

Magpie Mail

Sorrento Preschool Newsletter



Illustration credit: @shaneystone

Director Update

Welcome to our first edition of Magpie Mail! A big thankyou to Emma Burton-Royce for her work on this and the development of a new logo for our Kinder! We called on the talents of our resident artist, illustrator and teacher, Shaney, to create new group and centre logos that represent our love of bush and beach kinder.

We have 13 wonderful teachers and educators at our service, all hold Early Childhood qualifications and love their role in your child's life! Staff undertake regular training and team building and are passionate about offering the best experience we can! We also regularly host teaching students to support them in their training. All groups will be beginning The Resilience Project this term. The children will be learning about Gratitude, Empathy and Mindfulness. All families will receive a journal so you can share in the journey, the journal contains pages to complete at home, and some to do at kinder.

Thankyou for supporting our fundraising efforts, your support enables us to purchase resources for the children to use at kinder. We hope you enjoy your picture plates and tea towels as treasured memories of kinder. We have been able to purchase new swings, wooden climbing boards, puzzles, books, manipulative materials, furniture and picnic mats! It was wonderful to see so many families at our Welcome BBQ's and VIP mornings and afternoons, we love sharing our service with you all!

Stay safe over the school holidays and we look forward to your return! Nicki.
P.S Remember our hens enjoy vegetable scraps, and we sell their eggs for \$3 for half a dozen!



Nicki Caddy

Director &
Teacher 4yo Red
Kangaroos



Our wonderful team!



theresilienceproject.com.au/early-years/



Our happy hens :)

Dates For Your Calendar

June

Mon 13 June - Kinder Closed
Fri 24 June - End of Term

July

Mon 11 July - Term 3 Begins
Sat 23 July - Welcome to Country &
Family BBQ (More details soon)

Kinder Photos

Mon 18 July - Yellow Koalas
Tue 19 July - Orange Emus (Red 3yo)
Wed 20 July - Red Kangaroos (4yo)
Thu 21 July - Blue Wombats
Fri 22 July - Green Possums & Purple Platypuses

Issue 1 June 2022

Kinder Reminders!

Enrolments for 2023 - In line with funding for 3 year old kinder, next year we will be offering a choice of 10 or 15 hours for our 3 year old groups. We will also be reducing our 4 year old groups to 2 groups. Timetables are below, if you haven't done your enrolment for 3 or 4 year old kinder next year, they close soon and are filling up fast! Kindergarten - Mornington Peninsula Shire (mornpen.vic.gov.au)

Starlight Room - Three Year Olds

Group One - 15 hours

Group Two - 10 hours

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9-2	9-2	9-2	9-2	9-2

Rainbow Room - Four Year Olds Both Groups 15 hours

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.30-3	8.30-3	8.30-1.30	8.30-12	8.30-1.30
			12.30-4	

Policies, Procedures and our Quality Improvement Plan - Our service is run by a voluntary Committee of Management. Together with the staff, policies and procedures are developed to support the programs we run. We also have a Quality Improvement Plan to ensure we are always looking to exceed in our practice. These documents are available for you to peruse and also to contribute to. Most recently we worked to update our service Philosophy - please take the time to read it next time you are in the foyer, and add any comments you wish to.

Here is a link to complete our parent survey - we greatly appreciate your honest feedback.

<https://surveys.eqipd.com.au/s3/SorrentoPreschool22>

Front Gate - Please ensure that the front gate is securely closed behind you on arrival and when leaving the kinder. Thank you for helping to keep everyone safe.

Second Hand Uniforms - Now that we have a fabulous new logo, we have some second hand uniforms we will be selling at our Welcome to Country celebration on July 23rd.

Fundraising News / Announcements

Saturday 23 July - Welcome to Country & Kinder Families BBQ

As mentioned on Storypark, the kinder are delighted to announce that Jaeden Williams, a proud Yalukit William man of the Boonwurrung, and Founder and Director of Biik Bundjil, will conduct this ceremony for us. More information will be shared soon but feedback from families has suggested it will likely be in the afternoon and we will be providing a BBQ. Stay tuned for more details!

<https://biikbundjil.com/about>

Issue 1 June 2022

Three-Year Old Program



Kate Gaul
Teacher,
3yo Groups

We are learning to/focus area: recognise our written name and developing our fine motor skills



Yellow Koalas, Purple Platypuses & Orange Emus

We are continuing to support our three year old groups in their ability to separate positively from parents and increase their confidence and participation in the kinder environment.

One of our intentional teaching focus areas this term is children beginning to develop name recognition.

We will also be exploring seasonal changes in the environment and providing opportunities to develop fine motor skills to assist with mature pencil grasps and cutting with scissors.

Highlights of the term so far...

- * Mother's and VIP afternoon teas
- * Kinder at the Park
- * Wear it Yellow days - raising \$80 across both Yellow and Purple Groups.
- * Storytelling using props and performing in front of peers



Kinder at the Park!



