



March 2023 Newsletter

Upcoming Dates*

20
MARCH

Monday
Young Kindy
Class Photos

22
MARCH

Wednesday
Green & Blue Group
Class Photos

Wednesday 7.00pm
Speech & Language Info
Session with Speech
Pathologist, Judy Marin
(Adults only)

23
MARCH

Thursday
Ticket Sales close for
Easter Raffle

24
MARCH

Friday
Easter Raffle
winners announced

Director's Report Committee Meeting 14th March

On behalf of myself and all the staff at Albany Creek Kindergarten, I would like to thank all of the parents who have volunteered to take on roles within our Management Committee. As a community organisation, we would be unable to operate without so many willing and capable volunteers. We look forward to achieving great things in 2023. Term 1 has progressed very quickly and our major stakeholders have been involved in the following:

Children

Recently our 4 year old end of week groups were able to experience a Dental talk from Admire dentistry (Arana Hills). The children were able to gain knowledge about dental visits, caring for our teeth and the importance of healthy eating. The beginning of the week groups will have the opportunity at the end of the term.

During week 8 our 4 year old kindergarten classes participated in the Reptiles Adventures incursion which provided opportunities to build knowledge about reptiles (and amphibians) and snake safety. This opportunity linked



well to the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) Outcome 4 ("Children are confident and involved learners") and the Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guidelines (QKLG) Connectedness ("showing respect for environments").

BOOK CLUB

Our Kindergarten is participating in Scholastic Book Club this year. Up to twice a term, during the school year, the Book Club catalogue will be sent home offering a different selection of books for all ages. You'll find award-winning books and bestsellers, as well as old and new favourites. Some books cost as little as \$3 and every dollar spent earns the kindergarten money to provide resources for the centre.

It is easy to order. The Book Club LOOP platform for parents allows you to pay by credit card. Your child's order is submitted directly to the kindy and the books will be delivered to class. You can place your child's order and view the catalogue at [scholastic.com.au/loop](https://www.scholastic.com.au/loop) or by using the LOOP app, which can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play.



*Please refer to your 2023 Calendar for individual group start dates

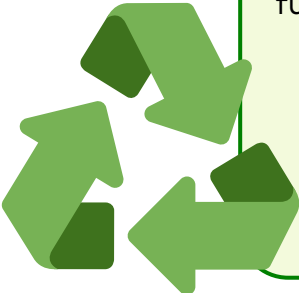
Purchases

Purchases have included portfolio books for each child, a replacement digital camera and regular Kindergarten supplies from the general budget.

As a kindergarten we acknowledge children as thinkers and theorists and therefore they drive the learning within the classroom. Here is a snippet of what has been happening within our classrooms:




Mrs Tracey Wilson's **GREEN GROUP** have begun the year following the interests of sea creatures and the ocean. The children enjoyed music, songs, construction play, stories and craft experiences to build knowledge and explore this interest.




The group has enjoyed every new painting activity and this led to discussions about primary colours and colour mixing. To explore this further the children participated in experiments and documentation and other painting activities to build on this concept.

Finally, after Clean-up Australia day and discussions with those children who were able to attend, the class began to build on their understanding of recycling and composting.




Mrs Robyn Taylor's **YOUNG KINDERGARTEN** children have been very busy learning their new routine and developing social skills. They have had stories and puppet shows about being a good friend.



They have built cubbies, trains and buses and continued role play into a hairdressing salon.

After one of the children kindly bought some agapanthus flowers to use for printing, the class have been discovering other plants such as herbs to grind in our mortar and pestles.



They are looking forward to a year filled with wonderful learning experiences.

All groups have completed the first of our emergency evacuations where they have practiced a fire drill and/or lockdown procedure.

All 4 year old groups are looking forward to starting Bush kindy in Term 2.



Mrs Janelle Bull's **BLUE GROUP** have been following on from the Very Hungry Caterpillar story, with the children taking turns to take the Very Hungry Caterpillar home for a visit.

They have also been reading stories about insects which linked to the insect museum items.

