

May 2023 Newsletter

Upcoming Dates*

20
MAY
Saturday
10am - 12 noon
C&K Open Day

13
JUNE
Wednesday
Hear to Learn - School
Hearing Screening
Program
Screening Days

15
JUNE

Director's Report Committee Meeting 9th May

Term 2 is already in full swing, with the children continuing or developing new interests. There has been a lot happening for children, families and educators. Our program continues to utilise children's interests to facilitate learning.

During March we were very grateful to once again welcome local Speech Pathologist, Judy Marin and her growing team to share their knowledge and expertise about children's language development and supporting speech acquisition. We were able to hear about the diverse range of services a Speech Pathologist can support children with

including feeding and swallowing. This has now been the tenth year of providing this service to our Kindergarten community and the event was well attended. We hope that many families went away with lots of new information.

Families have also been involved in our classrooms either participating in the programs, sharing their own knowledge and skills and/or contributing to children's portfolios. A huge thank you to those families who have been able to volunteer during our successful Bush Care and Kindergarten working bee.

Educators continue to participate in a variety of team mentoring activities through our team meetings and centre communications. Recently the team has been unpacking the new Early Years Learning Framework and finalising our Quality Improvement Plan goals. The current goals are displayed on the verandah of each unit and include promoting parent roster, COVID safe practices, Bush Kindy, collaborative team approaches, facilitating emotional maturity in children, reconnecting with the local community, Kindy Uplift and our Reconciliation Action Plan.



Can you help contribute to our Community Kindergarten?

This month we are looking for:

reams of paper | glue sticks | disposable gloves | toilet paper




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

Alongside the Management Committee we are working towards plans for Saturday 20th May. On this day we will be hosting an Open Day from 10am - 12 noon for future enrolments to showcase our facilities and educators. We ask you to **spread the word** about this event and the benefits of joining our kindergarten community.



ALBANY CREEK KINDERGARTEN

Spend time in our amazing learning spaces! Have a chat with our teachers!

Find us on  Albany Creek Kindergarten
albanycreekkindy.com.au



OPEN DAY

SAT 20TH MAY 2023

10am - 12 noon

Visit us at 16 Ernie Street
Opposite the Albany Creek
Community Centre
Ph: 3264 1838

Later in the day our team will be involved in Nature training designed to improve Educator skillsets for Bush Kindy using real tools and more. This training is part of our Kindy Uplift funding.



Mrs Tracey Wilson's **GREEN GROUP** finished off last term with continued discussions about reptiles and frogs following the Reptile Adventures incursion. One of the popular activities was creating ecosystems for creatures using felt, natural resources and insect figures. Term 2 began with a continuation of a shared experience from one of the families about their connection to South African culture. This led to many discussions about cultures, using a world map to show other class connections, stories, songs, creation of flags and exploring other ways of writing (symbols and characters). The group has continued their focus on connecting with Country and the natural environment with the introduction of the Bush kindy program.



Mrs Robyn Taylor's **YOUNG KINDERGARTEN** children have been continuing to learn routines and develop social skills. The children have been experimenting with many colour mixing activities. This group of children love to build with blocks and we have seen cars, houses, pirate boats and even a roller coaster in block area. They look forward to a fun filled term ahead.



Both of Mrs Janelle Bull's **BLUE** and **YELLOW** groups had been discussing going to the bush as they eagerly waited for their first Bush kindy day this term. While walking, they noticed the plants had different sized leaves, some had holes in them, the trees were tall, vines climbed up trees, butterflies, a bin chicken and plants growing on water which looked like grass.

They also heard birds and the traffic noise. The classes had discussions about what they did on holidays and Anzac Day as some children had attended Anzac Day marches. They enjoyed reading stories and making Anzac biscuits.

The classes have also been working on writing their names as they sign- in each day.



Mrs Carli Wilson's **RED GROUP** have been excited to see that after a full term of learning new routines, meeting new friends and developing skills in separating confidently from their loved ones, the children have become more confident when entering the room, and the independence they are showing doing their morning jobs and showing ownership of their kindy.

Thank you to the families for their open communication and positivity, it has made such a difference to how children settle into the kindy environment. The final few weeks of term one saw interests ranging from building cubbies out of natural and man-made resources, learning from one another about recycling, and enjoying painting animals from reference photos. They culminated the term with a 'wet day' where they literally jumped in muddy puddles, had tea parties and made rainbow potions.

