

# Bush Baby News

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TERM 1 WEEK 4 2021



## CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

Term 1 is now well on the way and it is lovely to hear feedback from our educators that students have settled in well. Although my youngest has started big school this year I have been down to preschool a number of times during the past few weeks and it has been lovely to see the new friendships that are forming, and the enthusiasm with which the children embrace their time at preschool.

An announcement for the upcoming the Annual General Meeting for The Oaks Preschool was posted recently to Kinderloop. The AGM will be held on Wednesday March 3 at 7.00pm.

Importantly, prior to the AGM will be an opportunity to have a 'meet and greet' with our educators, which, given our current COVID-Safe drop off and pick up procedures, presents a wonderful opportunity for you to have a chance to get to know your child's educators, and equally, for our educators to get to know a little bit more about you and your family which helps to build stronger connections between educator, child and their families. Our AGM is a short meeting, but is an excellent opportunity for preschool families to get an update on the 'state of play' in terms of the governance and financial position of the preschool. A light supper and child minding will be available (provided by our educators) but please be sure to indicate on the form at preschool that you will be

## 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

attending, and if you will require child minding so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

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

Kind regards,

Bec Pollard

## **AGM**

Just a reminder that our AGM is coming up on Wednesday 3rd March.

We are asking for expressions of interest of any families that would be interested in coming along for a light Supper beforehand to meet the teachers and other families in your child's rooms. This is a wonderful opportunity for families to get together in an informal setting to meet their child's friends parents as we all understand how difficult and chaotic the beginning of the year has been, especially under the current circumstances.

Can you please place your expression of interest on the kinderloop post so we are able to cater for those attending.

After this our annual AGM will commence and we would love as many families to stay for this as possible. Childcare will be available for this meeting and names can be placed on the form at the sign in area.

If you are interested in volunteering for a position on this years board we ask that you speak to Mrs Sayre to discuss options, please keep in mind that prior experience on a board is not required and the exiting board are more than happy to help with the transition.

## **START OF THE YEAR**

We have had such a wonderful start to the year, with most children settling in straight away, minimal tears were seen, which is just delightful. We hope your child has settled in and is enjoying their experience at Preschool.

The year is about to get busy so please ensure you check Kinderloop very regularly to stay in touch with your child's busy schedule.

## **COLOUR RUN**

Since the beginning of term children have been working on learning colours. As part of this colour fun, we are planning a colour fun run for the children on Monday, Wednesday and Friday of Week 6 (1st March to 5th March).

We are asking if children are able to provide a black or white t-shirt for them to wear on the days they will attend to change into.

Preschool will require all families to sign a permission sheet for their child, which will be available next week in the office.

If you have any concerns regarding this event please speak to Mrs Sayre.

To make the event meaningful, Preschool has decided to ask families should they wish to donate a gold coin, all proceeds will be going to The Leukaemia Foundation, which we will be raising funds for throughout the year at a variety of events.

Thank you to those who have already made a donation via the link on the Facebook and Kinderloop pages.

## **THANK YOU'S**

Shepherd Family for the donation of reading books.

Jenkins Family (past family) for the donation of toys and dolls clothing.

All of our families who have provided us with donations of toilet paper and antibacterial wipes for this term.

Sean from Add Water plumbing for fixing and cleaning our gutters.

Parents able to help

We have a few odd jobs, including some small timber construction jobs that we require a handy man to complete. If you are able to assist us in a few building jobs please speak to Mrs Sayre.

## **FUNNY SPOT**

Some of our Willow room boys were playing a farm animal memory game, and after all of their farm animal discussions recently one of the boys asked Mrs Sayre, "where do turkey's live" and "do turkeys lay eggs?" The egg question was answered satisfactorily, however Mrs Sayre

offered to google the living arrangements of the turkey "let's look at google for the answer" she advised. Very seriously one of the boys looked up and asked "does a google have wings!!"

## **NEW APPAREL**

We are super pleased with the way in which our new clothing as turned out. We are also excited to see many of our families purchasing the new clothing. If you would like to purchase please see the office, size 4 shirts are available in all colours advertised as well as hats. Both items are \$15.

We are also planning on jumpers for the winter months but would like an expression of interest to understand how many we should order, they will be around \$18.

Staff are also in the process of placing their order and will soon be sporting their new look.

