

KINDER CAPERS

JULY 2015



LEN
JEFFREY
MEMORIAL
PRESCHOOL

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi everyone, I know you all enjoy reading the Kinder Capers every month, so sorry for missing June.

Since the last edition we had an afternoon tea to thank Coral for her dedication to LJMP over many years. It was a lovely afternoon with many people attending including Lyn Bok who kindly gave a speech about Coral and the important role that she has held in her life and the life of so many locals.

The committee members have been extremely busy over the colder months including ongoing repairs to the kinder, extensive gardening, creation of Minions, actively seeking new enrolments etc. Yet another thanks to those who assist in any way they can.

Over the next few weeks families can expect to receive the annual kinder parents survey. It should only take a matter of minutes to complete but the feedback in relation to the operation and facilities of the kinder will have ongoing effects for years.

I hope you can all find the time to complete the anonymous survey and return it to the kinder; after all the only comments and criticisms we can solve are the ones we hear!

Thanks for reading Kinder Capers, we hope you enjoy reading it as much as we enjoy preparing it.

Future Committee meetings are

- Tuesday 11th August
- Tuesday 8th September
- Tuesday 13th October
- Monday 9th November
- Monday 16th November (AGM)
- Tuesday 1st December (Handover Meeting)

Remember everyone is welcome to attend.

As always, if you need to contact me for any reason, my contact details are below. I look forward to hearing from you.

Aaron Goodall,
President for 2015
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PROMISE ME YOU'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER:
**YOU'RE BRAVER
THAN YOU BELIEVE, AND
STRONGER
THAN YOU SEEM, AND
SMARTER
THAN YOU THINK.**

A.A.
Milne

RAIN BOWS

As term two comes to an end we have been looking at Australia, its multicultural people and wildlife. As part of this the children made didgeridoos & Stax came to visit. He taught the children how to play their didgeridoos & explained how they are made. He explained that indigenous people are just like us in many ways

but they live in different parts of Australia where there may be no shops to buy things so they make their own, such as paint using rocks. We also had a Spanish incursion. Pilar visited and



taught the children how to say hello, goodbye, count and colours in Spanish. Throughout the unit we have talked about the many unique animals found in Australia. We have also talked about the many different people who make Australia such a special place. The children have had fun camping in the bush & under the sea according to some children! As a conclusion to this unit we held a travel round Australia day for Red, Orange and Purple Rainbows. The children enjoyed a variety of activities related to each state.

We made boomerangs in Northern Territory; bark painting in Western Australia, grapes in South Australia, Puffing Billy in Victoria, dolphins in Queensland, the Harbour Bridge and Opera house in New South Wales and Tassie devils in Tasmania. The children also made fairy bread for morning tea. They also dressed up in

FUND RAISING

REMINDER

End of term 4 closet clean out. Please hold on to any clean, wearable adults & children's clothing, paired shoes, hats, handbags & belts. Towels, sheets, pillowcases & soft toys. Let your family and friends know.

SUN 15TH NOV

BUNNINGS
warehouse
BBQ

KINDER COMMITTEE

Wonder what happens on those special tuesday evenings? Each month find out here, and maybe, just maybe, you'll be tempted to help us out and volunteer for a future committee role.

Enrolments Officer

Hi, I'm Naomi this years enrolment officer. The Enrolment officers role is part of the executive committee and a very important role; it can have times when it's very busy, but at other times it's easy and manageable (if you keep all paperwork up to date!) I come from a community welfare background and I liken this role to intake and assessment. I can take a lot of calls and enquires about the kinder but I also keep the databases updated. The best part of this role is getting to know the kinder families! It can at times be busy but it's also rewarding as it's such an integral part of the smooth operation of the kinder.

Thanks, Naomi

something uniquely Australian.

The children Blue, Green and Purple Rainbows enjoyed a multicultural day. The children came to kinder dressed in costumes related to a variety of countries throughout the world. Australia, Vietnam, Japan and Mexico were among the countries represented. The children then collected their passports before heading of around the world. They visited Holland to make windmills, Japan to make origami dogs and cats, Germany to make cuckoo clocks, Scotland to make a Scotty dog



and Australia to make fairy bread, lamingtons & vegemite sandwiches. It was certainly a busy week with lots of travelling at kinder!

Over the last few weeks we have had a pizza shop at kinder. The children have enjoyed creating their own pizzas for themselves to eat and to serve to friends. This area has created many conversations about what the children like on their pizzas, how pizzas are made and what you need to cook them.

This has now led to a Chinese restaurant. The children are enjoying being chefs, waiters



and customers within the restaurant. With a variety of Asian food and cooking utensils available the children are cooking up a storm.

Box pasting has been very popular these past few weeks. I know some parents feel that the children spend too long at this activity but it



is developing many important life skills. Every time a child builds something with boxes they are problem solving as they work out what boxes will suit, how to join them successfully, what to use to hold it together. Then they need to think of all the little details that can be found on the item. So if they are building a camera it needs a memory card, off/on button, batteries, charger, and strap to hang it around your neck. And so the list goes on. So next time they show you what they have built ask what it is and then look at all the little detail that has gone into it.

