

October 2023 Newsletter

Upcoming Dates*

21
OCT
Saturday
7am - 10am
Working Bee

1
NOV
Friday
Final Day of
Term 4

5
NOV
Sunday
8am - 10am
Bush Care
(final event for 2023)

Director's Report Committee Meeting 10 October

As we welcome everyone back to Term 4 we know that the next few weeks are going to fly by. In saying this though we also know that so much learning and growth will also take place as the children prepare to transition to various opportunities in 2024.

Since our last meeting in August our major stakeholders have been involved in the following activities:

Children

All groups had the opportunity to participate in the "Premier's reading challenge".

Throughout the week each group of children were involved in a number of shared literacy experiences at Kindergarten and at home. Some of these included story books, big books, creating their own books, writing about shared experiences, following recipes, documenting experiences and much more. On average each child had 20 literacy experiences throughout the week.

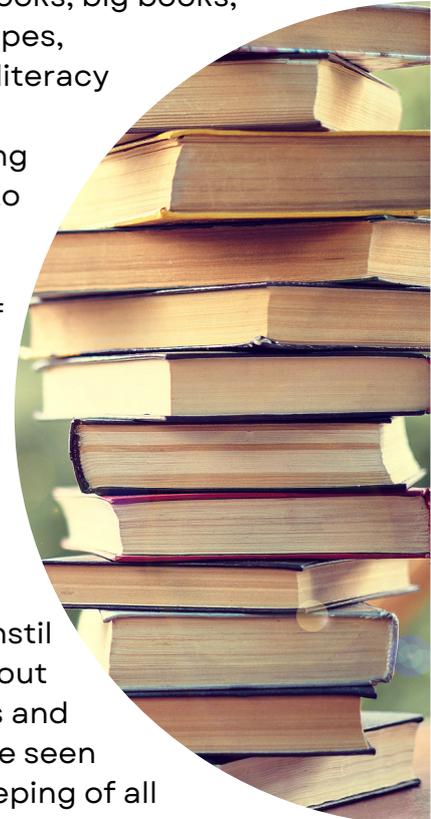
The Kindergarten also welcomed the Albany Creek Library Librarian's during book week who shared stories from the short listed books and continued to build community connections.

Our connections to community and culture continued for our Beginning of the week groups where they were able to experience the rescheduled incursion of "Bush Tucker Dreaming". The children were able to build their knowledge of Indigenous perspectives and make additions to our Bush tucker garden.

During August and September all groups have participated in Fire and Lockdown Evacuation Drills. These experiences can be linked to National Child Protection Week (3rd - 9th September). At Kindergarten we aim to instill a concept of personal safety for children and this can be covered throughout the program with sun safety, road safety, personal space, body awareness and building positive relationships. Our commitment to child protection can be seen through yearly staff and committee training in child protection, record keeping of all current blue cards for staff and visitors (such as presenters, allied health professionals and committee members) and regular review of child protection policy and procedure.

Individual classes continue to extend on the children's interests to create positive learning outcomes throughout term 3.

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





Mrs Robyn Taylor's **YOUNG KINDERGARTEN** class have been extending on interests in their dramatic play. They have had weddings, a doctor's surgery and a vet clinic in the room. Young Kindy have experienced a variety of instruments at music time and continued their discoveries at outdoor time. The children have been very lucky to watch silkworms hatch and grow and have seen a time lapse of this life cycle on the big screen. Young Kindy have also had some special visitors; Mrs Killer to read during Book Week and many of the dads on Father's Night. They finished Term 3 with a Teddy Bear's Picnic.

Mrs Carli Wilson's **RED GROUP** delved into exploring emotions. They read the story 'The Colour monster' that supported the children to identify and name the vast array of emotions that can be felt and learnt that all these feelings are normal and okay. There were lots of discussion on ways to regulate our feelings and how to be a kind and caring friend. Other interests include exploring the world under the sea, creating rainbow fish, and operating a very popular hair dressing salon. The Fathers really loved getting their hair cut and beards trimmed during Father's Day night. The class' current interest is in space, and they have been using their bodies to model how the earth orbits the sun and gain an understanding of day and night. There has also been a pet shop with turtles, birds, cats and dogs up for adoption. The "Teacher of the Day" has the exciting new responsibility of planning the obstacle course for the day.



