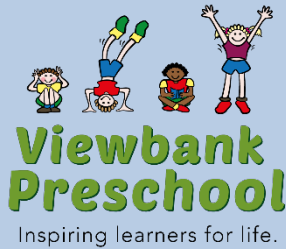


Newsletter TERM 3 – 2021



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WELCOME BACK TO TERM 3!

Dear Families,

Welcome to Term 3. Once again, we find ourselves in a COVID lockdown. As the President, I wish to thank the Teaching, Administration and Committee members for their hard work to keep the Kinder open and safe. I understand that this is a stressful time and I want to assure you that disruption to our Kinder Community remains as minimal as possible.

On a brighter note, I hope everyone enjoyed the school break and the delightful warmer weather. Please remember to send a warm coat and beanie with your child to each kinder session. And finally, I wish to thank the families who recently volunteered their time and energy to help with our working bee.

Warm Regards,
Paul Moon
President



SPECIAL EVENTS

RED GROUP

Night Kinder
- Tuesday 10th August (4-7pm)

Traffic School
- Friday 20th August (11-2pm)

Fathers Sports Night
- Tuesday 31st August (5.30-7pm)

Walk to Viewbank Primary
- Tuesday 14th September

BLUE GROUP

Night Kinder Session
- Wednesday 11th August

Excursion to Kew traffic School
- Monday 16th August

Fathers Night
- Wednesday 1st September

Walking Excursion to Viewbank
Primary School
- Thursday 9th September

GREEN GROUP

Treasure Week
- 27th & 29th July

Parent / Teacher Reflection
Meetings
- 3rd & 5th August

Olympic Dress-up Day
- 5th August

Pyjama Dress-up Day
- 17th August

Edendale Farm Incursion
- 2nd September

Father's Breakfast
- 7th September

Footy Colours Day
- 19th September

Red Group



Welcome back to term 3 to our wonderful Red Group families. I hope that term 3 will be a more settled term with the whole group back socialising and developing the children's sense of belonging and connections within the kinder community.

We hope to have our duty parents back really soon too! Some of our Intentional teaching planned for term 3 - Intentional teaching is just some of the learning that happens within the program. We scaffold children's interests as they occur from day to day. We will be embracing opportunities for learning happening in our immediate natural environment around us with our native flora, fauna and weather.

- Signing In at kinder - children signing their name in our childrens sign in book
- Our Mandarin program with Mia will continue every Friday for term 3 and 4.
- Library borrowing - continues for term 3 and 4
- Wood - work - Working with wood, hammers, screwdrivers, nails and screws
- Aboriginal Culture - Stories, singing, dancing and instrument playing
- The Olympics - What the Olympics and the Olympic rings represent.
- Arctic Animals - Experimenting with ice and temperature
- Winter to Spring environmental changes - Dandelion Investigation
- Transport
- Road safety and Bike safety - visit to Traffic school
- Aaron Bear stays and presentations - Aaron has begun his sleep-over visits.
- Musical instruments - Listening to sounds of instruments and playing percussion instruments.
- Father's Day - Gift making, Father's Sports/Pizza night
- The Night sky - Night kinder session - Making tea light

Red Group



- Space
- Insects- Identification using books and resin models. Creating bug habitats
- Asian and African animals - Jungles
- School environment awareness - Walking excursions to Viewbank Primary. Books and discussions about school environments.

Special Events for your calendar:

- Night Kinder - Tuesday 10th August (4-7pm)
- Traffic School - Friday 20th August (11-2pm)
- Fathers Sports Night - Tuesday 31st August (5.30-7pm)
- Walk to Viewbank Primary- Tuesday 14th September

*We may need to cancel and reschedule events depending on Covid rules.

We will be looking out for some parent helpers closer to Special Event dates. Look out for a note on the sign in book soon.

Last year we were lucky enough to have artist Robert Michael Young paint the wall and door of our shed. As part of this project he is visiting the service as soon as restrictions lift to hold a cultural session with the children,

This will include Robert telling the story behind the painting, didgeridoo playing and a smoking ceremony. We will let you know when this will take place.

The children's portfolios are full of some amazing learning the children have been involved in so far this year. We hope you enjoyed looking at them over the holidays. Can you please return these to kinder so we can continue to put all our special work inside.

Red Group

Transition Reports -

As part of the transition to school, a Transition report is written by the Kindergarten teacher in conjunction with the family. Transition reports help your child's foundation teacher get to know and understand your child giving them a snapshot of their skills, abilities, interests and areas that will need support. I will begin writing these towards the end of term 3. Early term 4, families will contribute their part of the report which is then completed by the teacher and forwarded to the school your child is attending in 2022. Families will also receive a complete copy of the report. Please feel free to email me if you have any questions or concerns regarding the program or your child. Ann-Marie's email - redgroup@viewbankpreschool.com.au. Thank you.

