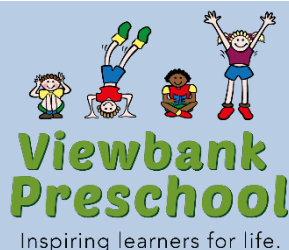


Newsletter TERM 2 – 2021



Corner Lyon Road and Duff Parade, Viewbank, VIC 3084
Phone: 03 9459 2627 **Email:** enquiry@viewbankpreschool.com.au
Website: <http://www.viewbankpreschool.com>

WELCOME BACK TO TERM 2!

Dear Families,

Welcome to Term 2. It's hard to believe we are almost halfway through the year. I wish to thank the hard work of the teaching and administration staff, who have provided their expertise on delivering an outstanding teaching program while making sure the kinder is compliant and that our loved ones are safe. I also wish to thank the parents who have volunteered to be members of the Preschool Committee, as I know everyone has commitments, but your enthusiasm is fantastic. We have completed several events this year such as working bees and lap-a-thon. Please keep an eye out for further events scheduled for Term 2. It is heart-warming see all the families and children enjoying and being part of the Viewbank Preschool Community.

Warm Regards,
Paul Moon
President



DATES TO REMEMBER

RED GROUP

Tuesday 4th May 1.30-2.30 –
Mother's Day Celebration

Wednesday 5th May - Mother's
Day Stall (during the session)

Wednesday 12th May 9.45-10.30-
Water Safety Incursion

Friday 28th May 9.30-10.30 -
Dental Education Incursion

BLUE GROUP

Wednesday 5th May 1.30pm
- Mother's Day Celebration

Thursday 6th May - Mother's Day
Stall (during the session)

Wednesday 12th May 1.30pm -
Water Safety Program

Thursday 27th May 9.30am -Dental
Visit.

Monday 14th June - Public Holiday
(NO KINDER SESSION)

GREEN GROUP

Thursday 6th May (3:30 -4:30pm) -
Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

Tuesday 25th & Thursday 27th
May - Treasure Week

Thursday 10th June - Edendale
Farm Incursion

Thursday 24th June - Last session
of term 2 and Dress-up Day
(theme to be decided)

Red Group



Welcome back to term 2 to all of our Red group families. We are in for a busy term of playing and learning. The children have settled in very well with brave separations from some of our more anxious children.

We had a great end to term 1 with our Lapathon on the last day of term. The children enthusiastically participated in our circuit for 45 minutes. A great way to have fun and promote exercise as a healthy lifestyle choice. Thank you to all red group families who supported this event. We managed to raise \$2100. A special thank you to Billy and Gus for raising the most donations. We were super proud of all the children. The kinder has purchased some beautiful timber picnic tables for the children to use in our out-door spaces. Thanks everyone for your contributions.

Our Plans for Term 2

Our kinder program has at its base “intentional teaching” which is teacher planned experiences and learning. Our program also could take many other directions as we create and support play experiences based on the children’s’ interests at the time.

Red group will be having a weekly yoga program at kinder. Calm4kids will be visiting us on a Friday 1:30-2:30 pm. The children will do a half hour yoga session with a group of 11 children. We will be exploring sensory bags for the second half hour. More specific information about the yoga program will be distributed in your pockets.

The Language program – Mia will run our language program on Fridays from 10:30-12 pm.

Mother’s Day – Gifts, cards, yoga session with the mums

Mother’s Day Celebration - Tuesday 4th May 1:30-2:30 pm.
An invitation to the Mother’s Day event has been posted in your kinder pocket

Staying Safe - Dangers around home and the community

Water Safety incursion - Wednesday 12th May from 9:45-10:30 am

Library borrowing program – Our library borrowing will happen on a Tuesday. All children will need to bring library bags to kinder on Tuesdays and hold the books for one week

Emotions and Feelings – Bucket filling program, Elmer elephant story and art. Discussions and learning on how our actions affect others. What behaviours make us a good friend.



Red Group

Animals that come from eggs – What are they - birds, reptiles, frogs, caterpillars – investigating habitats, life-cycles and behaviour

Pets / Domestic animals – What are they, needs, sharing our pet stories

Dental Care – Dental program visiting kinder on Friday 28th May from 9:30 -10:30 am

Autumn and the environmental changes to Winter – Art work to reflect what we are experiencing in our environment.

Winter Soltice – 21st June

Maps – Treasure maps, World map, Australia map, Victoria map” and Viewbank maps

Flags – Our cultural backgrounds, Australian and Aboriginal flags.

We will be holding mid-year meeting with parents to discuss development and school readiness in week 9 of this term. A schedule for this will be put out later in the term.

