

# Bush Baby News

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TERM 1 WEEK 7 2021



## CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

As many of you would be aware, our 2021 AGM as well as a 'Meet and Greet' with our staff was held last week and can I say a big thank you to those families who were able to take the time to attend the evening, and to our staff for your time in bringing the evening together.

One of the primary tasks on the evening was to elect the 2021 Board for The Oaks Preschool. It is the responsibility of the Board to lead and govern the preschool throughout the coming year. We had two of our board members not seeking re-election as their children have moved on to 'big school', but happily for our preschool we had five members from our 2020 board re-elected in 2021. This is fantastic for continuity and really allows the Board to hit the ground running when we first meet later in the month. I wish to extend my congratulations to, and warmly welcome our new Board members, Jessie Lynch and Suzie Griffin. I would also like to convey my sincere gratitude to our outgoing Board members, Nicole Comerford and Geoff Magee. Thank you for your commitment and service to our preschool during your time on the Board.

It is my honour to be elected to continue as Chairperson of The Oaks Preschool and I look forward to working with the newly installed Board, staff and with the wider preschool community to achieve some great outcomes for the preschool in 2021.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### Term 1

Wednesday 27/1/21 to Thursday  
1<sup>st</sup> April

**24.2.21** Nutrition Magician  
visit

**Week 6** Colour Run

**3.3.21** AGM

**17.3.21** St Patricks Day

**26.3.21** Earth Hour

### Term 2

Monday 19/4/21 to Friday  
25/6/21

**22.4.21** Earth Day

**2 to 8.5.21** Compost Week

**7 to 11.6.21** World Ocean Week

**4 to 11.6.21** Nadoc Week

**21.6.21** International Yoga  
day

### Term 3

Monday 12/7/21 to Friday  
17/9/21

**19 to 23.7.21** Pyjama Week

**16 to 20.8.21** Science Week

**1.9.21** Educator Day

**1 to 5.11.21** Grandparents Week

**8 to 12.11.21** National Recycling  
Week

Once again, my congratulations and thanks to my 20210 Board colleagues who have put their hands up to serve our preschool community and to help it continue to go from strength to strength.

The election of the new Board has coincided with some further relaxing of COVID restrictions which will give the preschool the opportunity to begin welcoming back parent helpers and other such opportunities for families to be more involved in the preschool program. Mrs Sayre and the staff will communicate in due course what these new opportunities will look like in practical terms, but in the meantime I would ask all our preschool families to begin to think about how you might be able to assist our preschool to continue to deliver the high standards in care and education that our children currently enjoy. Parent Helper days are one way of assisting but understandably, not everyone is available for Parent Helper days. The good news is there are many opportunities to help with fundraising initiatives, maintenance, working bees and so on throughout the year, so keep an eye on upcoming newsletters for opportunities to contribute.

I am looking forward to working with you all towards making 2021 another great year for our preschool.

Kind regards,

Bec Pollard

## **WILLOW ROOM**

More than halfway through the term and our Willow room is looking bright and beautiful with children's photos and creative work decorating the walls. Children's interest in learning about farms had extended from learning about animals to learning about food that can be grown and we planted some seeds in our front garden and will continue to nurture the garden and document the changes and growth of the seeds.

Learning about colours has been another goal for the term and children explored many different experiences learning about colours, including games, fine motor activities, colour mixing activities and then of course the colour run. The colour run was so much fun, our yard was decorated with colourful streamers and balloons along with obstacles, bubbles, sprinklers and of course the squirting colour paint. Children and educators had smiles on their faces the whole afternoon and were all covered in bright beautiful colours. I'm sure it will be talked about for years to come.

## **WATTLE ROOM**

The Wattle room have had a busy few week learning all about colours, ready for our colour week last week. We enjoyed reading numerous colour stories, participating in colour mixing experiments and enjoying lots of coloured craft. We were then lucky enough to participate in preschools first ever colour run last week. It was so much fun and something special we will remember!

We have now started focusing on families and have been busy drawing family pictures to display on our walls. We have enjoyed beginning to read many family books about mums, dads, pets, and grandparents and joining in for lots of group time discussions.

We would love your family input by sending in a photo with your child or via kinderloop of your family for your child to share with their peers at news time.

We look forward to lots more learning and fun over the remainder of the term!

Regular Items to include are Article on social development and if your child is under a therapist.

## **THANK YOU'S**

Polanco family for the donation of the beautiful back drops

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

To the Hamilton Family on the safe arrival of Max and Owen, twin brothers for Marley and Pippa.

## **COVID UPDATE**

Just an update to families.

All families are still required to use the QR Code and sanitize when they enter Preschool.

Children are no longer required to have a temperature check when they enter, however if a child is unwell, they are still required to be sent home or kept at home until well.