Ann-Marie, Merryn and Mia



Blue Group



Welcome back to Term 3! After a fabulous **BLUE DAY** to end Term 2, the children returned on the 12th July bubbling with stories of their holidays and eager to get busy at kinder.

We have spent the first few sessions...

- exploring maps (looking at the world, our country, where we live in relation to kinder and each other)
- strengthening our fine motor skills with weaving, dough and kinetic sand
- discussing Aboriginal culture and looking at Aboriginal art to inspire our own painting/drawing
- shopping in our 'Viewbank Preschool supermarket'

Some of the children were collecting sticks in the yard on Wednesday...from here they talked about making a fire...which led to toasting marshmallows! As a group, we built a fire with the sticks, added pebbles around the perimeter and added red, yellow and orange cellophane as the flame. We made some pretend marshmallows from cotton wool and skewered them. On Thursday, we cooked and ate the real thing!

What's coming up?

Throughout term 3 we will focus on...

- Signing ourselves in on arrival
- Have a turn at taking Isabella Bear home for a 3-4 night sleepover.
- Introducing our woodwork station
- Experimenting with musical instruments
- Discuss winter, arctic animals and then the changes to Spring
- Transport
- Space
- Road/Bike Safety
- Our body and senses
- Insects

Blue Group

Special Events

Please mark these special events on your calendar!

- Night Kinder Session - *Wednesday 11th August*
- Excursion to Kew traffic School - *Monday 16th August*
- Fathers Night - *Wednesday 1st September*
- Walking Excursion to Viewbank Primary School - *Thursday 9th September*

Details about these events will be available soon. Please make sure you keep up to date with the Blue Group News...and don't forget to take a look at our weekly reflections! Please see us if you have forgotten the password.

Barb, Anna & Mia



Green Group



Green group has had a great start to term 3, we welcomed our final student into the group bringing our total to 22 children. Welcome to Adira and her family!

Our group focus this term is friendship; what is a friend, how can I be a good friend, how can I solve friendship problems, and how can I keep a friend. The children have been adding to our 'Baking a Good Friend' cake recipe each session, and with the ingredients (for example helping each other, using kind words, and listening) we will be reflecting at the end of each session about how we thought we went and which ingredients we used with our friends. As the children are beginning to seek each other out for social play, we are using our individual photos and songs to learn and use each other's names more often.

We will be exploring the season of winter and the changes that occur in the environment. This also gives us the opportunity to incorporate some STEM experiences into the program, looking at how materials change when they mix, heat or cool. Already we have made playdough, using boiling water (teacher job!!) to cook the ingredients and turn the mixture elastic. We will be using clay next, watching the changes between wet and dry, and follow with making Ooblek/slime, and jelly.

The Olympics are upon us, so outdoors the children will be participating in lots of games and gross motor activities. We will focus on teamwork, doing our personal best and encouraging others. Proficient running, jumping, balancing and climbing, as well as ball skills (kicking and catching) are important for our 3 and 4 year-olds to develop, and we have been delighted to hear many an "I did it, look I did it!" as someone masters a new skill lately.

Our green group families have been expanding this year, as we welcome baby brothers and sisters to the flock. Consequently, there has been lots of interest in home theme and family play in the dramatic play areas. We are adding baby (doll) washing to this play area, so that the children practice skills needed for caring for their new

Chinese Language Program



Nihao!

Our take-home language bag is very popular. Every session, we have one child to share with the group what they did with the language bag at home. We're excited to see children put on costumes, try chopsticks, take Qiaohu around, play tangrams etc. Some families even tried the fried rice recipe in the bag. We are continuing the language bag this term and you might be the next lucky person.

We did our very first cooking experience in the language program last term ---- making fresh juice. Our juice bar business was a big success. For many children, that was their first time to cut fruit. We not only practiced fruit words but also many daily courtesy words in this experience.

The topics we're going to explore this term:

- Colour
- Writing of Chinese numbers
- Road and traffic
- Our body
- Chinese fitness
- Moon Festival
- Father's Day

We've also made every child a Chinese name card, which is being used in each language session as part of the routine. To follow on with some children's feedback, bilingual literacy labels will be placed on some of our daily-used stationary, toys and equipment to provide more literacy exposure of both languages in our learning environment. Looking forward to another wonderful term!

Mia

FUNDRAISING

Thank you for all of the support with the Mother's Day Stall last term. We hope you all liked the gifts the children selected; they all had a great time shopping for you! It's the Dad's and Grandad's turn this time and we will be running a Father's Day stall in September.

We will also be organising a picture plate fundraiser this term. This will involve turning the kid's artwork into keepsakes that you can use and the product lasts for years (my parents still have mine from 1989!) Take home picture plate templates will be distributed next week and information supplied for anyone interested.

We've also secured a Sausage Sizzle fundraising session at Eltham Bunnings on October 16th and would greatly appreciate help from parent volunteers. More information to come soon!

Thanks,
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 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



Donations

Small pieces of soft timber anything up to 30cm, small cardboard boxes nothing bigger than a tissue box

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.