



## ALBANY CREEK KINDERGARTEN & PRESCHOOL ASSOCIATION INC.

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# ALBANY CREEK KINDERGARTEN – COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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## July 2018



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

### Grants

Please continue to keep a lookout for any grants we might be eligible to apply for.

Successful grants have paid for significant improvements & resources for the kindy.

## Dates for the diary

- 5<sup>th</sup> August - Bush Care 8 - 10am
- 13<sup>th</sup> August - Public holiday (Centre closed)
- 15<sup>th</sup> August - Pupil free day Blue & Green rooms
- 16<sup>th</sup> August - Pupil free day Yellow room (Red room - Please attend as per usual)
- 25<sup>th</sup> August - Save the date - Trivia Night\*

\*Please see below for further details

### Fundraising Committee Update (June 2018)



What an amazing term we have had for fundraising!

Our current focus is to raise funds to upgrade the playground and the outdoor furnishings for both verandahs.



Thank you for supporting our **Pictureplates** fundraiser. An amazing total of \$675 was raised. The plates have now been delivered to the kindy and we're sure the children will enjoy seeing their artwork every mealtime.

Thank you to everyone who supported our **Cake Stall** at the Kindy Open Day. We raised an impressive total of \$358.20.

Thank you to all of our wonderful families for baking for this event, and the volunteers who ran the stall on the day – there was certainly plenty of delicious treats for everyone!!!

It was wonderful to see the children enjoy the challenges of the **Giant Obstacle Course**. Thank you to all families for attending and supporting this event. A sensational \$678 was raised.

THANK YOU to everyone for supporting our **Bunnings BBQ** on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2018. Whether it was through donations of BBQ supplies, buying a sausage and a drink on the day or volunteering to cook and serve, this event would not have been possible without the MASSIVE kindy community effort!

We raised a whopping total of \$2,913.60

It was a great day with lots of laughs, fabulous volunteers, the sweet sound of a sizzling BBQ, icy cold drinks and an amazing result, which will greatly benefit our children and our non-profit kindergarten.



A huge shout-out to Woolworths, Coles & McDonalds for their generous donations!

*Please support the businesses that so generously support our Kindy!*



Our **Trivia Night** will be on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> August** and we already have some wonderful prizes donated.

Grab your friends and family for what promises to be a fun night out!

**stuckonyou**

Don't forget, when ordering with "Stuck On You" (labels, bags, stationery and more!) to enter the fundraising code for Albany Creek Kindy (**erniestreet**). Any rewards from "Stuck on You" contribute towards valuable resources for our Kindy.

## Director's Report: June, 2018.

Last term saw the continual development of all children as they progress through their Kindergarten and Young Kindy year.

During week 8 our groups participated in a variety of experiences related to the Under 8's week theme- "Children exploring language and culture". These ranged from families sharing their own language and cultures, cultural foods and other related activities. On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May the Green and Blue group participated in the National Simultaneous Storytime becoming one of 1, 062,230 children to participate. This year's story was read at 11am and was called "Hickory Dickory Dash". During week 8 the children participated in a Giant Obstacle course or "The Biggest Ever Obstacle course". The children were able to be energetically involved in a physical activity, be part of a team, refine and develop gross motor and coordination skills and link with our Kindergarten community. This event also allowed us to bring to the forefront the new Australian Movement Guidelines developed by the Australian Government in November last year. We loved the support our families and extended families provided to the children during our Giant and Biggest-ever obstacle course. It never fails to amaze us what a wonderful community we have within our Kindergarten.

As individual classes the groups continue to explore different interests. Mrs Taylor's Young Kindergarten class spent time exploring colours and discovering how they mix to create new colours. They have been working as a group to create a giant necklace which is hanging on the verandah and most recently extended their imaginative play to include a doctor's surgery. Finally, everyone has had a turn bringing something special from home to show the class. Mrs Wilson's class have been exploring languages from other cultures and sign language. This interest came from friends and families sharing their home languages or the languages of places they have travelled too. They then moved onto a transportation interest and used books, songs, construction toys and craft to explore this interest further. Transportation then moved to rockets, space travel and planets. They continue to use craft, books, songs, and science experiments to explore this further.