All children demonstrating COVID related symptoms (e.g., cough, runny nose, fever etc) are required to provide a negative COVID test before returning to Preschool.

## COLOUR RUN SUCCESS

Children have recently been learning and discovering colours in both rooms at Preschool. Lots of fun activities were programmed for the children to explore colour mixing and blending as they became familiar with primary and secondary colours. Songs, dance, sensory, steam and cognitive activities were all provided to engage and encourage the children's learning. As we aim to make activities and events fun for the children (and staff) the learning evolved into the children participating in a colour run. We all participated in activities whilst being sprayed in water and colours, resulting in us becoming our very own rainbows. The children and Staff all had such a wonderful time, it was just so much fun.

We also took the opportunity to use this event to commence raising awareness within our preschool community about childhood leukaemia. This cause is close to the hearts of many within our community and staff decided raising funds and awareness was the least we could do for our families. Thank you to all our amazing Preschool families and staff for your kind donations, we managed to raise \$ 596.15 from both our gold coin donations and those who personally contributed to our Leukaemia Foundation fund Raising Page.

The link for this page is provided below if you would like to contribute or share on your socials for others to contribute. Thank you again everyone.

[Leukaemia Foundation - The Oaks Preschool](#)

## KINDERLOOP

Just a reminder that Kinderloop is our preferred method of communication between educators and families. Throughout the day photos and information regarding your child's day, events, office communication and centre information is also provided regularly. Kinderloop is also how we advise of minor accidents that may happen to your child throughout the day.

We ask that families take 5 minutes out of their afternoon to check Kinderloop as it opens communication between yourself and your child, and as always, we value your feedback on anything you may read.

If for any reason you do not use Kinderloop as your first instance of gaining information, please discuss the alternatives we must assist you with Mrs Sayre.

## THE PRESCHOOLS CURRICULUM INFORMATION

The Preschool continues to build on concepts and ideas of the Early Years Learning Framework, a mandatory national curriculum for Early Childhood settings. The Framework's vision is for all children to experience play based learning that is engaging and builds skills for life. The Framework describes childhood as a time of:

Belonging (the basis of a fulfilling life. Children belong because of the relationships they have with their family, culture and place),

Being (living here and now. Children need time just to “be”, play, try new things and have fun), Becoming (forming their sense of identity, learning and developing).

Play is learning. Play is very important for children. When children play, they are showing what they have learned and what they are trying to understand. This is why play is one of the foundations of the Early Years learning Framework. Educators will guide your child's play by carefully designing learning activities and stimulating indoor and outdoor learning environments based on children's interests.

When children feel secure, they learn through play to develop the skills and understandings they need to interact with others and take responsibility.

Educators will assist your child to develop skills under the Framework's five learning goals of:

- A strong sense of their identity
- Connections with their world
- A strong sense of wellbeing
- Confidence and involvement in their learning
- Effective communication skills

Using the Early Years learning Framework, Educators will observe your child's learning so they can plan the next steps. They will do this by listening and talking to your child. We will keep in touch with you, and make portfolios of learning records available at all times. We will use photos to show what interests children.

#### Working Together:

By working together parents and educators can enhance a child's learning and wellbeing. As the most important person in your child's life, you can make a difference by talking regularly with our educators about your child's learning and interest. If you don't have time to talk, you can fill in forms at the sign on area and educators will use information. This information will help educators to link experiences at home with experiences at home.

Written information and records about the daily program are on display in both rooms. A daily evaluation of the days activities, including books read and special occurrences is also sent to you on Kinderloop. Television screens with the days photos are on display to give you a peek at our busy days. Save time to have a look, so you can discuss the day with your child. Revisiting what we have done during the day with your child aids children's learning and memory skills.

#### **INFORMATION SHARING**

Preschool educators believe the care and education of your child is a partnership. We value input and discussions about our program, and information about home activities and experiences that can be used to enhance our program of learning and make it more relevant for children. Children learn best when they are interested and engaged. They are

interested in things they do recreationally. Children learning is also extended when items are repeated in different ways and environments. Any information we can share regarding experiences will improve outcomes for our children.

Another important part of information sharing is involvements with specialists and therapy. If your child is attending any extra curricula sessions, it is valuable for teachers to know, so we can plan to support you. We can even implement specialists' programs in conjunction with you, or liaise with specialists.

Other information that is very helpful to share is things that could affect your child's behaviour or personality such as death in the family, separation, new baby or even long-term house guests. Pre-schoolers often confide in teachers, or act out things happening in their environment, and it helps teachers be there for children if we know some background and explanations.

Please organise to speak with teachers if there is any extra information regarding your child that we can help with, or that will help us care for and educate your child more fully.

