

## Dates for the Diary

- 23 September** Term 3 ends - school holidays begin  
**10 October** Term 4 begins  
**11 October (Tues)** Parent Committee Meeting at preschool – 7pm  
**30 October (Sun)** Working Bee 9 am – 12 noon

### Upcoming Parent Committee Dates

Tuesdays at 7pm: 15 November and 6 December

## Preschool Notices

### REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS

Our preschool is licensed from 8.30am to 4.00pm (when our extended hours finish), which means that legally we are not allowed to have unsupervised children on the premises outside these hours. In accordance with these legal requirements, staff are not permitted to supervise children before 8.30am or after 4.00pm.

### WORKING BEE

We have planned a Working Bee for Sunday, 30 October 9am – 12 noon. There will be a list of jobs for completion, including some fix-it maintenance jobs, planting, weeding, mulching, tip-trips and weed poisoning around the back of the preschool. Please make a note of the date on your calendar – more information will follow next term.

## Community Notices

### Sewing Workshops

Want to learn how to make, repair & design your own clothing?

Come along to one of the following four-week sewing courses in Bowral to learn everything you'll need to get started!

**Course 1: Getting Started** (10am-3pm on 5, 12, 19 and 26 October)

**Course 2: The Next Step** (10am-3pm on 6, 13, 20 and 27 October)

**Cost:** \$295 per course (all patterns, teas and snacks provided)

**What to bring:** domestic sewing machine, selection of colourful fabrics, notebook and basic sewing kit.

**For more details, contact:** Tania Doria on 0424 396 229



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## President's Report

It's been an event filled four weeks since our last newsletter in August.

First up was the Fun Run. On behalf of everyone at the preschool, I'd like to thank the Fun Run committee and everyone who helped out before, during and after the event. The rain held off on the day (except for a bit of drizzle when setting up) and the track was (mostly) dry. A great time was had by all!

We've had lots of great feedback on how well organised and smoothly run the event was. That's testament to the work of Jane Boadle and the rest of the committee. It's always nice to hear people proudly say they've run it every year. It was a lovely gesture when the 10km winner donated half his prize money back to the preschool.

During that same week, the teachers made themselves available for meetings with parents to discuss their children and how they've been going this year. This represented a big commitment on the part of the staff who often stayed quite late after working a full day at preschool. I'd like to express our appreciation for their efforts.

Throughout this time, the children (and grown-ups) also got to enjoy watching baby ducks hatch (although a few hatched during our last committee

meeting itself) and grow up very quickly. It was lovely to see the children holding the ducklings very gently.

Next up was the Fathers' Night. Thanks go to all staff for helping the children prepare the gifts for the dads (which are always treasured), as well as for their help cooking and serving during the event, for organising the children's singing, and for helping "encourage" the possums to hang around the preschool using various forms of bribery.

Our outside area is once again safe after some much needed landscape work was carried out last week. Thank you to everyone for their patience while this repair work was undertaken.

Finally, Pauline's been busy with enrolments and scheduling for next year (which is a massive job). There's no doubt that the preschool will be full once again next year, which reflects well on our parents, staff, children and general reputation in the community.

School holidays are almost upon us once again, so I hope you all enjoy a couple of weeks off with your children.

Cheers, *Deanna Pagnini*

## Community Notices



School Holidays Are Here  
Holiday Fun In The Southern Highlands  
AGES 0 - 16  
Find out what's happening  
and book your family's activities today  
[www.skyhunt.com.au/school-holidays/](http://www.skyhunt.com.au/school-holidays/)  
"These school holidays are going to be different!"

### Preschool Music Program

For preschool age children (3-5 year olds) and their parent/grandparent/friend

COMMENCING SOON - PLACES ARE LIMITED!

Day: Friday mornings during school term

Time: 10.00-10.40am

Location: Southern Highlands Christian School,  
Corner of Kangaloon and Boardman Roads, Bowral

Bookings: Sarah Bull – 0414 723 390

Cost: \$6 a lesson (\$60 for a 10 week term)

Come and join in a lovely musical experience for you and your child with local early childhood teacher, Sarah Bull. Participate in singing, music games, dancing, percussion and other engaging activities that will enhance the joy of music your child already has. These groups are a great starting point for their future music learning.

## Director's Report



What a busy term!