Yellow Koalas



Yellow Koalas

Four-Year Old Program



Red Kangaroos

We love being outside, bugs, messy play, dancing, singing, and the Bunurong people! As we enter Reconciliation week the children's interest in the traditional owners of the land is paired with our focus on caring for one another. We are looking at how it must have felt to have your home taken away, and what we can do to show we care. We have created a Vet in the home corner space for the children to care for native animals in imaginative play and build on knowledge about bones that was ignited from our Dentist visit last week.

This term we introduce "star of the week" "helper for a day" and our take home friend "Traveller Ted" as well as family pages to create a families book and explore all different types of families in the human and animal world. Our VIP day and finding a baby snake at bush kinder have drawn out this interest in families. These experiences build the children's confidence sharing their experiences and lives with their group, and are an opportunity to speak to a group.

A visit from Simon the Bee Man was a perfect fit for this insect inspired group! The children are learning about bees and other insects through stories, imaginative play and observational drawing. Bush & Beach Kinder continues to be a weekly highlight. The children are seeking out puddles and mud at every opportunity! Current interest in small creatures has led to using scavenger hunt checklists and taking a closer look with binoculars and magnifiers. Alongside finding these creatures comes learning about habitats, needs of different creatures, how we impact upon them and more specific knowledge about the differences between insects, spiders, annelids, and arthropods. We continue to observe the changes of the Waring Seasons and continue to build tree climbing skills.

Friendship is an important concept as we look at using kind words and actions with one another. We will also be doing some simple skill screening, and will continue to practice recognising and writing our names. The children continue to tell us they want to paint, draw, sing, dance, play outside and use playdough - so we will program accordingly!



Nicki Caddy

Director &
Teacher 4yo Red
Kangaroos

We are
learning
to/focus
area: scissor
cutting skills
and learning
about
friendships,
families and
our emotions.



Sharing circles!



Scavenger Hunts!



Lots of tree climbing!

Four-Year Old Program



Blue Wombats

This term we are focusing on cultural identity within our group. We are exploring flags and the world map and also inviting families to come and share their culture with us through cooking experiences, stories, song and dance. We have started a 'Parent Helper' roster for home and bush kinder. France: cooking Tarte Aux Pommes, flag, costume and story telling. Thai: cooking fried wontons, flags and traditional Thai music. The children were very engaged and enjoyed both experiences.

The children have been interested in role playing in the vet/animal rescue home corner. They have role played caring for sick and injured animals, children have brought in their own soft toys to attend a visit to the vet.

We celebrated Mother's Day with the children making gifts - clay pinch pots, a card and a bouquet of lavender. Parents were also invited to kinder for an afternoon tea of scones and jam and for the children to show and share activities with their parents. The Peninsula Community Health dentist visit was very beneficial for the children. They explained the importance of looking after our teeth and how to look after your teeth. The children were very engaged in this visit.

Bush & Beach Kinder - We have been exploring Point Nepean, bug investigation and outdoor relaxation by lying down and using our senses to listen to the sounds of nature, the smells etc. We have been exploring autumn and autumn leaves by talking about seasons and drawing, painting leaves and threading with leaves.



Suzie Carnie

Teacher 4yo Blue Wombats

We are learning to/focus area: strengthening our social skills to develop friendships within our group .



Mother's Day!



Sunny days at Bush Kinder



Thai cooking!

Four-Year Old Program



Green Possums

Green group have loved:

- Playing and learning on Country at bush n' beach kinder (spotting dolphins, tree climbing and beach combing have been highlights)
- Opening our hearts and minds to new ways of being, becoming and belonging - Reconciliation week, Sorry Day, Sea of Hearts, Wearing it yellow to raise money for flags - being brave and making change.
- Our visit from 'Simon the beekeeper' which sparked curiosity and wonder, sending us on an inquiry about bees and other bugs.
- Possum Hush going on adventures as she visits each member of our group at home.
- Sharing afternoon tea and pampering our mums and VIPs at kinder.

And next term we look forward to:

- Working with the Resilience Project - focusing on gratitude, empathy, mindfulness and emotional literacy
- Learning more about native Australian animals and how to care for them in our animal hospital dramatic play area
- Parent helpers visiting and sharing experiences with our group
- Engaging in acting and storytelling experiences (puppet shows, re-enacting popular books)



Stephanie Davey
Teacher, 4yo Green
Possums & RAP
Coordinator

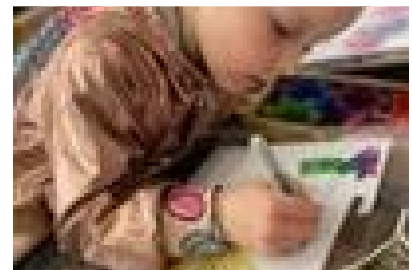
We are learning to/focus area: opening our hearts to different ways of being, becoming and belonging in our community.



Caring for our environment



Storytime at Bush Kinder



Bugs, Bugs, bugs!

Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perspectives



Stephanie Davey
Teacher, 4yo Green
Possums and RAP
Coordinator



Womin Djeka families,

We are very excited to share with you that we will be holding a Welcome to Country here at the Preschool next term. A big thank you to everyone that attended our BBQ welcome fundraiser in term 1, the money raised has supported this event to go ahead.

When: Saturday 23rd July

Time: 2-4pm

Who: Jaeden Williams - a proud Yalukit Willam man of the Boonwurrung. Founder of and Director of Biik Bundjil, a Boonwurrung educational organisation.

We invite all families to join us for our Welcome to Country celebration. Jaeden will share a smoking ceremony and performance with everyone, connecting us all to country. He will talk, connect and share with us through Boonwurrung history, language and culture.

In more exciting news, our 'wear it yellow day' fundraiser enabled us to purchase specific outdoor Aboriginal, Torres Strait Island and Australian flags. These have arrived and will be displayed on our fences at the front of the preschool at the beginning of term 3. This is our public commitment towards reconciliation - to be brave and make change.

Issue 1 June 2022

Fundraising year to date total \$2,084.02

Committee Comments

Thank you families! We have had a fabulous start to the year so far and your generous contributions make all the difference to enriching the learning experiences of our wonderful children!

As per Nicki's comments, so far this year through our fundraising initiatives such as Family BBQs, Picture Plates, Tea Towels and our Cake Stall we have been able to raise funds for updates to a range of kinder resources, our new flag poles (coming soon!) and our upcoming Welcome to Country ceremony.

Our Bake Sale this year was a HUGE SUCCESS and we thank all of the wonderful families who donated yummy baked goods. There were some spectacular cakes, cookies, cupcakes and freshly baked scones which went down a treat - Thanks Kate!! Special thanks to our volunteers who braved a very cold morning to spruik the great work of the kinder! As many of you know, we SOLD OUT and we understand many cakes made their way to fabulous dinner parties and family get-togethers that evening - thanks again to everyone involved :)

PLEASE READ: There are still many Kinder Tea Towels available (all groups)! Please see any of the kinder staff or contact Sophia (Fundraising). Great gift for grandparents :)

Please keep your eye on Storypark for further updates about the upcoming Welcome to Country Family BBQ Celebrations - Saturday 23 July (afternoon). We hope you can join us!



Sophia, Assunta & Nikki!



Selling out!



Some yummy treats!

Calendar Dates

July

Sat 23 July

Welcome to Country Family BBQ

August

TBA!

September

Term 2 Ends Fri 16 September

Issue 1 June 2022

Kinder Teaching Staff 2022

Parents are encouraged to chat to Teaching staff at the end of Kinder sessions or make contact via email sorrento.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au or via (03) 5984 1048. We welcome your feedback and contributions to our Kinder.

Director & Teacher 4yo/3yo Red Kangaroos	Nicki Caddy
Teacher 3yo Yellow Koalas, Orange Emus & Purple Platypuses	Kate Gaul
Teacher 4yo Blue Wombats	Suzie Carnie
Teacher 4yo Green Possums & Reconciliation Action Plan [RAP] Coordinator	Stephanie Davey



Follow us on Instagram
@sorrentopreschoolvic

Kinder Committee 2022

Kinder President Comments

Although a short term, it's been a very busy one already! All groups enjoyed their special days sharing their kinder with family and friends in May.

We are still mindful of the current COVID epidemic and the flu season and continue to closely monitor the health and wellbeing of children and staff.

We have been busy getting some exciting new additions to the Sorrento preschool, including the installation of our new basketball ring and a beautiful new website soon to be launched. Our wonderful community of families, as well as our fundraising committee are the reason we can make these fantastic improvements. Thanks to all who have supported so far, your support means everything to us.

To make sure you're up to date with what's happening at the preschool and with your child, please ensure you have downloaded Storypark. This is our communication platform for updates on your child's learning and other news and fundraising events coming up. If you need any help getting this up and running, please reach out to your child's educator.

Thanks again for everyone's support, we look forward to the second half of the year.

Nikki Johnson

Issue 1 June 2022

Kinder Committee 2022

President	Nikki Johnson
Vice President	Assunta Galbraith
Secretary	Ebonie Schwarze
Treasurer / Grants	Emma Burton-Royce
Fundraising	Sophia Wickenden
Purchasing	Tess McMahon
Enrolment	Elice McPhie
Maintenance	Stuart McPhie
Communications (Newsletter)	Alicia Gerner

Useful Parent Resources

Victorian Early Years Learning Framework [EYLF]

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/childhood/providers/edcare/veyldframework.pdf>

Raising Children Network 'Preschool: How it works'

<https://raisingchildren.net.au/preschoolers/play-learning/preschool/preschool-how-it-works>

Raising Children Network 'Reading and storytelling with babies and children'

<https://raisingchildren.net.au/babies/play-learning/literacy-reading-stories/reading-storytelling>

Victorian Government Play based learning

<https://www.vic.gov.au/play-based-learning-preschoolers>

Mornington Shire - Kindergarten Information

<https://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Community-Services/Children-Family/Kindergarten>