

Diary Dates:

Friday, 29th June - Last day for Term 2

Tuesday, 17th July - Term 3 starts (except Koala Group which starts 19th July)

Tuesday 14th August - Photographer

Thursday 16th August - Photographer

Monday 3rd September - Friday 14th September - Living Eggs for 2 weeks

Monday 17th September - Mobile Farm, 9.45am to 2.45pm (3 year olds)

Wednesday 19th September - Mobile Farm, 9.45am to 2.45pm (4 year olds)

Monday 8th October - 21st December - Term 4

Friday 19th October - Museum Dinosaurs and Fossils (4 year old groups)

Tuesday 13th November - Guide Dog visit

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, June 2012

As we reach the half way point of the year, we hope everyone is well and truly settled into their routines and enjoying their time at AELC.

I'm happy to report that since our last newsletter things have been less frantic for the staff and Committee after the workload of the National Quality Framework and various government funding submissions in particular.

Fundraising

Having said that, there has been a flurry of activity in regards fundraising and Stacey Farrell has been working extremely hard. Please see her report below for more details and continue to support the kinder through these events.

Web Site

We continue to make progress on the web site upgrade and anticipate launching the new site

during term 3. Sarah Wade is doing a great job in moving this project along.

Please continue to visit our website at www.aelc.net.au as it is a great reference for information.

New Arrivals

Max Wills and Max Pearson into the Kangaroo Group and Ben Kerr and Asher Barton into the Koala Group.

Alexander Tari joined Group A and Ghia Roberts became part of the Extended Hours group.

Vacancies

We still have one vacancy in the 3-year-old group and several in the 4 year old groups despite concerted efforts to fill them.

If you know anyone who may be interested in these please ask them to contact Sylvia Stutt (Administrative Officer) on 9509 3187.

Road Safety

Please continue to be mindful of road safety around the kindergarten. Please supervise

children closely all the way to the front gate and where appropriate hold their hands.

Again, please be respectful of our neighbours and do not park illegally near the Centre when dropping children off or picking them up.

Remember also you must not leave children unattended in cars.

Feedback to the Committee

Throughout the year we welcome your feedback to help us shape the Centre's priorities and goals for this and the coming years. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please let us know as we are here to represent you.

Very soon we will be seeking expressions of interest from parents of the current 3 year olds to join the Committee in 2013. Please give this due consideration as we rely upon each other to keep the kinder going.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff and Committee members for their hard work so far this year.

Finally, another reminder to get involved in the kinder, whether it is by doing fruit duty, being on the laundry roster or by joining the working-bees. Please don't leave it to a few.

Best wishes for a relaxing term break and we look forward to welcoming you back to AELC in Term 3.

Damian Dalton
President

MAINTENANCE

Please don't forget the working bee Sunday 1st July from 9 til 1 pm. There is a poster of jobs in the kindergarten foyer. All help gratefully received.

Thanks Sarah Barlow
0403 933 497

FUNDRAISING TEAM

Fundraising Activities for 2012 - Term 2 (2nd newsletter)

**'ICE AGE 4: Continental Drift' (2D) -
"CANCELLED DUE TO A LACK OF
INTEREST."**

**Bunnings BBQ at Burwood Road, Hawthorn -
Sunday, 17 June.**

We held our BBQ at Bunnings in Hawthorn last Sunday and despite the weather being a little drizzly, it was a great day and we raised a fabulous total of \$2,100. Special thanks must go to Ann and John Rowe (parents of Bec Bond, Secretary) who very kindly donated 300 sausages for the day, as well as Glenferrie Gourmet Meats, who donated 500 sausages - a very generous gesture. Christie Kelso - thanks to you for organising the slicing and dicing of 25 kilos of onions and delivery- amazing job. Kylie Glenane for doing the shopping for all the important bits for the day (particularly with a husband in the hospital with broken ribs and collar bone); all the amazing volunteers - Matt Bond, Alex Marsan, Andrew Barlow, Damian Dalton, Sean and Khanh Pham, Bruce Stewart, Greg Burns (my dad) and Annette and her husband, John. They all worked tirelessly throughout the day cooking, selling and cleaning up. (We wish Mike Glenane a speedy recovery after coming off his bike - we missed your bbq'ing expertise).

Chocolates

Our delicious chocolates continue to sell well. Thank you to all the families who keep putting their hands in their pockets to find a spare dollar to pick up a Freddo Frog or Caramello Koala for the kids (or themselves) on the way home.

