



**Olympic Avenue Kindergarten
April 2010 Newsletter
Issue 2 2010**





PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Key contacts

Office

9583 6166
28 Olympic Ave
Cheltenham, 3192

Teachers

3 y.o-Teachers
Ronnie & Tina

4 y.o – Teachers
Stephanie &
Margaret

Committee

President

Jane Kippax
9515 5905
0423 771 273
janeandmark@kippae.org

Vice President

Christian Anderson
9515 4056
0408 021 011
cmanders1@optusnet.com.au

Angela Reader
9584 2579
info@cheltenhamspreech.com.au

Well, things certainly haven't been standing still over the past few weeks! We successfully submitted an application for funding for the Stage 1 DEECD grant and hope to hear whether we have been successful towards the end of the month. In the end, our application was for \$86,500. If successful, this will enable us to purchase a new swing set, blinds around the sandpit (including a shade sail and PVC blinds to cut out some of the wind), new educational toys, puzzles and games and toilets for our new building (assuming we are successful in our second bid).

At the time of writing, we are busy preparing our Stage 2 Application for a new building. Council have told us that we have been classified as a "Category D" kindergarten by the Allen Consulting Group, who were commissioned by Bayside Council to undertake a planning exercise in the municipality. This is good news as it means we need the maximum support in order to meet the requirements of universal access to 15 hours of kinder by 2013 (and are therefore more likely to get the funding!).

We are meeting some architects to come up with an initial "scheme" or concept drawing. From this a quantity surveyor can be asked to come up with a fully costed solution. We have been consulting various parties about our project: Bayside City Council, Bayside Special Development School, Beaumaris North Primary School and Cheltenham Primary School, as well as the consultant who is helping us with our application. Susie (our Treasurer) has written a letter requesting funding from the Rotary Club in Cheltenham to make a co-contribution for items of educational toys, games and books. Angela (our co-Vice President) has worked on staffing estimates, session times and costing if the new play room is built.

Thank you so much to those who have offered help with Stage 2 – anything that can help keep the costs down for our community kindergarten are really appreciated! If anybody else has any contacts or expertise to offer then we'd be really keen to hear from you!

If we are successful in our application we will be looking for help with project managing the building works – if anybody has any experience in this area and would like to get involved, please let me know as soon as possible!

Lastly, the kinder held an Open Day on the morning of Sat 17 April. Staff and volunteers from the Committee were on hand to welcome prospective new families and answer their questions.

We also had a few past families attend which was great to hear them reminiscing about our kinder !

Until next time
Jane Kippax
President

YELLOW AND ORANGE GROUP REPORT

Photo Board



Story time thanks to Librarian Claire



Our Easter Bunny Experience



Kinder profile
"Sienna"
Orange Group

Sienna: I like to play with Ronnie and Tina

Stephanie's news of her retirement from OAK came as a surprise to many families. However, I'm sure we are all supportive of her decision after many years of dedicated teaching and we understand her desire to help her growing family.

We have been a close staff over the years and have supported each other with both professional and personal issues. I'm sure we will continue to be in contact with Stephanie in the future but we will certainly miss her in many ways, including her ability to keep everything 'totally organised'! Our best wishes for a fulfilling retirement, Stephanie.

We are looking forward to Angela's talk about the acquisition of children's speech and language skills on Monday 17th May. Angela's presentation was very informative last year and I am looking forward to hearing her speak again. After all the OAK parents have given their RSVP's perhaps we could extend the invitation to friends of parents within the community if we have available spaces.

I think our Open Day on Saturday 17th April went well. Most parents that I spoke to were very impressed with the outdoor areas. This time I tried to speak more about parent involvement with the program, with examples like planting bulbs with the children or speaking on a topic of interest at mat time. Our new curriculum framework encourages this which I elaborated on. Most parents were also interested in the program, individual goals and the program flow.

Finally I spoke about the difference between the 'emergent curriculum' and 'intentional teaching'. I think they were able to absorb it all in the few minutes I had with each family! Autumn has been our main focus in the program lately. We are still waiting for huge bags of leaves to create our Autumn forest with. This is always a great sensory experience for the children. In addition we have been making opportunities for the children to practise their gross motor skills. Obstacle courses that encourage the children to hop, jump, run, balance and climb have been set up within each session.

We are looking forward to helping the children make gifts for their Mothers for 'Mother's Day'. We hope it is a special day for all Mums!

Till next month,
Ronnie and Tina

RED AND BLUE GROUP REPORT

Photo Board



Our Easter Families !