The **YELLOW GROUP** have been reading Fairy Tales. They cooked a Gingerbread Man after reading the story, however, when they came to eat him he disappeared.

The children searched everywhere at kindergarten but did not find him. Surprisingly he has visited some children's house.



Leading up to Clean-up Australia Day, both the Blue and Yellow groups discussed what we do with our rubbish, why we need to make sure no rubbish ends up in the bush or in our waterways or oceans, and how we can reduce, reuse and recycle.

They have also discussed how we acknowledge our First Nations People when singing the morning songs.

In the afternoons, both groups have had the opportunity to build with a variety of blocks and magnets. This enables the children to share and co-operate with others and facilitates development in spatial and mathematical areas, by helping children learn to understand concepts of length, height, weight, and area.



Mrs Carli Wilson's **RED GROUP** have been enjoying getting to know one another through lots of group activities, name games and reading their friends book with their family. Interests have ranged from exploring dinosaurs, to castles, knights and fairy tales.

They were very fortunate to witness artist Wendy Rix paint and explain the beautiful symbols she created for our kindy totem poles. This has inspired the group to learn more about First Nations Peoples culture and the children have been painting symbols and creating them out of loose parts to tell stories.

A current interest is in zoos and zookeepers and learning about different animals and their habitats.



Families

Families have been involved in gathering more information about the kindergarten experience through documents shared by their classroom teacher and an opportunity to attend an information session with their teacher. Families also had the opportunity to gain further knowledge about the centre at the AGM.

Our Clean-up Australia Day event was a huge success again with 67 volunteers from our Kindergarten and the wider community. This is a great opportunity to come together to continue the regeneration of the local bush and creek area. We were pleased to see that the amount of rubbish has significantly diminished over the past few years.

Bush Care will also continue to meet outside the Kindergarten on the 1st Sunday of the month. Our goal is to have an engaging nature space for our children as they participate in “Bush Kindy” opportunities to this area and continue to build links with our local community.

Educators/Staff

Staff began the year completing self-assessments and setting goals for the year with myself, as Educational Leader and then their teams. These goals will be worked on and evaluated throughout the year.

Staff have also been working hard to navigate our new Kidsoft and I-check-in systems through in house training and trial and error.

Once again, we thank everyone for their patience and understanding.

Tracey Wilson

Nominated Supervisor for 2023 - Albany Creek Kindergarten



**We currently have a wonderful Easter raffle (10 tickets for \$20!)
If you haven't already, get your tickets in for your chance to
win 1 of 3 delicious baskets full of goodies!**



Coming up in term 2, we have a Mothers Day raffle & picture plates.
Keep an eye on your pockets for more information to come home next term.

C&K COVID-19 Response Level
This centre is currently at the following COVID-19 Response Level

GREEN
Low Response

Please refer to the Commitments in the latest C&K COVID-19 Commitment Statement at candk.asn.au/coronavirus or ask your centre Director for a copy.

Keep up to date and share our wonderful Kindy with our local community. Find us on Facebook at

Albany Creek Kindergarten

Admin Office Hours
Contact Deonne or Jennie
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Parent Corner

Supporting you on your parenting journey

Today's Topic: Co-regulation

Co-regulation is defined as warm and responsive interactions that provide the support, coaching and modeling children need to "understand, express and modulate their thoughts, feelings and behaviours."

(MURRAY ET AL. 2015, 14)



Children learn to 'self regulate' by 'co-regulation' with their parents. To find more information on self and co-regulation please follow this link:

https://www.self-reg.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/infosheet_SelfRegParents.pdf



Tips on co-regulation

- ✓ Focus on the *emotions* driving the behaviour, not the behaviour.
- ✓ Don't correct the child's behaviour, focus modeling behaviour you want them to *mirror*.
- ✓ The goal is to *de-escalate*, not punish the child.
- ✓ It is okay to take a moment to *self-regulate* before addressing the child.
- ✓ Create an environment where children are *comforted* if they become confused or scared.
- ✓ If a child does not see self-regulation modeled at home, it will take them longer to co-regulate at school.