Mrs Tracey Wilson's **GREEN GROUP** enjoyed all of their science related activities and experiments during science week, with particular interests in a balloon car, balloon inflation with bicarb and vinegar, magnets and floating and sinking activities. The class pursued a popular interest in dinosaurs through songs, books, puzzles, posters, arts and craft. They also enjoyed measuring activities which not only supported their mathematical skills but highlights just how big dinosaurs really were. The group ended the term with a teddy bears picnic with a treat, bear games and activities throughout the day. As we return to term 4 the children have taken on many new responsibilities to continue to build their independence and are participating in new morning activities such as calling the roll and creating a word list from the daily special helpers' initial sound from their name.

Mrs Janelle Bull's **BLUE** and **YELLOW** groups were busy during August / September with:

Book Week where the librarians from Albany Creek Library visited to read stories and sing songs and as Dr Suess said "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." In class, the children listened to many stories, songs and rhymes developing their early literacy skills. Following on this term discussing letter -sound recognition.

Science Week where the children hypothesised the results of experiments such as which items would sink or float in the container of water and observing the reaction of vinegar and bi-carb of soda.

Bush Kindy where they investigated with magnifying glasses, observed with binoculars, and wondered 'why' to many questions as they explored the Bush Kindy area. This term their interests will further develop with a restaurant for the blue group and exploring space and a jungle with the yellow group.



Families

Thank you to all of those families who completed the Family Survey in term 3. The team have analysed the results and will use them for future planning.

All groups were pleased to be able to have an opportunity to invite the dads or Special guests to Kindergarten for an Open afternoon/night. The children and their guests enjoyed a range of activities including songs, dances and lots of fun play.

Our families also had the opportunity to attend a Movie and Pizza night. We are very thankful to all of the hard work put in by our Events and Fund-raising committee to make this evening possible.

Save the date in your calendar for the last Bush Care event of the year which will take place on Sunday 5th November from 8-10am. The City of Moreton Bay team will again be on hand to support this event and to continue to care for our local nature space and the space we call "Bush Kindy".

Educators

Recently Educators have been involved in many Professional development opportunities including First Aid Recertification, information about PDA, play seminars and more. All of these opportunities allow our Educators to remain up-to-date with all of the latest developments in Educating Young Children and allows the team to share ideas and reflections with each other and our families.

As of the October 1, several changes to the National Quality Framework and Education and Care Services National Regulations commenced. These changes were a result of the NQF Review which are being rolled out in phases.

The current changes relate to:

- Children's sleep and rest – across all age groups and centre types.
- Safe arrival of children who travel between 2 different ECEC/School settings e.g. school children traveling between school and OHSC (information/updates coming soon)
- Emergency procedures for centres located in multi-storey buildings
- Awareness (training) of child protection law
- Currency periods of first aid qualifications
- Policies and procedures that centres must have in place
- Information requests of parents/guardians
- Record keeping requirements for volunteers and students
- Record keeping requirements relating to allegations of harm

Our team has been working hard in these first weeks back to familiarise ourselves with these changes and new C&K policies. We will be making any necessary amendments to our procedures to ensure we continue to provide high quality practices throughout our Centre.



Purchases

Recent purchases have been made through general budgeting with the purchase of Christmas craft, 2024 portfolios, a 'tuff' table and stand, magnetic emotions game, general arts supplies and plants for the foyer area.

Tracey Wilson (Nominated Supervisor/ Educational Leader)

PARENT CORNER



Supporting you
through your parenting journey

Useful parenting books, websites and digital content shared by our Educational leader and teaching teams:



www.raisingchildren.net.au A great cross section of information, including choosing, preparing and starting schools. It also has links to useful books on this site.

www.maggiedent.com an exceptional parenting expert.

www.health.gov.au 24 hour movement guidelines.

www.Brisbanekids.com.au includes free activities to do in school holidays with many local facilities!

www.Parenttv.com professionals respected by our team. Some free content or subscription options.

www.slq.qld.gov.au First 5 forever - State library of Queensland - Early Literacy information.

'Raising Healthy Minds' app supported by Federal Department of Health.

'Mothering our boys' by Maggie Dent this book is also available to borrow in our parent library.



'The parenting revolution: A guide to raising resilient kids' by Justin Coulson

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.aasn.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

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EMERGENCY CONTACT

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