Experiential Play

The children and parents are pleased to be back at Kinder. The children enthusiastically told us about their holidays. Some children were away and we pointed out where they had been on a map of Australia. This led to much discussion about the people, animals, plants, flags etc of Australia. The children made boomerangs, didgeridoos, koala masks, and did a group activity as well as a threading activity. Earthy colours were used with an explanation about how the Aboriginal people made paints from crushing rocks. Stories about Australia and music sessions exploring relevant songs, dances and rhythms extended the children's interests. The children made a cafe in the home corner complete with chef's hats, menus and food. They took turns to serve, take orders and cook!.

They also enjoyed feeding the worms in the worm farm and helping to put their "juice on the veggies and bulbs.

We had a great visit from Murrindindi on 22 April, who told the children about the Aboriginal culture.

We borrowed a swivel chair from Yooralla to save our backs when the children are working at the tables. We will have to return it at the end of the year, but perhaps if it works well, we could buy one?

We had about \$560.00 to spend from commission from the parent catalogues from last year. Ronnie and I have ordered the toys and these should be here soon.

Thank you
Stephanie



EYE EXAMS

3 & 4 Year Olds

We are pleased that Lawrie Jacobson, optometrist, from Dingley Eye Centre Children's Clinic will be coming to the kindergarten to conduct group vision screenings.

The main goal of vision screening, is to identify children who have or are at risk to develop amblyopia (lazy eyes) which can lead to permanent visual impairment unless treated in early childhood.

Other problems Lawrie will look for include eye turns, colour blindness, eye coordination problems and refractive errors such as myopia (short sightedness) , hyperopia (long sightedness) and astigmatism.

Vision screening is an efficient and cost effective method to identify children with visual impairment or eye conditions that are likely to lead to visual impairment so that a referral can be made to an appropriate eye care professional for further evaluation and treatment.

Each screen will take 5 - 7 minutes, there will be no charge and the assessment is completely non-invasive (eye drops are not used)

Permission and background history slips will be distributed next week and replies are to be returned by 10 May. The vision screening will take place towards the end of May.

Newsletter Contribution for Social Committee APRIL 2010

Your Social Committee

If you have ideas for a social event or would like to give us feedback on an event these are the representatives that you can contact.

Social Co-ordinator – Annie Thomas (Mum of Holly Bennett in Orange) Mobile 0409 063 543

Blue Group Rep- Jacinta Jones (Mum of Rachel) Mobile – 0400 200 984

Red group reps – Kristen De Forest (Mum of Blake) Mobile – 0421 484 795

Tricia Moloney (Mum of Darcy Burton) Mobile – 0419 107 953

Orange Group Rep – Janeece Heweston (Mum of Blade) Mobile – 0411 822 755

Casie Samantazis (Mum of Allie and Mia) Mobile 0421 915 000

What's been happening?

Parties in the park

In March the children enjoyed their group *Parties in the Park*. They arrived in the park with their personally created group coloured crowns, badges or necklaces made in OAK session time with Stephanie or Ronnie. They enjoyed fairy bread and playing together in the park while the Parents chatted and got to know one another.



Easter Raffle

The Easter Raffle was hotly contested this year for first, second and third prize hampers consisting of Cadbury's chocolates and Phoenix Trading family organisers and jotter pads along with a prize for the most tickets sold. A total of 83 raffle books were sold totalling 830 tickets being in the draw. The first prize winner was Angela Reader, Mum of buddy in Red Group, Second prize winner was Jeff Maxwell, Grandpa of Abbey and Amelia Purton in Blue and Orange group respectively and third prize winner was Tania Purton, Mum of Abbey and Amelia Purton in Blue and Orange group. The prize for most tickets sold was won by the Purton family for selling a whopping 16 books (160 tickets!!) Well done on an amazing effort and congratulations to all winners. The raffle has contributed \$340 towards our target of installing shade and all weather blinds around the sandpit area this year.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	VENUE
Monday 1 st May	7.00pm	Mother's Day Dinner 3 & 4 yr old Mums	Vincent's Café – Black Rock
Monday 17 th May	7.30pm	Speech and Language	
Monday 3 rd June	During Class	Bayside Library Story time Emotions & Feelings 4 year olds	Olympic Kinder
Tuesday 5 th June	During Class	Bayside Library Story time Emotions & Feelings 4 year olds	Olympic Kinder
Monday 7 th June	12.30 – 3.30pm 6pm-8pm	Parent Teach Interviews 3 year olds	Olympic Kinder
Wednesday 9 th June	4.30pm – 6pm 7.00pm - 8.30pm	Parent Teach Interviews 3 year olds	Olympic Kinder
w/c Monday 14 th June	TBC	Parent Teach Interviews 4 year olds	Olympic Kinder
Friday 18 th June	7pm – 9pm	Stephanie's Retirement party. Parent welcome.	Olympic Kinder

Whats' Coming up?

Mother's Day Dinner

We are having a dinner to spoil all kinder Mums at Vincent's on Beach Rd, Beaumaris on Saturday 1st May ...come along and meet the other Mums to have a chat. Contact Janeece Heweston for more info on mobile) 0411 822 755 or home) 95154285.

