

# Magpie Mail

## Sorrento Preschool Newsletter



Illustration credit: @shaneystone

### Director update

Welcome to Sorrento Preschool in 2023! We trust you will have a wonderful year as your children learn and grow in our beautiful service. It has been lovely to see the children adjusting to new routines and developing rapport with their teachers. Kinder can be an emotional time for both children and families and we are here to support you. Your feedback and questions are always welcome - please approach your child's teacher, myself or any of our Committee officers (photos are in the foyer) if you have anything to share or discuss.

We commenced the year with all staff completing their First Aid training as well as an important session on the Child Safety program Kids Roar <https://www.roaraustralia.edu.au/kids-roar/>. Further information about this program has been sent out via Storypark and we encourage parents to take the time to review this support material. Our commitment to Child Safety is displayed in our front entrance. If there are any Parent Education topics or sessions we can organise for you please let us know.

We will communicate with parents via Storypark on a regular basis as well as this newsletter and, we will be updating our Parents Noticeboard in the front entrance foyer. Often we will have Early Childhood students completing placements from various institutions throughout the year working with the children and their details will be displayed in the foyer. Please take the time to review this information to keep yourselves up to date.

Fundraising will also request sign up of volunteers for a range of social and fundraising events throughout the year and your support and contribution is greatly appreciated. Whilst Kinder is "free" this year the funding we opted into doesn't cover running costs. Please take note of our fundraising efforts as we want to maintain the national Early Years Exceeding Standard of service we offer you and your child!

We look forward to a great year with you! Nicki P.S Come and visit us on Saturday 11 March at the Bake Sale!



**Nicki Caddy**

Director &  
Teacher 3yo  
Purple Platypus



**Sorrento Preschool** 'Connected, we learn and grow'

Address: 20 Darling Road, Sorrento 3943 – Phone: (03) 5984 1048 - Email: [sorrento.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au](mailto:sorrento.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au)

Web: [www.sorrentopreschool.kindergarten.vic.gov.au](http://www.sorrentopreschool.kindergarten.vic.gov.au) Instagram: @Sorrentopreschoolvic

Sorrento Preschool respectfully acknowledge the Bunurong and Boon Wurrung people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we live and learn. We value their knowledge and culture which is reflected and celebrated in our practice.



## Dates For Your Calendar

### March

**Sat 11 March** - IGA Bake Sale, Blairgowrie

**Mon 13 March** - Kinder Closed

**Thu 16 March** - Close the Gap Day

**Sat 25 March** - Sorrento Primary School & St Joey's School Sorrento Community Fete

**Wed 29 March** - Bush Kinder Information Night

### April

**Tues 4 April** - Rainbow Family Picnic 3YO Purple Platypus

**Thur 6 April** - Rainbow Family Picnic 3YO Yellow Koalas & Term 1 Ends

**Mon 24 April** - Term 2 Commences

**Tue 25 April** - Kinder Closed ANZAC Day

### May

**Sat 6 May** - Kinder Open Day and Welcome to Country Smoking Ceremony

### June

**Mon 5 June** - Kinder photos 3YO Yellow Koalas

**Tues 6 June** - Maternal Child Health visit 3YO Purple Platypus

**Wed 7 June** - Maternal Child Health visit 3YO Yellow Koalas

**Wed 7 June** - Kinder photos 4YO Blue Wombats

**Fri 16 June** - Kinder Photos 4YO Green Possums & 3YO Purple Platypus

**Thurs 22 June** - Dental check for 4YO groups

## Kinder Reminders!

**Close the Gap Day Thursday 16 March** - Close the Gap Day is Australia's largest ever campaign to improve the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. The day helps raise awareness about, and advocate for health equality of all First Nations Peoples and educate the public about the health issues and barriers to their wellbeing. Children attending Kinder on this day are encouraged to come dressed in the colours of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags and bring along a gold coin donation, with funds going to a local First Nations Peoples organisation.

**Kinder Vacancies** - We currently have vacancies in both our 3yo and 4yo groups. Please direct any queries to Nicki at the Kinder for more information or to arrange a tour for prospective families.

**Enrolments for 2024** - Kinder enrolments for 2024 are now open. All families that wish to register their child for three or four year old kindergarten next year must apply through the Mornington Peninsula Shire central registration portal **before July 16, 2023**. Visit [www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/kindergarten](http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/kindergarten) to complete an online registration form.

**Illness** - Thank You to those of you keeping children with coughs and colds home. We do have children in the service whose immunity is compromised. Whilst a runny nose may not be a big deal to a healthy child, for these children it is. We will continue to send children home who present with wet coughs, temperatures, or nasal discharge. We appreciate your understanding of this important safety measure.

