

# KINDER CAPERS

JUNE 2019



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Another term has come and gone and we are well into the winter weather and runny noses. What a term it has been, all our children have settled into the kinder routine and some great friendships are forming between the children and between parents too.

I need to say a huge thank you to all the wonderful parents on the kinder committee this year. It has been busy so far and there has been huge effort and time contributed by everyone. I cannot overstate how much goes on behind the scenes to keeping our kinder looking great and running smoothly and our parents do a truly amazing job.



In May we completed an expression of interest for the lease of the old MCH building next door. So, all going well, we will have some bigger better spaces to utilize in the near future. This will include opening the space to community groups. If anyone has any ideas for how we can use the space please have a chat to one of our amazing teachers or committee members.



Our working bee was very successful with Luke, Rick, Adam and Seb supplying the muscle to remove the tired looking bushes in the front garden and lay fresh mulch provided by Yarra Ranges Council, while Sally and Skye painted up a storm in the playground. By the time we had our open day the grounds were looking tip top. Thank you guys.

These days are really important for our kinder, not only for the maintenance of our facilities but also to demonstrate to our children the importance of looking after our environment and contributing to our community. We will be having another working bee in term 3 and would love to see you all there, children included.

Everyone is doing a great job for the community and the environment collecting our bottle caps, bread ties and aluminium cans. We will continue to collect these in term 3, so keep up the good work. The money received from collecting the cans for recycling will go towards improving our playground and outdoor spaces.



As always my hat goes off to our fantastic teaching staff who are the heart of our kinder and work tirelessly for our children and provide so much support and enthusiasm to the children as well as their families.



That's all from me for now, hope you all have a fantastic winter break and look forward to seeing you all around kinder next term.

Steph



This term is certainly moving along very quickly and has certainly become very cold. Remember to send a coat and warm hat along with your child each session.



A huge thank you to everyone who is saving bottle tops and bread tags for us. We are doing a great job each week. A huge thank you to Brew Time and the bakery who are also collecting for us.

**Thank You!** Thank you again to those families who completed questionnaires. Our Quality improvement Plan is now complete and can be viewed in each room.

Staff updated their first aide training in April. This takes place every April so that staff know how to deal with any emergency.

Don't forget there is a small parent's library in the brick building. Feel free to have a look at any time or ask staff if you are after information on anything in particular.

Always remember to phone kinder if your child is going to be absent especially if it is due to illness. We are open Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday.



Thank you to those families who attended our Open Day. Despite the cold weather it was great to meet new families and promote our service. Thank you to Stephanie who was there all morning with staff.



Staff attend training on a regular basis which provides us with new ideas, information and experiences that we can provide for your children. Much of this is done out of normal work hours. Thank you to our dedicated team who never complain about a 7.30 am staff meeting or extra training.

Thank you  
Belinda Niezen  
Educational Leader.



# RAINBOWS



Term two is certainly disappearing fast. We hope everyone is still fit and healthy as this cold weather has suddenly hit.

Term one disappeared quickly. The children enjoyed our fun pirate & princess activities concluding with a treasure hunt. The pirate ship and princess castle were certainly busy areas allowing the children to explore a variety of roles through dramatic play.



This dramatic play was taken even further when the children were given the opportunity to dramatise a variety of stories at group time. This is a great way to recall the story in sequence whilst enjoying the fun of drama. Retelling stories is an important pre reading skill as it shows understanding of the spoken word.

The children also enjoyed a variety of Easter activities. One of these activities was a science activity that demonstrated the shrinking process.



The children placed a plastic cover over a plastic egg. The egg was then dipped into hot water by an adult as the children watched the plastic cover shrink. While some children understood what had happened and could explain it for others, it was a very new concept.

Last term the children enjoyed exploring our large tarp slide. This is a large canvas tarp that attaches to the side of the climbing frame. The children loved sliding down the large surface in many different ways.



Last term water played a big role in the sandpit. We found ourselves adding a lot of water to the sand so the children could build with it. This provided opportunities to discuss dry, wet, same, different and change. It was great to then hear the older children explaining to the younger children that they needed the dark wet sand.



Friendships are continuing to develop which is wonderful to see. The children are all very settled and understand and follow the routine with ease.

