for us to use for class photos



FUNNY SPOT



Ryan went to "big school" this year, and was very excited to come home and tell mum "they have a canteen, and even Kindergarten get to go there".

He also was very excited to tell mum "you get two days off school" (weekend!!).

BABY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Congratulations to the Doyle family on the arrival of Archer, a brother for Eli and Hazel.

Congratulations to our new family the Strudwicks on the birth of a new brother for Talan

MRS FRYER – FAREWELL



Wednesday 27 February 2019 is Mrs Fryers last day at Preschool before the birth of her baby.

There is an invitation in your communication pockets to come and help us wish her all the best at 3pm on this day.

During her Maternity Leave, we have been lucky to employ Katie Ashton, who comes highly recommended (and her son attended Preschool last year). Katie's introduction is below. She will start on Monday 4 March in the Wattle Room, so be sure to say "Hello" and make her feel welcome.

KATIE ASHTON

Hello to all of the families at The Oaks Preschool, my name is Katie Ashton and I am a wife, mother of two primary school aged boys and a passionate early childhood educator. I enjoy spending time with my family at our caravan on the south coast, exploring new places and going on adventures. I have been lucky enough to be a part of the childcare industry for the past 10 years and I am very excited to be joining the wonderful team at The Oaks and getting to know you, your families and of course your amazing children. Thank you - Katie '



HEALTHCARE CARD

A reminder the Preschool can reduce fees for families from Aboriginal or Torres Straight Island background or with a Health Care Card. If you hold one of these, please see Brooke or Mrs Downie as soon as possible, as it is already week 4, so we can organise a subsidy for you. All information is held in strictest confidence between the two mentioned.

HOW CAN I BE INVOLVED IN MY CHILDS PRESCHOOL EDUCATION

EASY...

At The Oaks Preschool you can join The Management Committee and find out how the Preschool is run and play a vitally important role in our non-profit, community based organization.

All Board Members work in a voluntary capacity and as a whole are responsible for the overall management of the Preschool. All members of the Board attend monthly evening meetings. Each year some Board members continue on by re-nominating for positions. This gives continuity to the preschool and helps new members settle in and get to know the procedures. The following is a short description of the management Board's positions.

CHAIRPERSON

Oversees the running of every aspect of the preschool, is the face of the Board and acts as spokesperson for the Preschool, communicates regularly with other Board Members, Director and staff. The Chairperson chairs monthly meetings, prepares annual reports, keeps in contact with the Department of Community Services as required, and provides support for the Director.

DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON/SECRETARY

Supports the Chairperson and takes on the chairs responsibilities if the Chair is unable to do so. The Secretary is also responsible to the Department of Co=Operatives, Societies, prepares agendas and gives notice for monthly meetings, takes minutes and distributes these, ensuring all letters are sent as required by the Board.

TREASURER

Presents monthly financial reports as prepared by the Office Administrator, checks financial reports, checks audit is ready for AGM, assist with the preparation of the annual budget, monitors the budget, checks the payment of all invoices and signs cheques regularly.

MAINTENANCE OFFICER

Liaise with Director or Office Administrator to carry out minor maintenance indoors and outdoors at the Preschool, organises and holds annual working bee.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Coordinates 3 weekly newsletter in consultation with the Director and Chairperson. Processes, prints and distributes newsletter.

PROMOTIONS OFFICER

Promotes the preschool in the local area, assist Director to place adds in local papers, school newsletters and organises letterbox drops. Organises guest speakers for meetings and assists the fundraising of the preschool

STAFF PARENT LIAISON OFFICER

Provides support for staff and parents if required. Can attend first part of staff meetings monthly, if required.

These are the main positions on the Preschool Management Board. All these positions will be declared vacant at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in March and we will need parents to fill these roles.

If you would like to get involved, we would love your help and input. Nomination forms are on the Board Information table that will be put out in a few weeks. If you have any questions about being a Board member, please see Mrs Downie or one of 2018 Board

SUN PROTECTION POLICY

Preschool has a comprehensive sun protection policy. To familiarise families with our procedures, a summary is included in newsletters biannually for your reference. The full policy manual can be viewed at any time, and is kept on the shelf under the sign in area.

The Oaks Preschool supports Sun Safe Play for Children through:

Role Modelling: Educators will role model Sun Safe behaviour to children, such as wearing wide brimmed hats, sleeves, collars, longer shorts, skirts or long pants and sunblock. Parents and visitors at the preschool for extended periods must wear appropriate clothing, hats and sunscreen. This is important because children learn by example and modelling.

Sun safe clothing: Children are encouraged to wear shirts with collars and sleeves that are made from closely woven fiber. Singlet tops and dresses with straps are not appropriate and are not to be worn.

Sun safe Hats: The preschool has a “No Hat, Play in the Shade” policy. Hats should cover the face, ears and neck. Caps are not appropriate hats for sun safety or preschool. Preschool will keep a number of spare children’s hats, washed hygienically after use.

Sunscreen: Parents/Carers are to apply sunscreen to their child before coming to preschool. SPF30+ broad -spectrum water-resistant sunscreen is to be kept near the Sign-in Book for parents to apply sunscreen to their child before leaving if not applied at home. This method is not as effective as home application. During the day educators and children will apply sunscreen 20 minutes before going outside

Outdoor activities will be held in these shaded areas wherever possible, especially between September and April. During these months outdoor activities will be avoided between 11am and 3pm. Preschool programs include sun safe teaching and discussions.



Protect yourself in five ways from skin cancer