On return to kindy the group spoke about the treasures they had collected in the holidays. This discussion led to further conversations around First Nations People and caring for the land, people and animals. Under a blue sky, it was very special to acknowledge the Turrbal people for the caring for the land where we learn and play on their first visit to bush kindy. They were lucky enough to avoid the rain and after a long bush walk and a nature hunt, they listened to a story and ate our ANZAC biscuits under the canopy of trees.



Purchases

Along with regular kindergarten consumables, recent purchases have been; an update of new obstacle course balancing equipment and a fire pit to extend our outdoor connections thanks to the funds raised from our Easter raffle.

We were also able to purchase sensory toys, woodwork materials, new books and Indigenous games from credits earned through Scholastic Book Club.

The Fundraising team did an amazing job raising almost \$800 from the Mothers Day Raffle. This money will go towards a new banner for our Kindergarten. Congratulations to the winners:

1st Prize

Ceanne Clarke

3rd Prize

Alina Partridge

2nd Prize

Kate Vanthoff

4th Prize

Ash Bramwe

Have you registered your child for a hearing screen?

We have been offered the opportunity to participate in Hear and Say's "Hear to Learn - School Hearing Screening program" to help ensure your child is hearing as well as they can and maximising their learning potential. The screening will take place on Tuesday 13 June and Thursday 15 June.

If you would like to register;

1. Complete the online parent consent form. The online consent form will expire on Sunday 4th June. <https://www.cognitoforms.com/HearAndSay1/HearToLearnProgram2023>
2. Pay \$29.50 to the Kindergarten account using the reference: *Child's surname* Hearing screening Albany Creek Kindergarten BSB: 124 068 Acct No: 10255144
3. Contact Tracey Wilson (tracey@albanycreekkindy.com.au) to confirm your registration and payment so that a time slot for each day can be created.

Tracey Wilson

Nominated Supervisor for 2023 - Albany Creek Kindergarten

A huge thank you to the Cannell family for their kind installation and donation of new storage shelves in our resource rooms to help store our many posters and pictures.

Working Bee

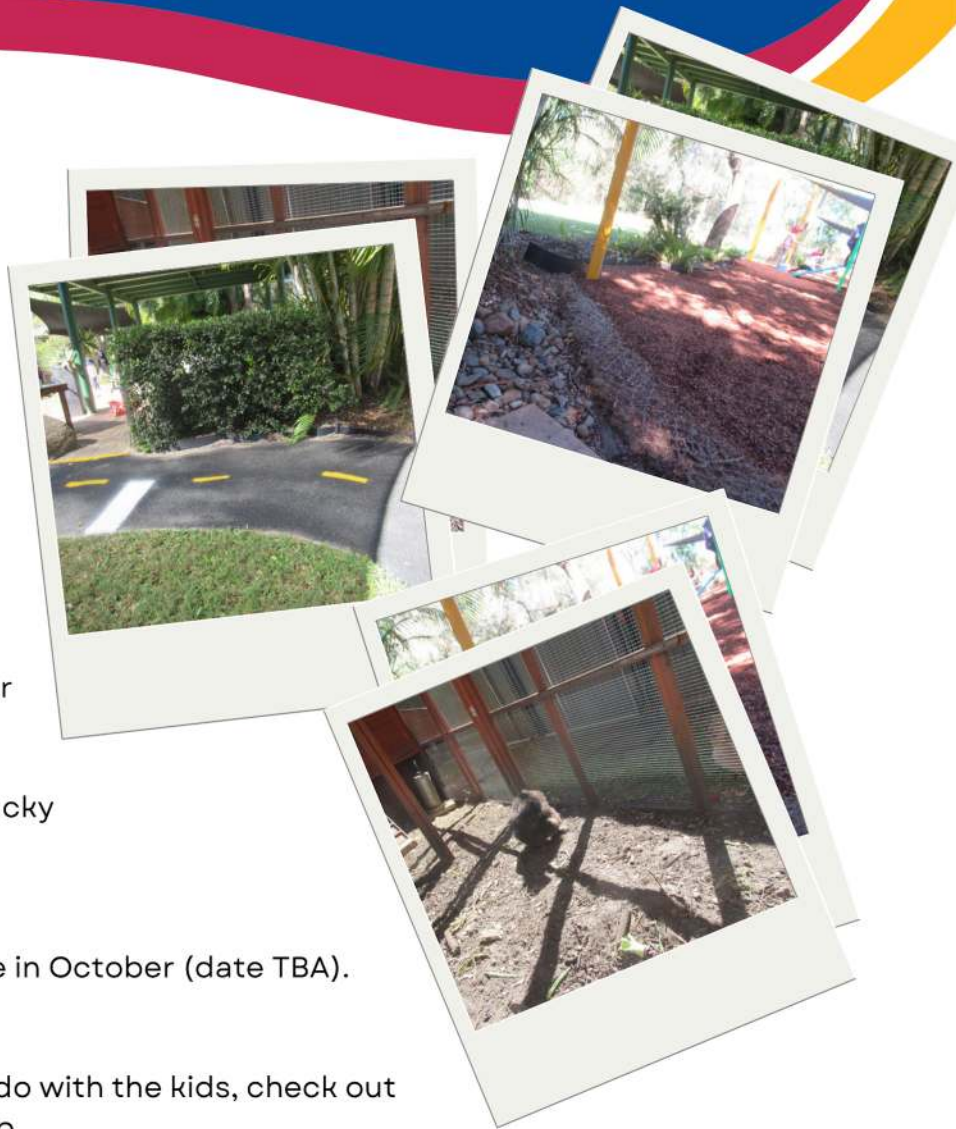
On Sunday 7th May we held our first working bee for the year. We managed to spread out 14m of soft fall into the outdoor playground, tidy up the footpaths, bike track, chicken coop and gardens.