Mat time has been great fun with the children's concentration span increasing the mat time games are increasing in difficulty. The children also love drama so we often dramatise stories such as Wombat Stew, Little Yellow digger and the Fidgety itch. The children all eagerly wait to have a turn at a character as the teacher narrates the story. This is a great way of allowing the children to develop public speaking confidence and story recall skills which are needed when learning to read. There are many different activities that assist a child to develop important skills required when learning to read. One of those is puzzles. Puzzles develop visual discrimination skills which are needed when learning to read. These skills allow us to see the difference between who and how when learning to read. Same letters but they each make a different word.



This term we have visited Belgrave South Primary school library twice. This is a great way of experiencing a school and a library. The children listened to stories read by Jenny James and Carol Ould. This was a great way to extend the children's experiences beyond the kinder to the bigger community also. We will be visiting again in term 3 when the children will be able to have a computer session as well. Regardless of the school child is attending this is still a great experience for all the children.

We will be ending the term with a short unit on pets and farm animals. This always creates lots of fun things to make & talk about. There will be a vet hospital to play in. There will be lots of fun activities throughout the last couple of weeks but the most exciting event is a visit from Nelly's ark. Nelly, alias Narelle a kinder mum, owns a pet shop in Northcote but lives opposite kinder. She will be



bringing some animals over for us to look at and hold. A huge thank you to Narelle for adding to our program in such a wonderful way.

Again this term the children planted seeds. This time they were flowers. The children watered them and watched them grow ready for them to plant in their gardens at home. This is a great way to explain plant life cycles and it helps children understand where plants and food come from, not just the supermarket.

Please remember to look at your child's portfolio regularly as there may be something new in it. Midyear reports are now in your child's portfolio. Please remember if you would like to discuss your child's progress just make an appointment with the teachers at a time that suits both.

We begin playing outside at about 9.30. It is still cold then so all children need an extra layer to put on. Therefore please remember all children must have a coat or extra jacket they can put on when we go outside. Perhaps leave an extra jumper in their bag at all times so it's always there just in case. Even a beanie is a great idea.

Thank you to everyone for all your help this term. Have a safe and happy holiday and see you all on Monday 13th July when kinder resumes.

Thank you

Belinda, Genevieve, Jo & Jess



Hi Everyone! Welcome back and I hope you all had a lovely break and are all looking forward to the busy term ahead.

I firstly have a big thank you to make to Narelle, Ivy's mum that came to kinder on our last day of term and bought with her lots of animals for the children to interact with. Narelle bought rabbits, chickens, alexandrines, a dog named Cooper and a lorikeet. The children came out in small groups and Narelle talked with the children about caring for the different animals and then each child was able to hold and pat the animals. It was such an awesome experience and even for those children who were a little unsure Narelle had them patting and wanting them to hold an animal by the end. We took lots of photos which are displayed on our notice board. Thank you so much Narelle for staying the whole day and giving up your time for the children as I know how busy you are, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

As part of our animal day we set up a Vet hospital in our dramatic play area and the children had lots of fun dressing up as Vets and making the animals feel better. Some of the animals needed medicine and rest while others needed operations and bandages. We also made animal cookies, the children rolled out the dough and chose an animal that they wanted and the children ate their cookie at lunch time.

Looking ahead for this term we have decided to do a unit on looking after our environment, we will be looking at recycling, reusing and reducing. This week we looked at shopping bags, we talked about its okay to use plastic bags if we reuse them and not put them in the bin and that we can use fabric bags over and over again to our grocery shopping. We will be doing more planting, making a scarecrow out recycled bottles and containers, we will be looking at our worm farm and other ways we can reuse things. We hope to come up with an activity every week throughout the term so please feel free if you have any ideas that you do a home please share with us so we can incorporate this into our program.

Now that the children are well and truly settled we now are spending a little more time on the mat having group discussions. We have begun to discuss what the children would like to see in the kinder environment. For an example the last day of term we asked the children what



they would like on the dramatic play area and we took a vote and they wanted the Vet hospital out again and we did the same this week and the children requested home corner and the babies. We have added some suggestion that the children made and we also talk about what other things they might like then we vote. We are also looking at others areas where the children can input into the program as we think it is important that the kinder room is theirs and their ideas and suggestions are important and valued.

The children will be also making some SECRET KINDER BUSINESS for their dads during following weeks so we will be busy making presents, cards and paper. We will be talking about keeping the secret which is always exciting and very secretive.

Next week I will be sending out a small survey to get your opinion on the five hour sessions I would really appreciate the feedback so we can look at next year whether we run it again or go back to two sessions a week. Getting your feedback is really helpful so we can offer the best possible scenario for everybody.

Just a reminder that because the weather has been so cold could you please pack a jacket for your child and a warm hat as we will still run our indoor/outdoor as some children are choosing not to go outside as they do not have a jacket.

Looking forward to another busy term ahead.

Thanks Shar & Kellie



STARS' DATES TO REMEMBER

**4th August
Pyjama Day**

**1st September
Kinder photos**

**8th September
Special Visitors' Day**

**15th September
Sports Dress-up Day**