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**Immunisations** - Please remember to keep your child's immunisations up to date and send in updated statements when you do so. We are required to ensure all children are fully immunised, so take regular audits of the children's immunisation status.

**Parent Helpers** - Many of the groups have displayed a schedule out the front of their rooms for Parent Helpers at upcoming sessions. Please ensure you have applied and provided evidence of a Working with Children Check (Volunteer) in order to be eligible to attend. We will be conducting audits of these over the coming weeks.

<https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/individuals/applicants/how-to-apply-1>

## Fundraising News

Hello Kinder Families,

Get ready for an incredible year of fundraising and social events at Sorrento Preschool! With your help, we are striving to raise **\$8,000** to support vital programs and resources for our wonderful children and their fabulous teachers.

Volunteer sign up sheets are in the foyer for upcoming events. We encourage families to participate in these events to not only fundraise, but also is a great way to meet and connect with other Kinder families.

### **Saturday 11 March - IGA Blairgowrie Bake Sale, 8:30am-12pm**

Hopefully you have seen our promotional flyer and are busy baking as we speak! Baked goods are accepted in the Kinder staffroom up until 3pm Friday or delivered directly to the bake sale at 7:30am. Spread the word and hopefully we see you there!

### **Saturday 25 March - St Joeys and Sorrento Primary School Fete, 10am-3pm**

The Kinder are delighted to announce that Sorrento Pre-School will host a stall at the Sorrento Primary School and St Joey's School Community Fete. The stall will be selling beautiful musical instruments, children's craft and other activities.

Please keep your eye on Storypark for further updates about the upcoming **Welcome to Country Family BBQ Celebrations** on Saturday 6 May at 2pm and the **Bunnings Sausage Sizzle** in early June.

Stay tuned for more details!

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# Three-Year Old Program



**Nicky Caddy**  
Teacher,  
3yo Group

**We are  
learning  
to/focus  
area:**

Establishing  
routines,  
getting to  
know our  
teachers/  
peers and  
investigating  
colours.



## Purple Platypuses

Many of our little "platypups" are experiencing their first time away from home and it's an emotional time for them and their families, however with predictable routines and some flexible strategies, the children are settling into their group. This term we are focussing on a different colour each week. We incorporate these colours into songs, stories, art and cooking. We have looked at red, yellow, blue and orange so far.

So far the children have enjoyed;

- song dance and lots of music, "Inanay" is a popular song, and "the floor is lava" our popular dance
- outside play is a daily highlight, waterplay, sandplay, bathing babies and cuddling the guinea pig.
- cooking strawberry ice cream, pancakes with lemon and sugar and blueberry muffins

In the coming weeks we are looking forward to;

- baking dog biscuits for the bake sale
- discovering secondary and tertiary colours as we mix the primaries
- celebrating the end of term with a rainbow week picnic for our families



Purple Platypuses group time



Taking care of our pets



Playing with sand





**Kate Gaul**  
Teacher,  
3yo Groups

**We are learning to/focus area:**  
Establishing routines, getting to know our teachers/peers and investigating colours.



## Yellow Koalas

What a wonderful start to the year! Staff have begun the year developing positive relationships with children and families. We are very mindful that for some families this is their child's first experience in an educational and care setting. All children are now building a lovely rapport with staff.

So far the children have enjoyed:

- positive separation from parents/carers,
- putting morning tea and lunch in the trolley, finding a locker,
- locating and using the bathroom, handwashing, tidying up, coming to the mat etc.
- playing name games to help learn our kinder friends' names including our new friend Tilly the Turtle.
- Investigating colours through hunts, collages, cooking, water play, songs and books
- drawing self-portraits in the mirror and working on our pencil skills
- exploring the outdoor environment and engaging in collaborative play with our new friends

In the coming weeks we are looking forward to:

- Rainbow Week and Picnic Week.
- Exploring seasonal change.
- National Close the Gap Day - Dressing in Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander colours.



Reading time



Drawing self portraits



Painting fun

# Four-Year Old Program



## Blue Wombats

What a wonderful start to the year the Blue Wombats have had. Our main aim in Term 1 is developing trusting relationships between educators, children and families and ensuring that all children are comfortable and becoming familiar with their kinder environment and new routine. We will also focus on observing the children during their play to identify their interests, strengths and challenges to best support them in their learning and development.

So far, the children have enjoyed:

- investigating sea creatures and focusing on the story of the Rainbow Fish to support the children with their friendships and model kindness.
- cooking experiences - pancakes with the children for Pancake Tuesday, the children made Wombat shaped butter cookies for our Welcome Picnic and the children prepared a fruit platter using age-appropriate utensils for cutting and arranged the fruit on the platter.
- our Family Welcome Picnic.
- the children have been interested in block construction, basketball, sandpit play and the guinea pigs.

