

# NEWSLETTER TERM 3

[www.beaconsfieldkinder.com.au](http://www.beaconsfieldkinder.com.au)

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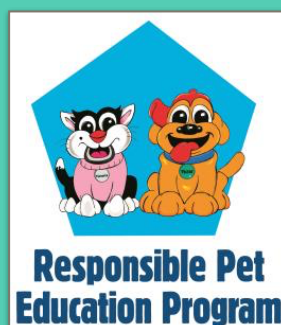


## Father's Day Celebrations

During the final weeks of August our groups celebrated Father's Day with our kindergarten community. The children prepared a range of gifts and cards during kindergarten sessions and invited Dads and special family members to Father's Night's where they participated in activities alongside one another. The countdown to Father's Nights started early among the groups as the children eagerly anticipated their Dads and special family members sharing this experience with them. The evenings were very well attended across both campuses and gave many working families the opportunity to join in after regular kindergarten and work hours. Beaconsfield Kindergarten recognises that families are the primary influence on children's learning and development. Experiences such as Father's Nights support family relationships, and also strengthen the link between home and kindergarten.

## Responsible Pet Program

During August the Kindergarten participated in an interactive and informative presentation by the Responsible Pet program. This is a government funded program aimed at supporting young children and their families learning to live safely with domestic animals, particularly dogs.



Throughout the program the children learnt about safe ways to respond when they meet a dog out in public, with or without an owner.

If the dog is with an owner the children were shown how to :

- Ask the owner "may I please pat your dog?"
- If the owner says "ok" walk slowly to the dog with fist held out to the dogs nose
- If the dog sniffs to say "ok" the child may pat the dog along its back

REMEMBER -No owner = No lead =No touch

The children have continued to explore these concepts at kinder since the visit, they have been singing the "safe dogs" song and participating in role plays about what they would do if they were

approached by a dog. This has been a great way to reinforce all the important information Lisa talked about in a safe play based environment.



## Working Bee

Both the **O'neil Rd** and **Woods St** Centres will be holding a Working Bee on **SATURDAY 20th OCTOBER 9am-11am**, to complete gardening and Maintenance tasks. Light Refreshments provided for those in attendance.



## Kinder Readiness Program

Enrolments for our 2019 Kinder Readiness Program are now open. This program is for children turning 4 between January and April who will not be attending school the following year. Children who attend our Kinder Readiness Program generally complete 4yo kindergarten the following year and then begin school in the year they turn 6.

## CARDINIA MOBILE LIBRARY

We encourage families to take the opportunity to access the wide variety of resources available on the Cardinia Mobile Library located at O'Neil Road Kindergarten each Wednesday 12 midday - 7pm. Membership is free and in addition to borrowing books there is so much available for the whole family including children's story time sessions, school holiday activities, online books and games, book clubs, reading programs and lots more.

The Mobile Library is also a great source of information about services and facilities available to families throughout the Cardinia Shire.



## Vision Screening

We are very grateful to **Berwick Family Eye Care** for undertaking Vision Screening for all children enrolled at our kindergarten. This is provided as a Community Service at no cost to our families, and has been undertaken for several years since optometrist, Sam Bushby, had children attending our kindergarten. A big **THANKYOU** to Sonia Gaulke and Sam Bushby for generously giving their time and expertise.

## Beaconsfield Community Excursions

Recently, children in Aquamarine and Emerald groups participated in a local community excursion to the Beaconsfield Post Office and Woolies Supermarket. This excursion was planned to support learning at kindergarten related to writing letters for Grandparents and Special Friend's Day and also to continue our learning about healthy lifestyles. At the post office, the children were able to buy their own stamps and put them on their letters before posting them in the letter box! The children were also able to view the post office boxes from the front and back to see how the mail is sorted. They saw where the parcels arrive and how they are scanned and sorted as well.

Our Kinder groups were the first to participate in the Woolies Fresh Food Tour for our local Beaconsfield Store. The staff provided green bags for all the children with fruit, water, crayons and an activity book. On the day the children were able to see the fresh produce, as well as the cool room, bakery and storeroom. The team at Woolies was very grateful for our support of their new program and we have been able to provide feedback and support to assist them in developing this program further. Woolies have committed to providing fresh fruit and vegetables to our service on a regular basis to support our cooking program and shared snack times.



## Swing Frame

A new timber swing frame has been installed at O'Neil Road Kindergarten, featuring four swing sections. The children's interest in the swings has peaked and they have already put it to good use with trapeze swings and ladders being introduced for the first time this year.



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## Professional Development

On Saturday, 11th August, educators from both campuses met at Woods St kinder to undertake digital learning modules through the ECA Learning Hub as a group. Staff are able to access the modules online at kindergarten or from home at their convenience throughout the year. New modules are realised regularly and the address a broad range of topics relevant to early childhood services.

Rebecca Edhouse attended a Professional Development seminar regarding the teaching of Braille to children in Early Childhood and Junior Primary School. The workshop was held at the Statewide Vision Resource Centre. Rebecca had the opportunity to view footage of the program in progress and participate in meetings about funding, resources, techniques and expectations on EC and Primary Teachers with regard to teaching Braille.

Several staff have attended workshops in both Dandenong and Pakenham focusing on Indigenous Culture and how we can support children's learning about Australia's First people within Early Childhood services and programs. Information and resources gathered at these sessions have supported educators to implement a range of experiences such as Acknowledgement of Country, music, stories and art into the children's educational programs.

## Trivia Night

On Saturday, 18th of August, Beaconsfield Kindergarten held their 2018 Trivia Night. So much hard work went into organising the event and we are very thankful to everyone involved. The night was a huge success with lots of laughs and fun had by all. We are very happy to announce we raised over \$6200 for our Kindergarten.

Thankyou to all our wonderful families who came along and also a huge shout out to all the amazing families and businesses who generously donated.



## Sun Protection Policy

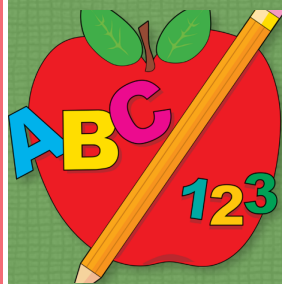
According to our centres Sun Protection Policy children are required to wear a sunhat and sunscreen at all times whenever the **UV level is 3 or higher**. We recommend children wear a legionnaire or bucket style hat to maximise protection of the ears, eyes and nose. We also encourage families to dress children in loose fitting clothing with capped sleeves - singlet tops and shoe string straps on clothing do not provide adequate sun protection. Families are asked to apply sunscreen prior to the children attending sessions.



## Grow Your Own Garden

Our Raised garden beds established earlier this year, with April from Bunnings Pakenham store, now feature a variety of vegetables almost ready for harvesting. The children have carefully maintained and observed the range of vegetables growing, including cabbage, lettuce, cucumber, zucchini, broccoli and more. Our potted herbs have also grown

## School Transition



Educators are beginning to communicate with local schools regarding children making the transition to school next year.

Beaconsfield Primary School have offered each kindergarten group the opportunity to participate in reciprocal visits between Prep and kindergarten students, to participate in classroom activities and gain an insight into the school environment. These visits have been embraced by the children and families in previous years and are provided for all children as a School Community visit rather than a specific orientation experience for children enrolled at that specific school.

Educators have received information from the Department of Education regarding the new online Transition Statement format. Online training modules have been made available for educators to assist them in learning how to complete and share the statement with families and schools. All teachers will be undertaking this process along with families during Term 4.



## Public Holiday Reminder

Just a reminder Tuesday 6th November is Melbourne Cup Public Holiday.