If you have any concerns regarding something happening at kinder please feel free to email me – redgroup@viewbankpreschool.com.au

Ann-Marie, Merryn and Mia



Blue Group

Welcome back everyone! All our Blue Group friends have returned happy and excited for another term at kinder.

We had a fun end to Term 1 with our Lapathon. After completing various activity stations, we had a presentation ceremony and a well-deserved refreshing icy pole! There are some great action shots in our reflections section on the website.

Last week we began our Calm4 Kids yoga program. Brenda from Calm4kids will be with us on Monday mornings for a 30 min yoga session. The children will learn a variety of yoga poses and participate in a relaxation time at the end of each session. Information about each session will be available in our weekly reflections.

Our Library borrowing program takes place this term. Each Thursday your child has the opportunity to borrow 2 books from kindergarten. These can be shared at home and returned the following week. Please provide your child with a named cloth bag to carry their books in.

We made some fresh playdough during the session last week. The children were pretending they were making pizza, that gave us all an idea. We are planning to make some pizza dough next Wednesday, then add toppings, cook, and eat on Thursday! *Deliziosa*.

What's next?

Our Intentional Teaching for Term 2

Yoga – The Very Hungry Caterpillar, The Gruffalo, The Three Little Pigs, and other stories.

Book-care - Library borrowing program starts week 2. – Librarian visit (TBC)

Mother's Day –

Pets – domestic animals – Responsible Pet Ownership program

Emotions and Feelings – Bucket filling program, discussions, puppets

Animals that come from eggs - birds, reptiles, frogs, caterpillars

Dental care – Dentist visit Thursday 27th May

Aboriginal culture

Autumn and the environmental changes to Winter

The Senses

Blue Group

Maps

Flags

The community – Shops, post office, hospital, dentist, doctor, what do these workers in our community do?

Have you joined us during a session yet? We have several spots to fill on our parent duty roster, please look and choose a time that suits.

Parent Teacher meetings

Later this term parents will be offered the opportunity to meet with teachers and discuss their child's progress and any concerns you may have. Details about days and times will be provided shortly.

Dates to remember:

- Wednesday 5th May 1.30pm-Mother's Day Celebration
- Thursday 6th May - Mother's Day Stall (during the session)
- Wednesday 12th May 1.30pm -Water Safety Program
- Thursday 27th May 9.30am- Dental Visit.
- Monday 14th June-Public Holiday-NO KINDER SESSION

Barb, Anna & Mia



Green Group



Welcome back to kinder for term 2! We are excited to be welcoming our final children to turn three to Green Group this term, Julia who turned three at the end of last term and Isabella who had her birthday in week 1. It is exciting to be able to watch new friendships form and the dynamics of the group grow and change as we meet our new friends.

In our program we will be continuing with learning about Autumn, practicing routine and self-help skills and beginning to focus on developing social skills. We will be doing games for learning each other's names, asking others to play and practicing some simple problem-solving strategies. During group times we are also starting some gross motor games with bean bags, ribbons and balls. Being able to use this type of equipment safely indoors will be very important as the weather gets cooler and rainy days force us inside.

This term we are working on a group project centering around "Growing our own food". The children's interest in our sunflower growing and questions about growing vegetables has guided our investigation and learning. We had our first brainstorming session during week 1 which was very productive, we began by thinking about the question "what food can we grow in a vegetable garden?" We got some good responses from a small group of children, and an interesting one – butter grows in the garden. This gave us some great spontaneous learning and discussion about where butter actually comes from and has prompted some farm play in the program as well.

With this style of planning we are able to provide learning opportunities for many areas of development. I'm excited to see where the project takes us, I certainly hadn't expected to incorporate farm animals when I did my initial skeleton plan. In week two our brainstorm session looked at which vegetables we knew, and which we wanted to plant. So, it follows that our next step was planting! We now have broad beans, peas, snow peas, carrots, purple cauliflower and onions growing happily. We have also completed the 'life cycle' of our sunflowers this week by collecting the seeds and composting the spent stems. More spontaneous learning happened here when we found worms in the compost bin. The discussion and wonder never ends!

We are looking forward to sharing afternoon tea with our mums for Mother's Day and wish them all a wonderful day on Sunday 9th.

Vicki & Merryn

Chinese Language Program

Take-home Language Bag:

We will introduce take-home Chinese culture and language bag very soon so that children can explore Chinese language and culture with their family at home. There are many interesting things in the bag for children and families to explore, including our group mascot - Qiaohu, sound book, recipes, tangrams, costumes, chopsticks and many other fun things. We hope families will enjoy our language bag.