We would like to thank our volunteers for giving up their Sunday morning, your help was greatly appreciated. As they say many hands make light work. Congratulations to Tom who won the lucky door prize. Have fun with the family at Tiddlywinks dance café!!

We will be holding another Working Bee in October (date TBA).

What's On

If you're looking for something local to do with the kids, check out these free/affordable events coming up.





Bushland Fairies
Friday, 23 June 2023
10am to 1pm
Kumbartcho Sanctuary
15 Bunya Pine Court, Eatons Hill
Cost - FREE

Join us for some fairy fun as we celebrate International Fairy Day!

We'll explore the forest and look for all kinds of things with wings. There will be fairy garden making, frog pond building, painting and craft. Enjoy music by the Little Wattlebird Band, a sausage sizzle and fairy biscuits.
Wear your best fairy, native animal or dress up creation and receive a fairy wand.
Book your tickets online at mbrc.qld.gov.au/Environment-Centres

Free event

Moreton Bay Regional Council
Proudly presents



MUSIC in the Valley

Sat 24th June 1pm - 5pm
Samford Showgrounds

whatsonmoretonbay.com.au

HILLS FESTIVAL
MAY 2023

hillsfestival.com.au



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/commitments 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
Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday, Thursday
P 07 3264 1838
E admin@albanycreekkindy.com.au

EMERGENCY CONTACT
0456 747 547

Parent Corner

Supporting you on your parenting journey

Within the Kindergarten environment we aim to teach the children how to be safe in many situations, including on the road as a passenger, pedestrian or cyclist.

We utilise songs, stories, role play and special visitors. We also ask our families and carers to support this learning.

Please remember that our Kindergarten is situated on a road and has a car park. Therefore, pedestrian safety is paramount. We ask that as soon as your child leaves the car or our Kindergarten gates that you hold their hand (including siblings).

The Raising Children Network (<https://raisingchildren.net.au/toddlers/safety/car-pedestrian-safety/pedestrian-safety>) has some great information and resources and states:

Until the age of 11-12 years, children need active adult supervision to help them safely navigate driveways, cars, roads and car parks. Even children who seem to know all the road safety rules won't necessarily remember to follow them.

Always holding your child's hand when around cars is a great first step. You can also teach your child about road safety, including how to be safe around parked cars and on footpaths and driveways.

Your child will learn about pedestrian safety by watching you, so use safe behaviour around cars, roads, footpaths and car parks. For example; always stop, look, listen and think before crossing a road, and use pedestrian crossings wherever possible. Always cross at the safest point, even if you have to walk further out of your way. If you're crossing at the lights, wait for the green signal. And put away phones and other devices when you're walking around roads and cars.

As Drivers we also have a responsibility to teach our children road safety. Reduce your speed when children are around, park in designated parking spots and ensure seatbelts are always worn in appropriate car seats.

We can also create road safety learning opportunities when our child rides their bike or scooter or plays at the park. Use these times to discuss helmet wearing, safe places to ride and safe places to play.

Additional information about road safety can be found on Queensland Government website https://queenslandwalks.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Parents_book_school_road_safety.pdf and the Kidsafe website (Car and Road Safety | kidsafe Australia)