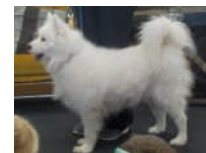
This term the children were busy with Special Kinder Business. They were very excited to have their mums at kinder for lunch and we hope you enjoyed the yummy dessert they made and your special gift.



We had a visit from some of the residents of Emerald Glades aged care facility. This was a wonderful experience for the children and the residents. It provided the children with the opportunity to interact with elders in a safe supportive atmosphere. It was wonderful to watch the children explaining things to them and helping them play. This is going to become a regular part of our program. The next visit is late June.



We were lucky to have Christine from the responsible pet program visit us with her dog, Breeze. Christine taught the children how to be safe around dogs.



We have visited the convention centre to collect autumn leaves. The children love exploring the open space and collecting leaves to play with at kinder. The children were also able to explore the great playground at the convention centre.



We also have two visits to Belgrave South Primary school library planned for Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June. This is a great opportunity for the children to experience a school and a library and computer lab. We explain to the children that it may not be the school they are going to but it will be like their school.



Free dental checks will be available for all children on 25<sup>th</sup> June. These will take place at kinder and permission forms and more information will be available shortly. Here is a useful link about dental care [https://www.rch.org.au/kidsinfo/fact\\_sheets/Dental\\_care\\_video/](https://www.rch.org.au/kidsinfo/fact_sheets/Dental_care_video/)



When you are next on kinder duty remember to have a look at your child's reflection folder. They are very proud of them and love showing them off.

In the coming weeks we have Travel round Australia day and Multicultural days planned. These are great fun days for all.

Please also remember that if your child is unwell, they should be at home resting. Also please let us know especially if it is something that can easily spread such as gastro or a cold. We are required to advise all parents if there is an infectious disease about no matter how mild a case.



Don't forget that we are available for a chat at any time. Just call or email to make an appointment.

Term three overview and duty rosters will be available shortly.

Thank you

Belinda, Genevieve & Jo



"There is no such thing as a 'bad kid' – just angry, hurt, tired, scared, confused, impulsive ones expressing their feelings and needs the only way they know how. We owe it to every single one of them to always remember that."

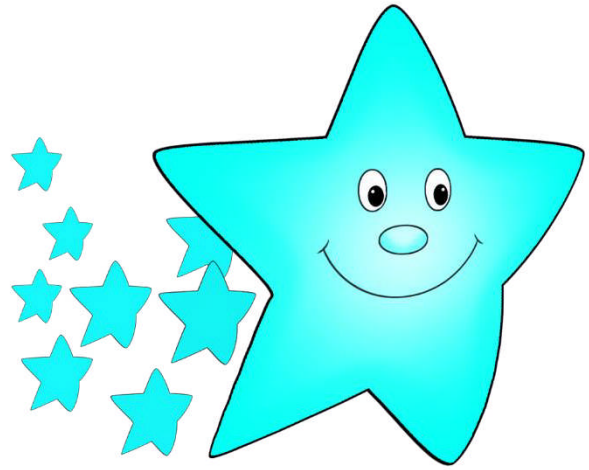
—EDUCATOR JESSICA STEPHENS

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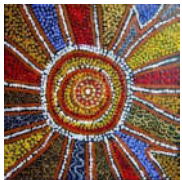
# BLUE STARS



*Hi Everyone,*

Well it's that time already heading towards the end of term and have we been busy, yes, we have. We have had so many opportunities this term for the children to learn new skills and gain confidence in themselves and their learning through play and group experiences. Here are just a few things that your child is learning when they come to kinder.

- At the start of the term we began Welcome to country. A simple verse about thanking the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation for letting us share their land. The children know it well and I'm sure if you ask them they will be able to tell you about it and do the actions.



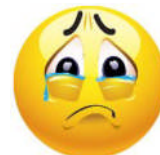
This is a lovely way for the children to give thanks and begin to respect the people and the land around us, also including animals, plants, themselves and their friends.

- Thank you so much for getting on board with collecting the bottle tops and bread tags. The children are so enthusiastic about collecting them and our container gets filled every week. As a group we then sort them out into two different containers.



The children have an understanding about where the tops and tags go and what they are made into. It allows them to get an understanding of recycling and that one thing can be used and made into something else.

