



Albany Creek  
Kindergarten  
& Preschool

# ALBANY CREEK KINDERGARTEN & PRESCHOOL ASSOCIATION INC

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## ALBANY CREEK KINDERGARTEN - COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

### Calendar of Events

- ANZAC Day Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April
- Labour Day Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May
- Committee Meeting  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May
- Working Bee Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May  
1.30pm-4.30pm



APRIL

#### Director's Report: March 2017.

It is hard to believe that we are at the end of first term. A huge thank you to those families who were able to attend our AGM and to those who volunteered to take on positions within our Management Committee, we are extremely excited to be working with such a capable and diverse team.

Our program utilises children's interests to facilitate learning. The Blue group with Mrs Taylor have settled very nicely. They have learnt about Aboriginal culture and taken an interest in birds and other creatures in the garden. They have also been doing colour mixing and discussed recycling and healthy eating. The yellow group with Mrs. Killer has been interested in colour mixing and have utilized many different activities to explore this. They have been exploring interests such as Australian animals and sea creatures sparked by the Museum exhibits and role play in a grocery shop they created in home area. Mrs Wilson's group has also been settling into the Kindergarten routine well. They have followed the interests of exploring colouring mixing, friendships and social skills, worm farms and recycling, puppets and the rainforest. Miss Russell's group have loved creating with collage, building with blocks and cooking in home corner inside. Outside they have enjoyed the challenge of the obstacle course each day, riding the bikes as well as playing in the digging patch, especially when it is filled with water for the boats or dinosaurs.

#### ADMIN OFFICE HOURS

Contact: Deonne Ehlerth

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday  
Thursday

Phone 3264 1838

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Keep up to date and share our wonderful kindy with our local community. Find us on Facebook at: Albany Creek Kindergarten

They have enjoyed learning about colours through colour mixing, insects that live in our playground, composting and the need for our worm farm and native bees in our playground. Finally, Mrs Taylor's Young Kindy group now have a full group and continue to settle into their new environment and routines. They have had many discussions on how to be a good friend and are learning names. They are enjoying many new experiences through play, art and music. In week 8 the 4-year-old Kindergarten children were able to participate in the Evergreen Children's Theatre presentation of "Rainforest experience". This puppet show allowed the children to learn about the different animals in the rainforest, some of the important roles each animal plays in the rainforests, how we should interact with the rainforest (stop, look, listen and exercise care) and the importance of preserving and protecting our rainforests. This show links well with our curriculum in relation to "Connecting (Building waterfalls)" where children are learning to "discover, connect with and act responsibly in the natural and build environment". It also demonstrated connections to the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) where "children are confident and involved learners" (Learning outcome 4).

Families had the opportunity to gain further knowledge about the centre at the AGM and we thank those who were able to attend. In week 7 we invited Judy Marin (local speech pathologist) to come and share her knowledge about language development and encouraging communication in children. This was well attended and we hope everyone walked away with some useful information. We have also begun to welcome families onto roster and this is proving to be a valuable opportunity for not only the family, but the children as well.

We had an amazing turn out to our first Clean up Australia Day activity with 73 volunteers from the Kindergarten and the local community. We will continue to promote the Bush Care group through the Kindergarten, Facebook, letterbox drops and local school newsletters. Bushcare will continue to meet outside the Kindergarten on the 1st Sunday of the month with an aim to tidy and revitalise the local creek. Our goal is to engage children in mini excursions to this area and continue to build links with our local community.

Staff began the year completing self-assessments and setting goals for the year with their team and Directors. These goals will be worked on and evaluated throughout the year.



During the pupil free week in January all staff was involved in reflecting on information gathered in 2016 from families and children to create new QIP (quality improvement goals). The goals include:

To refine programming documentation to show a clear on-going cycle and links to curriculum and children's interests.
<b>To develop methods to build and strengthen critical reflection techniques for all staff</b>
For children to develop an appreciation for the natural environment, while involving families and the community.
For our program to facilitate emotional maturity in children and communicate its importance to families. (Emotional maturity domain in the AEDC covers "Children's pro-social and helping behaviours and absence of anxious and fearful behaviour, aggressive behaviour and hyperactivity and inattention." (AEDC community profile 2015))
Staff will refine the enrolment and orientation process to meet the changing needs of families.
For the Kindergarten to liaise with local schools and Prep teachers to build stronger relationships to assist with the transitioning of children and their families.
To develop a system to update strength areas as the Quality Improvement plan is updated and changed.

We welcome your feedback about these goals and any suggestions you may have to assist us in continuous improvement. Our QIP can be found in the foyer and a suggestion box is at the entry.

Staffs have also begun to participate in professional development such as Nature Play forums, first aid recertification and Additional Needs Webinars.

Purchases have been limited to regular supplies and some new outdoor mats valued at around \$400 from funds accumulated from the Scholastic Book Club.

We hope everyone had a Happy Easter and Safe holiday break. We look forward to lots of great things in Term 2.

Tracey Wilson and Janelle Bull, Co-Directors.



#### Healthy lunch box tips

- Be creative!
- Choose from a variety of foods including fruit and vegetables, grains, protein and dairy
- Limit "occasional" foods like chips and sweet biscuits
- Involve your child in preparing and packing their lunch box
- Don't forget WATER but most importantly....
- Send healthy food your child likes and will eat

For more information visit <https://www.naqlld.org/services/food-foundations/>

Thank You!

to everyone who supported our first 2017 fundraising event:



Billy G.'s Cookie Dough – March – Total raised: \$426.50. We had an AMAZING 120 tubs of yummy cookie dough delivered and sent home with our families. A fantastic start to the 2017 fundraising year – HAPPY BAKING!

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Our next fundraising event is a **Mother's Day raffle** – see the flyer for EXTRAORDINARY prizes.

Mother's Day

details of the tickets!

Tickets are \$2 each – don't forget to ask family and friends to buy

Key dates:

**Week 1 (term 2):** flyers and tickets (10 tickets/child) are being sent home – collect from your child's pocket! *Please see Deonne if you need more tickets to sell.*

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May:** all ticket sales finalised (return money and ticket stubs to the Office).

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May:** raffle prizes drawn and winners notified (keep an eye out on the Kindy Facebook page to see if you are a winner!)



to our local business community who have generously donated all of our prizes (worth over \$1000 in total!) to our raffle! Our incredible **FIRST** prize is **one night's accommodation in a superior king room (including buffet breakfast)** – thank you to Rydges, Fortitude Valley for donating this prize! Imagine winning that prize for Mum this mother's day!

The other amazing prizes include gift vouchers for meals, sports gear, movies, yoga, hairdressing/beauty services, merchandise, a coffee hamper and a tea hamper. Please support the businesses that have so generously supported our Kindy – all the details in the raffle brochure!

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A sample plate will be on

and all the information on how to order will

In week 2, we will be sending home information (including an order form) for “**Pictureplates**” – a dishwasher safe, BPA free, food grade melamine 25cm plate created by your child and their own creative design. These for the children, parents and many of us still have our own Kindy Pictureplate! display for you to see, be sent home.



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Don't forget, when ordering with “Stuck On You” (labels, bags, stationery and more!) via on line “stuckonyou.com.au” or 1800 645849 to enter the fundraising code for Albany Creek Kindy (**erniestreet**). Any rewards from “Stuck On You” contribute towards valuable resources for our Kindy.

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