Caring for Kids - KPV Raffle 2012

Thank you to all the families who purchased raffle tickets or returned their unsold raffle tickets, or let me know they had lost the tickets. The tickets were returned to KPV and our fingers are crossed for a lucky winner from the kinder. The raffle is drawn at 12 noon on Friday, 29 June (last day of term). Results will be published in The Herald Sun on 30 June 2012. Good luck!

Trivia/Auction Night at Functions on Chapel, Prahran Town Hall - Friday, 14 September at 7.30pm

This is our major fundraiser so please lock in the date - last year we raised an incredible \$11,500 for our kinder, which enables us to do so much more for all of our children. At the beginning of Term 3, we will be distributing a form for you to complete with details of what items/activities/experiences you can contribute to the event. Also, if you are able to volunteer your time on the night, please let me know ASAP.

Picture Plates

A huge thank you to all the staff for assisting the children to complete their masterpieces on a picture plate template. The templates have been sent to the company for production and we will be receiving them for distribution in term 3 this year. Thank you also to the families who completed their forms and sent money back by the due date, it is exceptionally helpful.

Tea Towels & Aprons: Tea towels and aprons will be sold early in term 4 this year, and the children will be working on their drawings during kinder hours. Further details regarding this fundraiser will be provided in later editions of the newsletter.

If you are able to donate items for the kinder's major fundraising night or volunteer your time, please do not hesitate to contact me via email on stacey.farrell@live.com.au.

Once again, a huge thank you to the volunteers who gave up their time to help out at the Bunnings BBQ on Sunday, 17 June.

3 YEAR OLDS

This Term has just flown by. We have been very busy continuing to become more familiar with each other and, of course, build relationships and enhance our skills and understanding of how to be part of a community.

We welcomed Max Wills and Max Pearson into the Kangaroo Group and Ben Kerr and Asher

Barton into the Koala Group. They are settling in well and are exploring their new environment, becoming familiar with our routines and are approaching their peers and adults.

The children and adults have been involved with some amazing learning both indoors and outdoors.

Outdoors the weather has been rather cold as we all know but that does not stop the children from running, climbing, swinging and using their imaginations during play. The sandpit remains the place to be especially when water is involved. It is used when they "cook" or in the buckets or for pouring down pipes, or in and out of bottles.

This gives many opportunities to experience mathematics in a hands-on way. It also enables children to work alone and /or co-operate with peers which is emerging more and more. The children have been building their climbing skills by following the various obstacle courses which sees them experience different heights and enhances their co-ordination. Climbing on the rocks and using their imagination has also been fantastic to see happening. We must have a great hiding place for all the crocodiles and tigers that come and participate at the Kindergarten.

Inside, the children continue with block building and create some great structures. Again it enables children to work together or create their own. Blocks give numerous opportunities for growth according to each child's own rate of development such as co-ordination and physical skills like lifting and carrying. They also build responsibility when helping to pack away as well as co-operation, teamwork and learning about mathematics, size, comparisons, quantity and terminology.

The Kangaroo Group has been rather interested in the seasons, the weather and the days of the week. The Koala Group has been focusing on what other children around the world like to do and what songs they sing.

Routines are a very important part of each day as they build skills such as independence, self help and most importantly each child is able to

know what is about to happen, they feel in control. At the same time they are learning how to interact with adults and other children and they are building an understanding about where and how they belong.

Children love helping so encourage them to carry their bag, to put it on their hook as well as to put their fruit in the basket and their labelled drink bottle in the blue basket. Please be sincere when you congratulate them for doing this task as they need to know that you appreciate them. Their confidence and self-esteem will continue to grow which is what we all want to see happen.

Reading or telling a story prior to going home continues to enhance each child's love for stories and reading. It is so important to read aloud to your child every day, not only to build their love for reading but just as importantly for them to understand the world around them. Stories that are repetitive such as Hairy Maclary, Room on a Broom or Cat in the Hat and many many others enable children to predict what's going to be read and then they do the "reading".

In the Kangaroo Group we have Mama Kangaroo and Joebe who go home with the family on fruit duty. Thank you for writing what they get up to. What adventures occur!!!! In the Koala Group Fifi is the Koala that goes home with the family on duty. Fifi has been enjoying her adventures as well. Thank you for letting us know what happens when she is with you family.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING THEM BACK TO KINDERGARTEN THE NEXT TIME YOUR CHILD ATTENDS AS THE NEXT FAMILY IS WAITING FOR THEIR TURN.

Thank you so very much for bringing in your child's photographs. It is important for each child to have their photos as it builds their identity and where they belong. It enhances their self-esteem and confidence about who they are. The information that I have received from the surveys that you have returned has been of so much benefit. It gives us a greater understanding of your child when they are with you and what it is you would like to have happen when they are here.