- We have done a huge unit on different emotions this term, talking about a different emotion every week and talking about how we feel when we are happy, sad, angry, frightened, surprised and shy. The children are starting to recognise the different emotions and what they feel like. This helps the children to express themselves and that it's ok to feel different emotions. We all say that happy is the best emotion because it makes us feel good and we smile and laugh a lot when we feel happy.



- Over the last couple of weeks Sylvie and I have introduced our talking circle and talking stick. We do this at the start of the



day as the children are generally very keen to tell us things that have happened. We have a circle of fabric that the children sit around and we have a special stick. The person with the stick can speak and everyone else needs to listen. The children may not have anything to tell and that is ok but every child has the opportunity to tell the group some news. It's just a nice way for the children to be heard and to learn to listen to and show respect for each other. It's working really well now that the children understand the concept.



- One other thing I would like to share with you is how amazing your children are at cleaning up our room. The pack up music goes on and all the children get in and help. The part they love the best is helping wipe down the tables and chairs. Again, it's just a simple way for the children to have respect for belongings and to help each other and work together to make our room great. We are very proud of them.



- Some lovely residents from Emerald Glades aged care facility visited our kinder which was a wonderful experience for everyone. The children loved showing them the crafts at kinder and they enjoyed the interaction with the children. This will be a regular addition to our program.

Thank you to all of you that came to our Mother's Day morning tea. It was such a beautiful and special morning that it brought tears to my eyes. The children were so excited to have you there.



Just an important reminder - can you please make sure that your child has a coat to wear during the colder months as we always try to go outside.



Have a lovely break, I know I will as I am going to Queensland over the holidays, warm weather, sandy beaches and a drink or two.

Looking forward to talking to you all in term 3.

Thanks heaps  
Love Shar & Sylvie

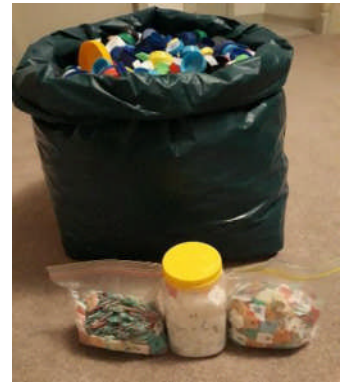


# RECYCLING UPDATE

A bit of an update on one of our recycling projects. Our bottle caps and bread tags venture has been met with much enthusiasm in our community. It has been amazing. The sorting and recycle plant have been very impressed with our efforts when the caps and bread tags are delivered at the end of each term. As can be seen by the photos, our little kinder is doing a great job. Below is a recap of how these items are processed and the benefits they bring to those in need.



Term 1



Term 2

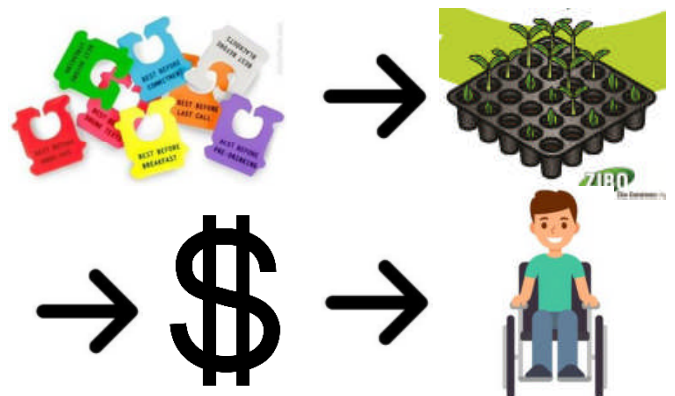
## 1. Cap it for Prosthetics

Plastic bottle caps are required which will be turned into filament to make prosthetic hands and limbs for children in disadvantaged communities. A 3-D printer designs each hand for specific children to allow them to undertake basic tasks such as picking up a cup. We are asking you to collect hard plastic caps from fizzy drinks, fruit juices, milk and other similar products and bring them into the kindergarten clean.



## 2. Bread tags for Wheelchairs

We are also collecting bread tags. These are recycled into seedling trays and the money from the sale of these trays goes directly to the purchase of wheelchairs for disabled children and adults who would otherwise not have access to such mobility. 72 wheelchairs were donated in 2018.



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