Stephanie's Retirement

We will sadly farewell Stephanie on her way to retirement on **Saturday 19th June at 7pm** at the kinder. All current and past parents are invited to come along for drinks and nibbles to wish her well in her retirement. RSVP's are required for catering purposes by **Friday 4th June**. If you are still in contact with parents who have moved on from the kinder please let them know that they are invited to this event. For more info or to reply please contact Annie Thomas 9585 3577 or mobile 0409 063 543.

Major Social event

The major social event which raises funds for our chosen purpose each year will be held on **Saturday 28th August at the Cheltenham Golf Club**. This year we are raising funds to install blinds around the sandpit for protection from the sun in Summer and the wind in winter. Please put the date in your diary and plan to come along it will be a great night out. More details will be advised later.

NEWS/NOTICE BOARD

A reminder to all Parents:

Now that the weather has changed and the days are much colder please remember to **pack a coat and warm hat** for your child every session.

Also, if your child has medications kept at Kindergarten for asthma, allergies or similar please **notify staff if there are any changes to these** that staff should be aware of so we can update our records.



Hire the Kinder for your Child's Party

HIRE FEE JUST \$60.
PLUS BOND \$90.

- Full use of the outside play area including sand pit
- Full use of the kitchen and amenities

Download the booking form at
www.olympicavenuekinder.com.au

Please note: the Kinder is not hired out during School Holidays or on Working Bee weekends.

Our kinder aims to be NUT FREE. Please refrain from bringing any food which may contain traces.

Supervision of Children

Please ensure the front gate is closed once entering and leaving premises. Please also avoid lingering around the gate as we all know those young toddlers who want to be escape artists !

4 Year Old Kinder Enrolments

3 year olds....don't forget to enroll for 4 year old Kinder !

2011 Preps

Don't forget all local schools are now advertising for 2011.

Banking Details for School Fees

EFT is the preferred method of payment:

BSB: 704 191

Account no: 155886

Account name: Olympic Avenue Kindergarten

Parking

Please be mindful of our residents and refrain from parking over driveways.

Washing Instructions: Kinder Paint

Soak garment. Wash in warm water or wonder soap. Stain removers not recommended.

School Attire

As much as our teachers ensure the utmost care in preserving the children's clothes, sometimes this is unavoidable. Kinder appropriate clothing should be considered.

Autumn Leaves

Keep saving those garbage bags of dried leaves. The kinder's garden needs them !



2010 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Community Involvement is very important for us so please feel free at anytime to contact any of our members to discuss/comment/provide ideas of how we can ensure our Kinder continues to offer everyone the best Kinder experience possible.

POSITION	MEMBERS NAME	CONTACT DETAILS
PRESIDENT	Jane Kippax	janeandmark@kippae.org
VICE PRESIDENT	Christian Anderson Angela Reader	cmanders1@optusnet.com.au info@cheltenhamspeech.com.au
TREASURER	Susie Pitara	susie.pitara@au.pwc.com
SECRETARY	Tania Purton	maxwellsmart@optusnet.com.au
SOCIAL CORDINATOR	Annie Thomas	emailannie@optusnet.com.au
SOCIAL COMMITTEE	Orange - Janeece Hewston	janeececowland@optusnet.com.au
	Yellow - TBA	
	Red - Kristen De Forest	kwoolacott@hotmail.com
	Blue - Jacinta Jones	Jacinta.jones@bigpond.com
MAINTENANCE & WORKING BEE CO-ORDINATOR	Sean Roache	Roache_4@hotmail.com
COMMUNICATIONS	Melanie Knox	melanieknox@hotmail.com
SUPPLIES	Jen Lee	tjlee5@optusnet.com.au
GARDEN	Megan Hall	meganhall@lycos.com



Speech, Language and Literacy Development Talk



Guest Speaker
Angela Reader, Speech Pathologist

Following a highly informative and well received presentation last year, Angela Reader, Speech Pathologist (Buddy's Mum from Red Group and Vice-President) will again be presenting her talk on "Speech, Language and Literacy Development in the Pre-schooler".

This not-to-be-missed presentation will cover:

- Guidelines for children's speech sound development - what is typical and atypical;
- How caregivers can help children develop their language (eg. Aiding comprehension, building vocabulary, etc.) What expectations should be in terms of their language development;
- Stuttering - when it starts and what causes it;
- Play skills - how these are crucial for language development; and
- Literacy skills - what are the building blocks to eventual success in reading and spelling.

Date: Monday, 17 May 2010

Time: 7:30pm

Please RSVP via reply list in the kinder foyer.

Did you know....our esteemed guest also attended Olympic Avenue Kinder in 1980...