## **WATTLE ROOM**

What a lovely start to the year in the Wattle room! We have had so many new children join us in the Wattle room and they have all settled in beautifully.

We started the year looking at sea animals, stemming from the children's interests in their recent holidays and beach trips. We have also enjoyed a lot of activities and group times based around our pets. Lots of the Wattle room children have enjoyed sending through photos of their pets to share on kinderloop. This week the children are also enjoying our vet set up in our dramatic play area. We have also been focusing a lot on colours, getting ready for our upcoming colour run in week 6! We have enjoyed colour activities including craft, construction, water play and many books, felt stories and songs.

We are looking forward to more fun and learning over the remainder of this term.

## **WILLOW ROOM**

Wow what a great start to the year! Children have settled in quickly and are already doing their morning jobs and following the routine with little assistance. These jobs encourage self-help skills and a routine to make children feel secure and confident in the environment. We have been playing lots of games and singing songs to get to know each other's names and we have already seen friendships building which is lovely to watch.

Following children's interest, we are regularly programming different art and craft activities including painting, play dough collage and drawing. We are slowly decorating our room with these wonderful master pieces although many children are showing so much pride in their work they are wanting to take them home which is totally understandable. Role play has been another big interest and children are often engaging in pretend play, we will continue to provide areas for this to further develop role play games as it promotes language development, social skills and self identity in a fun safe playful environment.

Farm animals has become a topic and we have had activities and group times related to learn about farm animals. Some activities have been learning the names of farm animals young, what they eat, where they sleep. Through conversations and book's it has opened lots of possibilities for further learning, including life cycles, where does food come from, what could we grow on a farm. Watch this space, and see where their little minds lead us!

## **SPEECH MILESTONE**

The First Five Years- What should my child say and do?

Adapted with permission from a pamphlet by Talk of the Town Speech Pathology. Suite 2 230 Camden Valley Way Narellan. NSW 2567 PH: 46476777

*What is Communication:*

Communication skills are comprised of receptive (Comprehension and listening) and Expressive (talking) language skills, as well as social and articulation skills. All of these areas are important for your child to communicate effectively with adults and other children. While individual children develop their listening and talking skills at different rates, there is an overall general pattern of development.

What is my child expected to say and do?

At 2-3 years of age:

- Names and points to at least 10 different body parts.
- Reads and shares a book with parents.
- Points to named pictures in a book.
- Shares interest with a specific toy or book with parents (minimum 2 minutes)
- Can point to "big shoe", "little shoe"
- Use 2-4 word sentences regularly when talking
- Knows boy versus girl
- Answers questions such as "what's this", "who is this" and "what's this boy doing"

At 3-4 years of age:

- Uses at least 4-6 word sentences
- Uses "and" to make a longer sentence, e.g.: "I saw a dog and a cat"
- Most words are understood by unfamiliar adults
- Understands location words, e.g. in/on/under/over/front/back
- Knows opposite words e.g.: empty/ full, tall/short, hot/cold.
- Uses me, he she, you, his correctly when talking
- Answers questions, e.g.: "where did you put your shoes"
- Follows non routine 2 step instructions
- Labels basic colours consistently

At 4-5 years of age:

- Asks a lot of “why” questions
- Able to count to 10
- Most grammar is correct
- Follows complex instructions with concepts such as before/ after
- Answers questions about stories that are read to them
- Able to tell about 2 events, e.g.: “ I went to the shops, then I went home”.

Children experiencing speech or language difficulties are 4-5 times more likely to have reading and spelling problems at school. This places them at risk of frustration, teasing and low self-esteem.

What can I do to help at home?

1. Talk all the time with your child. Talk about what you can see, what they are doing and what you are doing together. Constantly hearing correct speech patterns and use is a great teacher.
2. Try to minimise the amount of time your child watches TV and plays screen games. While they are listening to speech, they are missing out on valuable opportunities to practice their talking
3. Reading books with your child helps to build their attention, and gives lots of opportunities to ask and answer questions. Remember, “Two books a day keeps the speech pathologist away”.

If you have any concerns about your child's speech, either speaking, listening or understanding, please ask your preschool teachers or make an appointment with a speech pathologist for an assessment and advice.

## **SUGGESTION BOX**

be answered either personally, if names are recorded, or generally in a newsletter if appropriate.