Miss Russell's class have been taking a trip through outer space. Space has really taken over the program, they have learnt so much about planets, stars, the moon, astronauts, rocket ships, gravity and much more. The class also introduced 'Challenge puzzles' and as the name suggests, these are difficult challenging puzzles that the children are now keen to try. They have been achieving great success as they demonstrate the same attitudes as Connie Confidence and Pete Persistence from the 'You



Can Do It Program'. Their interest in gardening has been extended by planting plants for our centres new vertical gardens that were kindly donated by Bunnings. Mrs Bull's Blue group have been discussing how they can look after the environment. They extended on this interest with an exploration of the bush area behind Kindergarten. The Yellow group have begun an interest in dinosaurs after one friend found a rock outside and announced that it was a dinosaur tooth. This has led to many discussions and stories about dinosaurs. This class have also enjoyed exploring the "beyond" space of Kindergarten.



Our families continue to participate greatly within our classes through roster, portfolio contributions, sharing skills and knowledge or making kind donations of time or resources. We would like to thank our small, yet enthusiastic volunteers who attended our first working bee. The playground and gardens got a great tidy and was very inviting for the children when they returned to Kindergarten. Another big thank you to those who were able to contribute to our cake stall during our open day and our committee members who work tirelessly during and prior to the event.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> May, we held our Open Day which was highly successful. We had 49 families (totally 191 people) and gained 42 new waiting list applications for 2019-2022. A majority of the families said that they had found out about the day through Facebook, our banner and car display at the top of Leitchs rd South. Following our Open Day all staff completed compliance training in the areas of child protection; workplace, health and safety (Including fire safety); sexual harassment in the workplace; privacy and workplace bullying.



On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> of June the Red Group educators utilised their scheduled pupil free day to collaborate in refining individual children's goals and planning for the term ahead. Other Educators will have this opportunity for such collaboration later in the year.

We have recently been lucky enough to link with our wider community and have representatives from Bunnings Brendale come to build some vertical gardens with the children. These are now located outside Unit 1 and we look forward to more opportunities with Bunnings as they return to create some seating in the parent area around the side of Kindergarten.

Recent purchases have been related to regular Kindergarten supplies.

We hope that everyone had a great school holidays and we look forward to Term 3.

Janelle Bull and Tracey Wilson (Co- Directors)

## **Literacy Learning At Albany Creek Kindergarten**

We believe that positive attitudes and competencies in literacy are essential for children's successful learning. The foundations for these competencies are built in early childhood.

### **What is Literacy?**

In the early years literacy includes a "range of modes of communication including music, movement, dance, storytelling, visual arts, media and drama, as well as talking, reading and writing" (BW 2011).

### **What has your child already experienced and what will they continue to experience?**

Throughout their kindergarten year, your child has and will continue to experience a wide range of literacy experiences. As teachers, we ensure that literacy is embedded in *every* aspect of your child's day. Being intentional about literacy means taking an active role in promoting it – through the experiences we provide and also through the way that we interact with children and deliberately focus on literacy concepts. This involves spontaneous responses to children's play where we take advantage of opportunities to talk about literacy as it



arises, as well as more carefully planned experiences that are deliberately designed to introduce or extend an idea or concept.

Listed below are just a few examples of what takes place in the classroom each day:

- *Supporting name recognition in daily routines* – eg. seen when we mark the roll and when the children sign in.
- *Playing with rhyme* – eg. word play using understandings built through many games and discussions of rhymes and listening for sounds.
- *Pretend reading* – our Kindy friends enjoy pretending to read. They may make up a story to match the pictures and approximate telling the story from memory. Children also display reading-like behaviour, such as, holding the book the right way, turning one page at a time and reading from left to right and top to bottom.
- *Literacy in dramatic play* – eg. while playing in the hospital the children use a variety of printed materials. Additionally, they answer phones to imaginary patients, take bookings for particular days and write down what is wrong with the patient.
- *Retelling familiar stories* - eg. children use puppets and felt story props to recreate familiar stories or create their own stories.



- *Provoking thinking and learning about literacy in conversations* – eg. ‘Let’s write this down together’, ‘Let’s draw a plan’, ‘I wonder what will happen on the next page?’ and ‘I wonder what that sign means?’
- *Sharing books and other texts together* – pointing out the author and illustrator, talking about the characters and structural elements, such as the ways that stories begin and end, as well as, interesting or new vocabulary.
- *Playing games* – playing ‘I Spy’ and other games that alert children to the patterns of sounds in language. eg. clapping the syllables in children’s names and using musical instruments to mark the beats or syllables in words.

Each and every day we enjoy assisting your child in their early literacy development!

If you have any comments or questions about our Kindy program please speak with your child’s teacher. We are always happy to discuss your child and how they are being supported to achieve their best within the program.

