

ALBANY CREEK KINDERGARTEN

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2019

Calendar of Events

- **Committee Meeting 6.30pm
Tuesday 19th November
(Committee minutes are
available to families in the
office.)**
- **Bush Care Group meeting 1st
Sunday of the month outside
the Kindergarten**

ADMIN OFFICE HOURS

Contact: Deonne Ehlert

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
Thursday
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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

Welcome back to Term 4! All groups have returned ready to commence their last term of Kindergarten for the year. We have a strong focus on continuing to prepare our Kindergarten aged children for Prep and continuing to increase independence. We are also aiming to create a smooth transition for our Young Kindy and returning children into 2020.

Tracey Wilson (Nominated Supervisor/ Educational Leader)

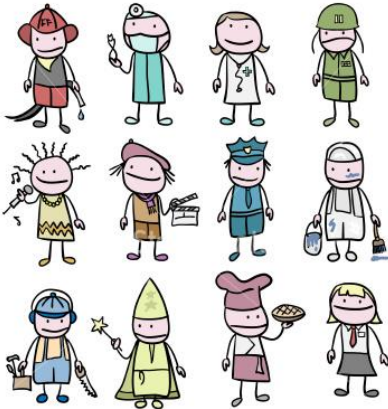
Our Children

Already this term our 4-year-old Kindergarten classes have had a visit from the Albany Creek Library to share a Storytime together. (Curriculum links- active learning and connectedness). The Kindergarten classes have also had a visit from Mrs Robyn Dunphy from Albany Creek State School to join the program and share information about Prep with the children.



Mrs Taylor's Young Kindy class welcomed one of their Dads to the group to play his ukulele. The children were able to sing along to many favourite songs. The group continue to be very interested in the growth of their silkworms. They are now waiting for the moths to emerge from their cocoons. At the end of term 3 they celebrated the end of term with a Teddy Bear's Picnic.

Our Children



Mrs Wilson's class ended the term with a visit from one of their Police officer Dad's where the children discussed the role of a police officer, how to stay safe and the equipment required to perform the role of a police officer. They have followed up this term with discussions about other community workers and extending the concept of fingerprints with creative artworks. They have also added new routines to the term, with their favourite being the creation of a word bank each morning beginning with the sound of the 'helper of the days' name.



Miss Russell's class ended last term with an exploration of life as a pirate. A highlight of this exploration was their pirate dress up day. They sang sea shanties and walked the plank. They ate pirate fish and chips, found buried treasure and received a letter from Pirate Pete. This term they have been further exploring the members in our community who help us, beginning with doctors and nurses. They too have implemented additional routines and experiences to assist in their readiness for Prep.



Mrs Bull's groups extended their knowledge about going grocery shopping. This socio-dramatic play allowed the children to engage in many pre literacy and numeracy skills eg making lists, pricing the items, paying the total and giving change. This term they are continuing the focus on letters and numbers and have changed their daily routine in their transition to Prep.

About Separation Anxiety

Separation anxiety is normal in early childhood and can occur when a child gets upset when separated from a parent or carer. Separation anxiety reflects the child's attempts to hold on to what is safe in a very scary world. Adults can help reduce the child's distress by:

- **Supporting your child to develop helpful thinking and remind them of what usually happens when you are away from each other**
 - "You can trust me to make sure that you are safe."
 - "When I leave you, you are ok and I'll come back for you."

- **Giving your child some ways to cope when they are apart from you**
 - "Here is a kiss for you to keep in your pocket until I come back."
 - "Here is a photo of us together to remind you that we will be together again soon."
 - "Let's take some deep breaths to calm down."

For more information, visit: <https://beyou.edu.au>

Our Educators

Educators are heavily involved in the enrolment process for 2020. We have been busy preparing documents and offered two information sessions to the incoming families on Tuesday 29th October. All classes for 2020 are full and it would appear that our current structuring of classes is meeting the needs of the community.

Educators have also continued with professional development particularly in the area of first aid, CPR, asthma and anaphylaxis management, and exploring the new QCAA formats and procedures for transition statements.

Exceeding

During week 1 we had a visit from an Early Childhood Officer from the Department of Education to do a routine spot check on our Centre. Her focus was on attendance and staffing records and children's safety. She came away very impressed with our Kindergarten and no outstanding concerns.

We continue to maintain our Exceeding rating under the National Quality Standards to which we are very proud.



A big thank you to all families who were able to contribute a gold coin donation during our end of term celebrations. The teachers and children of Murilla C&K (near Miles, Qld) were very touched by our donations and well wishes.



Families have continued to share their time with us within the classroom on roster or sharing their skills and knowledge with our groups. Many families continue to make great contributions to the portfolios and are and will be starting to contribute to the children's transition statements for those going onto Prep.

We would continue to encourage parents and carers to read or take a photo of the notices on class gates and on verandas to keep up to date with all of end of year activity.

Exciting new Purchases

Recent purchases have been two iPad, four ipods and two projectors and screens. These purchases were made possible from a volunteer grant from Peter Dutton and topped up with funds raised this year.

Some new books were purchased from rewards from our Scholastics Book Club.

HONEY FOR SALE



In foyer area
One Kilo \$13.00
500 gm Jar \$7.50
500 gm Squeeze Bottle \$7.50

C&K Family Survey Results

During Term 3 we conducted a Family Survey about our kindergarten. Below are a snapshot of the main results and if you would like to read the complete summary please see Deonne in the office. Out of a 56% response rate the following strengths were identified:

- 98-100% of respondents "strongly agree" or "agree" to all 7 quality areas.
- QA 1- 98% strongly agree/agree
- QA 2- 99% strongly agree/agree
- QA 3- 100% strongly agree/agree
- QA 4- 99% strongly agree/agree
- QA 5- 99% strongly agree/agree
- QA 6- 98% strongly agree/agree
- QA 7- 99% strongly agree/agree

Children's feedback (40% response) had a strong emphasis on the outdoor space.