To wrap up the recent Father's Night, I would like to thank Jenny Bridekirk, Sue Hill-Thomson, Kamie Lee, Agnes Bertram and Kristie Faavae, for helping with the cooking and serving. Special thanks to our resident chef

Deanna Pagnini, for cooking a truckload of yummy cakes for the night – yum!

As always, special acknowledgements go to the staff for donating their time after a long day at work to put the night together for you all. Shannon Gallen and Simone Rossiter did a wonderful job of setting up for the night. Sue Hill-Thomson was the inspiration behind the possum hunt, which really capped off the night beautifully. This followed up on an ongoing interest from our Outdoor Program. Thankfully, the possums cooperated and showed themselves (kind of) high up in the trees.

Last, but certainly not least, a special thanks to all the dads, granddads and special people who brought their children along for a great night at the preschool.

As for the Fun Run, what a success despite the weather. I won't include a list of thanks within my report, as I know Jane has already provided her Fun Run Honour Roll. But I would like to give a special thanks to the Fun Run Committee and Jane Boadle for her mammoth effort as the coordinator. Jane showed great leadership skills, good humour and support of the rest of the committee. Congratulations Jane on a job well done!



From a community viewpoint, I was so pleased to see so many past and present families supporting the event, with some even attaining places in the races – congratulations! I have heard quite a lot of

positive feedback about the event from within the preschool and within the general community. This is certainly an event the preschool can be very proud of – once again thanks and congratulations to all involved!

A big vote of thanks to Emma Keen, our Publicity/Newsletter Officer, in recognition of her expertise in making our newsletter very 'reader friendly' and so professional. Many thanks also for her time recently to revamp our Parent Handbook for the new enrolment packages. Due to the changed formatting and some cleverly placed photos it looks so professional and invites you to 'read on'. Thanks again Emma!

On the topic of 2012 preschool enrolments, I am right in the 'thick of things' at the moment, ringing people from the waiting list for placement. Families are collecting packages for next year from this week. Orientation will be held at the beginning of November. Paperwork for returning families is due back by Friday, 23 September.

All staff will be attending a two hour in-service on Thursday night this week on the new National Quality Standards being introduced from January 2012. It is important that all staff are aware of the expected standards, policies, procedures and practices. We appreciate their ongoing commitment to best practice.

We have many students at the preschool at the moment – Michele (Week 8 – Koala Room) completed her first practicum with Macquarie University; Ellen (Koala Room) and Chantelle (Possum Room) are here every Wednesday until their block practicum in November, completing their last TAFE Diploma practicum.

With the warmer weather, we will move to the Spring/Summer Program from the start of next term, beginning outside in the mornings. With UV in mind, please send in summer hats on warmer days and remember sunscreen each morning.

From a programming viewpoint, the children are just about finished the PALS social skills program. This is an excellent, locally developed program that addresses many social issues of children at this age. We have been taking relevant skills through into the larger group program, which has been well received by the children.

We look forward to an exciting last term of 2011 with your children.

Thanks, *Pauline Iacono*

## Fundraising Update: Bush Fun Run News #5



### THE FINAL WORD .....

Congratulations to the Fun Run committee, staff, preschool parents and children!

The 2011 Mittagong Preschool Fun Run was a very successful event – both from a fundraising and community event point of view.

Although we had less registrants this year (a total of 338 compared to 431 in 2010) – probably due to the rainy weather lead up – we still managed to raise a profit of \$4,964.18 this year (\$200 more than in 2010).

Most registrants heard about the event through the preschool, word of mouth or were indeed past registrants. We received some encouraging feedback – “great organisation”, “everyone knew what they were doing”, “a fabulous community event – thank you for running it again.”

The Fun Run Committee held a debriefing meeting since August to table any suggestions for the next committee members. All thank you letters to sponsors are nearly complete.

A special thank you goes to Leanne Allen for printing out and posting these letters and appreciation certificates for the committee.

Thank you again to all committee members, all volunteers and staff for your hard work and support.

I encourage any preschool parent interested in getting more involved with the preschool and the larger community to think about joining the Parent Management Committee (and/or subcommittees) in March next year. We have had many laughs, made great friends, drunk lots of coffee/tea and dined on a few sweeties or two (thanks Deanna!). I can recommend that to anyone!

Signing off, Jane Boadle, Kate Sarty, Caroline Verity, Katie Contre, Sharone French, Heather James, Kimberley Moule, Sylvia Brandmayr