Thank you so much to all the families for participating in our program by doing fruit duty, the washing, doing the surveys and being a part of fundraising and by having conversations with us and each other at drop off and pick up times. Everything you do makes our program so much better and it is appreciated so much.

If you have craft items, plants, pots, cushions, cultural artefacts that you would like to donate or we could borrow, would be fantastic.

If you would like to talk to me about your child please let me know so we can arrange a time that is convenient. At this time we can discuss any concerns you might have as well as set goals that will enhance your child's development.

HERE ARE SOME REMINDERS

If your child is not well such as a coloured runny nose or a persistent cough, please keep them at home so as to enable them to recuperate and return when healthier.

Please contact the Kindergarten if your child is not attending.

I'd like to thank you all for making Term 2 so much fun. We hope you all have a happy and safe holiday. We look forward to seeing you all in Term 3

All the best Karen, Fiona and Annette

GROUP A

How can we be halfway through the year already - what a busy and fun time we've had - what amazing children who share our Group. We welcomed Alexander and his family and sadly said goodbye to Charlie and his family.

Many of the children like to play with a variety of friends, some of the children have made special friends - but we don't all have to have a special friend - being at Kindergarten means you can play with and have more than one friend, and if that friend wants to play with somebody else, there are other people to play with. Sometimes it's not an easy thing to learn, but a very important part of learning to interact with

others and developing a sense of belonging to a group and a community.

The children have learnt that it is good to help each other - from helping with a hard puzzle to helping your friend to put their shoes or coat on, to co-operate with each other (most times) and to work together to achieve goals and tasks or to follow through ideas, to interact - developing life skills.

Being part of a group means a lot of talking - learning the art of conversation while they are playing, sharing ideas, playing at small conversation tables, discussing ideas in a group, making up imaginary stories together, reading together, looking up reference books to find out more information, even having differences of opinions with each other. Consider what they are learning and practicing while they are doing these things - listening skills, memory skills, observation skills, descriptive skills, curiosity, confidence, learning new words, mastering how to put sentences together to make meaning or create stories, learning how to get a message across verbally to others, all pre literacy skills which lead to reading and writing, without really thinking about it.

They are learning problem solving skills through their play and interaction with their peers - very important life skills. Sometimes children like to play by themselves, enjoying their own space and with their own thoughts - it is important in this life to be happy with your own company, not always needing to be amused, to become confident in your identity.

The activities are planned and set up to encourage the children's imaginations and creativity - it is so important for the children to be able to develop their own ideas, and these children have shown they have wonderful imaginations - from making up stories together in a group, to creating amazing paintings, drawings and art works - it is a joy to watch them develop the ability to create their own play, and to explore the wonders of their imaginations, and to have so much fun doing it.

We are practising fine motor skills - using scissors, tweezers, staplers, tape dispensers, painting with a variety of different brushes and pencils, construction games - so their hands will

be strong for all the things they need to do. We are playing many games together - memory games, dice games, matching games, recognition games- these games require concentration, taking turns, patience, co-operation, finishing what they start, following the rules of games, not always winning - again life skills.

Particularly on these cold days- we need to do lots of running, jumping, rolling, balancing, climbing, building, digging - outdoor play is a very important part of the programme- the children develop confidence, independence, and learn to take risks at times, developing and strengthening their large muscles, and learning to control their bodies.

Even when it is cold, we make use of our verandah, so please make sure your children have a warm coat and suitable shoes to wear when we are outside- our heating keeps the inside warm, so layers is the answer.

It has been such a busy time - the children have been enjoying our movement / dancing groups with Karen, and our singing/ music groups with Janet, and are developing musical skills and an awareness of their bodies in space.

We loved having all the Mothers to celebrate Mother's Day - Dad's turn will come later. Having a dentist check our teeth gave us an opportunity to discuss caring for our teeth and eating healthy foods. We had visits from so many people to extend our knowledge - David the Music Man (what an inspirational and talented man), the Wild Action Australian Animals and Reptiles (what huge snakes - we were so brave), the Rabbits (I'm not sure who was most besotted - the children, the mothers or the staff), and the Guinea Pigs (thanks to martha for sharing her pets). We are encouraging the children to be aware of and interested in the natural world around them, if you find things of interest - please bring them for us to look at and learn about.

The children have so much to learn- let us give them time and space to enjoy the process of growing up, and encourage them to be caring and responsible members of the community and the world. Enjoy your children, see the world through their eyes, it is a very special place.

SOME REMINDERS

Please remember to sign IN and OUT - this is a Regulation - also any other child you may be taking home.

Please make sure you close the door and gate behind you each time - and make sure no other children slip out with you. The safety of the children is paramount. Also please keep your child beside you when outside the Kindergarten - this is a busy street.