The topics we're going to explore this term:

- Family
- Fruit
- Action words and body
- Dragon Boat Festival
- Transition time words

We will be continuing to explore Chinese language through stories, music, games and craft. We might even start our first cooking experience in the language program (TBC).

If you want to learn with your child together at home, check the video below for some of the words we have learnt:

- Family https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=53Bi3Y2d_DY
- Number <https://youtu.be/u8G6BJVznYM>
- Greeting <https://youtu.be/-fkCgu0ccTM>

Mia



FUNDRAISING

A VERY BIG thank you to everyone for their very generous donations towards the Lapathon held in the last week of Term 1. Between Red & Blue Group we raised a staggering \$2103.00!!! This is such a great start to the year and will provide some really awesome things for the kids to use and experience.

We have already ticked one thing off our wish list. You may have noticed our new picnic table settings for the kids to enjoy outdoor learning and eating, the included photos show our Red Group enjoying lunch outside!! Fundraising efforts really do go a long way to building an even better learning experience for the kids and is greatly appreciated.

Another big thank you goes to the teachers for organising such a great day for the kids. They had such an amazing time running, jumping and climbing which was great to see. This day also could not have happened without the help from the parent helpers making sure the bananas, apples and other fruits knew where they were going, so thank you to the parent helpers.

Just a reminder that the Mother's Day Stall is coming up this term on May 5th (Red) and May 6th (Blue), giving the kids a chance to pick a small gift. If your child would like to be involved, the information has been sent out to all Red and Blue group families. These are run separately to the Mother's Day celebrations organised by the teachers and parents are not required to be there.

Jane O'Reilly
Fundraising



General News

Three-Year-Old Kinder 2022

Do you know a child who will be three in 2022?

Every child deserves the opportunity to have the best start. That's why funded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten will be available in the Banyule from 2022. This means an extra year of learning, playing and making friends for children.

From next year, Viewbank Preschool will be offering 7.5 hours a week of a funded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten program.

In a kindergarten program, qualified teachers support children by offering them a range of learning experiences and activities that are both stimulating and fun. Your child's learning and curiosity will be encouraged through experiences and activities such as exploring the natural world, being exposed to new ideas and solving problems. Just like with Four-Year-Old Kindergarten, Three-Year-Old Kindergarten programs will be tailored to meet the needs of children. Qualified teachers support children's learning and development through play-based learning.

Play-based learning is how young children learn best. It helps them to build important skills such as language, maths and science concepts, how to manage their emotions and get along with others. Children also develop their imagination, curiosity and a love of learning when learning through play. Research shows that two years of quality kindergarten are better than one.

Talk to us about how to enrol today / More information will be made available soon about how you can enrol.

For more information, ask our staff or visit www.vic.gov.au/kinder



Cooler Weather

Now the weather is cooler we ask parents to ensure their child has a jacket/vest for outdoor play and a beanie (if your child likes to wear one). We still like to get out in the fresh air, even on the cooler days. Please also update your child's spare clothes in their bag. Socks, underwear, a long-sleeved t-shirt and trackie pants/leggings are good to have on hand. From 1st May sunhats can be kept at home until September.

Illness

If your child is unwell, please give them time at home to recover. With winter on the way we may find more colds and sniffles about. Remind your child to wash their hands after blowing their nose and to cough/sneeze into their elbow. The Department of Health recently advised centres of gastro outbreaks in Early Childhood Services. These seem to have been more evident in Child Care Centres, but we remind parents to encourage handwashing and if their child is unwell to keep them home for at least 48 hours after symptoms have stopped. We appreciate your understanding in this matter. Please email your child's teacher or call the kindergarten if your child will be absent.

Covid Safe Guidelines

- Government recommendations remain- Stay home and get tested if experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms, however mild. Symptoms include fever, chills or sweats, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose, vomiting or diarrhoea, and loss or change in sense of smell or taste.
- Maintain regular hand hygiene.
- All parents/visitors need to sign in using our QR code if staying for longer than 15 minutes.

Parent Duty

Please remember to sign yourself in and out in the visitors register when you come to help. This folder is in a pocket beside the sign in book. Thank you to all the parents/guardians that have joined us during sessions to help. This is a great opportunity to see how your child interacts with their peers as well as experience all the amazing things your kindergarten child can do. Please see your child's teacher if you have any questions.

Donations

We are seeking donations of the following items-

- Lego bricks and people
- Matchbox cars
- Boxes for collage (NO FOOD BOXES PLEASE) Any tissue boxes, toothpaste, skincare boxes, food wrap, shoe boxes, cardboard cylinders would be appreciated.