In the coming weeks we are looking forward to:

- Introduction and implementation of Bush n' beach kinder
- Developing friendships
- Exploring the cultures within our group



Suzie Carnie

Teacher 4yo Blue Wombats

We are learning to/focus area:  
Developing trusting relationships with teachers and peers and settling into our kinder program.



Art & Craft



Blue Wombats



Patting the Kinder Pets



## Green Possums

This term it has all been about building a sense of belonging within the group, focusing on building connections with each other. The group have all dived straight into the experiences and activities with enthusiasm and joy.

Green Group have loved:

- investigating all things Pirates - songs, dress ups, yoga, books, creating their own treasure maps and pirate hats.
- focusing on 'The Rainbow Fish' as part of our focus on building friendships and what it means to be kind. Drawing and painting their own interpretations of the rainbow fish whilst reflecting on ways they can show kindness at preschool.
- creating self-portraits for our 'all about me' focus to develop children's identity. Children were invited to look in the mirror and draw what they see, offering themselves as both subject and artist.

And this term we look forward to:

- learning all about what we will be doing at bush kinder - playing and learning on Country at our first bush kinder session.
- taking Possum 'Rosie' home - going on adventures as she visits each member of our group at home as she visits each member of our group at home.
- opening our hearts and minds to new ways of being, becoming and belonging by engaging with our First Nations Peoples culture.



**Stephanie Davey**  
Teacher, 4yo Green  
Possums & RAP  
Coordinator

**We are  
learning  
to/focus  
area:**

Developing  
trusting  
relationships  
with teachers  
and peers and  
settling into  
our kinder  
program.



Drawing self portraits



Creating pirate hats & maps



Our rainbow fish

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## Kinder Committee 2023

A warm welcome to our new and ongoing committee members for 2023 and a big thank you for volunteering your time to support our beautiful kindergarten.

Parents can contact any of the committee by emailing [sorrentopreschoolcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:sorrentopreschoolcommittee@gmail.com).

President	Simon Curtis
Vice President	Claire Kerr
Secretary	Elice McPhie
Treasurer, Sponsorship & Grants	Emma Burton-Royce
Fundraising & Social Events 3yo	Liz Meyer
Fundraising & Social Events 4yo	Andrew Brough
Website & Communications	Tess McMahon
Quality Assurance & Policy Officer	Louise Heinnen
Risk, OH&S (and purchasing)	Danielle Bickedike
Maintenance	Stuart McPhie

## 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>





**KERFERD RD + CONSTITUTION HILL RD | SORRENTO**

Dear Families



Did you know we are part of the **Ritchies Community Benefit Program** which helps us support the operations of our Kindergarten, which is not-for-profit, community-run service.

You can nominate Sorrento Preschool online, instore or easily via the app. Every contribution helps and makes a difference.

Thank you,  
Parent Management Committee



## Ritchies Loyalty

### Join today

The Ritchies Community Benefit Program has been supporting clubs, schools and charities since 1993. Over \$50 million has been distributed to date.

- Nominate your favourite club, school or charity (more than 5000 to choose from).<sup>#</sup>
- Use the app every time you shop and Ritchies will reward a % of your spend to the organisation of your choice.<sup>#</sup>
- Monthly promotions, cheaper prices for you, Ritchies dollars, collect and win, as well as games and lots more fun things to do.<sup>#</sup>
- We will send you weekly specials, and our catalogues are on the app.



Download the  
Ritchies App  
and join today



<sup>#</sup>Terms and conditions apply.  
See [www.ritchies.com.au/ritchiescardterms](http://www.ritchies.com.au/ritchiescardterms)

## Download the App and register in 3 easy steps

- 1** In the Ritchies App, register by clicking on the Sign Up button. Complete the registration.
- 2** A verification email will be sent to the email address you register. Click the link in the email to activate your account.
- 3** Login to your newly created account to select your favourite club, school, or charity from the Community page.



You can also use the Ritchies Loyalty Card. Pick one up in store and link your card to the Ritchies App.

For more information please visit  
[www.ritchies.com.au/loyalty](http://www.ritchies.com.au/loyalty)  
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## Dear Families

We have vacancies in both our **3yo** and **4yo** groups.

Please share with any families who may be considering a local kindergarten for their children.

Families are welcome to contact us for more information or to arrange a tour. They can also check out our **Welcome Video** on our website.



SCAN ME



## Sorrento Preschool

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Instagram @sorrentopreschoolvic



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CENTRE DURING THE WEEK  
STARTING 27TH MARCH**

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# **LITTLE JOEY'S PLAYGROUP SORRENTO**



**Weekly theme based playgroup  
with crafts, stories and songs  
All pre-school children welcome**

**THURSDAY 0915-1045  
ST JOSEPHS SCHOOL HALL, SORRENTO  
ENQUIRIES 59841291**