If your child is not well, please keep them at home - a sick child cannot enjoy Kindergarten, and we may all get the bug.

A reminder - if you would like to have a quiet talk with me about your child - I am available on Tuesday and Friday afternoons.

Once again a big thankyou to Ann and Lisa for all their enthusiasm, help and support - they are a very important part of the programme. Have a happy and safe holiday.

Margot, Ann and Lisa

EXTENDED HOURS

Term three has been a fun-filled term with lots of excursions, parent involvement and changes in the room. The extended hour's kindergarten room now has three staff in the mornings for better supervision and more one-on-one interaction with children during play. A big welcome to Karen who is now working one day a week and has been a wonderful addition to our team. The dynamics of the room have really improved this term the children seem a lot more settled and seem more aware of behavioural boundaries. This is important as it enables the room to function smoothly and for the children to enjoy a co-operative environment where they feel safe and appreciated. Wild Action was a highlight for many children who could get 'hands on' with a variety of animals/reptiles. Most of the children were brave enough to have frogs on their heads, lizards up their arms and slithery snakes around their necks! The presentation was full of facts and general knowledge which the children really absorbed.

'Camouflage is when the colour of the animals is the same as its surroundings' said Angus.

'The lizards like the warm hot weather' Harrison pointed out.

'The shell of a turtle is made of hair' said Henry.

'A carnivore means you eat meat' said Zach L.

The program has touched on our body and healthy eating using a range of visuals such as the healthy eating pyramid. The children have been practising their cutting skills using coles food brochures and identifying the healthy and unhealthy foods and where they can be placed on the pyramid. More recently we have been looking at space and all the planets in our solar system the multi-level rocket ship and moon rocks with satellites and space men have kept the children busy.

Sienna and her six baby rabbits were a pleasure to have over the month we were lucky enough to watch the rabbits grow from small balls of skin into larger independent rabbits. The life-cycle of rabbits was wonderful to observe over the days/weeks and we couldn't believe how fast they grew even overnight.

Henry and his mother Siobhan brought in their two cats for all the children to see and learn about Henry had prepared a little presentation all about their behaviours and how you can tell if they feel threatened 'they arch their backs' said Zach L, what they like to eat and the kitty litter they use. The cats are really part of the family 'they sleep on my bed' said Henry.

Niki Rickard spent one morning screen printing with the children on T-shirts which outlines the shape of Australia. The shirts looked terrific and the children really enjoyed the experience. We are very lucky to have so much input and involvement from parents on a day-to day basis and hope you can all enjoy your child's kinder experience.

A few reminders:

The children enjoy playing in the mud and puddles please provide clean clothes (gumboots are a great idea)

The policy states there is a late fee for children who are picked up late

The dentist has had to be re-scheduled for September

Check your child for head lice

Thank you

Amy, Tracey, Karen and Helen

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Arabella and her family on the birth of Toby (Koala Group).

THANKS A BUNCH

A special thank-you to Michael and Sophia at Fresh Cut Flowers for donating carnations to the kinder for Mother's Day. The Prahran market florists have generously provided

flowers to us for the past few years so that the children can give their mums a special gift on Mother's Day.

Thanks.

Glenferrie Gourmet Meats

Butchers

720 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn

Phone: 9819 5100

Contact: Josh

Hours of Business:

Monday-Wednesday – 9am to 6pm

Thursday – 9am to 7pm

Friday – 9am to 6pm

Saturday – 9am to 5pm

Sunday – 10am to 5pm



Please mention that you are from Armadale ELC & remember to thank them for their support.

2012 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ROLE	NAME	TELEPHONE
PRESIDENT	Damian Dalton	9510 2356 0408 138 170
VICE-PRESIDENTS	Sarah Wade Janine Sheehan	9500 8296 0433 328 699 9529 1339 0408 399 853
SALARIES	Marcus James	9525 2052
SECRETARY	Bec Bond	9530 3032
GRANTS	Polly Bongiorno	8060 9025 0410 882 028
FINANCE CO-ORDINATOR	Melissa Larner	0431 072 557
FEES OFFICER ENROLMENTS	Sylvia Stutt	9509-3187 (kinder)
MAINTENANCE	Sarah Barlow	9576 3285 0403 933 497
FUNDRAISING	Stacey Farrell	9822 8856 0407 360 559
PUBLICITY	Siobhan Dunckley	0424 592 320
SOCIAL	Lisa Vivian	9509 3226
GENERAL COMMITTEE	Christy Kelso Kylie Glenane Liuxin McOmish	0407 823 955 9824 5372 0424 947 720 0400 296 892