



MITTAGONG PRESCHOOL
Kindergarten Incorporated

June 2018 Edition

Mittagong Preschool Newsletter

President Report

June 2018

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Diary Dates June

Mittagong Preschool Pie Time:
Delivery Monday 18th June

Preschool Open Day:
Saturday 16th June
10 am – 12 noon

'Living Safely with Dogs'
Preschool Program :
Tuesday 26th June

Coffee Mornings:
Mon. 18th June/Thurs. 21st June
9 am – 11 am

Movie Night at Empire Cinema:
"Hotel Transylvania 3"
Thursday 28th June – 5 - 7 pm

July

Parent Association Meeting:
Tuesday 3rd July
6.30 pm start

Last day of Term 2:
Thursday 5th July
Pupil-free day – Friday 6th July

First Day of Term 3:
Monday 23rd July
(no pupil-free day)

The Parent Association have been busy behind the scenes this past month. Plans for the upcoming Movie Night on Thursday 28th June, are well underway. The film that has been allocated to us by the cinema is Hotel Transylvania 3. Tickets are now available from preschool and the Empire Cinema at \$15 per person (2 and under free). We have been very lucky to secure a 5:30pm start and we look forward to seeing all of our preschool families represented. Please share this fundraiser with your friends and family!! This event is open to the community and we would absolutely LOVE to have a full house. If you are able to help with the setup prior to, or on the night please speak with Pauline - we would love your help!

Orders have now closed for our Preschool Pie Drive. Thank you to everybody who placed an order. I, for one, am eagerly awaiting delivery on Monday 18th June. Yum!! Thank you to Alicia Jones for organising this fundraiser and to Southern Rise Bakery for the opportunity. I look forward to telling you how much we raised in my next report.

As well as being the date of the pie delivery, Monday 18th June is also our first (of two) Parent Coffee Mornings at Shaggy Cow Café in Mittagong. The second being Thursday 21st June - both mornings from 9am. This is a chance to mix with other parents over a cuppa and chat about things like big school, pre-schooler activities and playdates. It would be lovely to see as many faces as possible. Dads are ALWAYS encouraged to come along, as are grandparents and other carers.

Later in the year we will be holding a Preschool Disco (with an Hawaiian/Islands theme!), a Father's Day Raffle, not one, but two Bunnings BBQ's and Cake Stalls and a Paint-a-Plate fundraiser.

Why do we hold so many preschool events? Because we are a community-based, not-for-profit organisation! Every little bit we make through these fundraising opportunities directly influences the resources available to our children at preschool and in turn, the wider community. We GREATLY value your support! Please get involved where you can.

I look forward to seeing you at our coffee mornings and movie night!

Jaime Woolley

president.mittagongpreschool@gmail.com

Fundraising



Pie Drive Thanks



Thanks to everyone who ordered pies in the drive – we had an overwhelming response! Thanks also to Alicia Jones for organising this wonderful Winter Southern 'Pie'lands fundraiser. Details regarding fundraising profit and use of monies will follow next month. Further thanks to Southern Rise Bakery for providing the pies. All pies will be delivered fresh and are fine to freeze. Delivery is on Monday 18th June – collection between 3 and 4 pm.

Preschool Coffee Morning



Monday 18th/Thursday 21st June
(come either or both days)

It's time for a catch up! Preschool has kindly reserved a table from 9am at The Shaggy Cow in Mittagong. Babies and kids welcome.

Fundamental Movement Skills Sessions

In the later 5 weeks of this term we are doing Fundamental Movement Skills (FMS) groups where we are focusing on exercises to warm up, relaxation & stretching to cool down & also fundamental movement skills of running, jumping, side-sliding, galloping, leaping, catching, underarm rolling, overarm throwing, kicking & dribbling a ball. This program is part of the Munch & Move program (outlined below).

The children have responded well to the start of this program initiative, looking forward to the sessions each day.

We will be revisiting these sessions later in term 3/early term 4 so we can see progress with the skills. For the Preschooler however, we are not as much focusing on precision with each skill, but rather on exposure to physical skills and developing confidence with skills that are the backbone of all sport & movement.



Munch & Move is a NSW Health initiative that supports the healthy development of children birth to 5 years by promoting physical activity, healthy eating and reduced small screen time (e.g. watching TV or DVDs, playing on computers and small hand-held games devices).

Service Report

From Pauline's Desk

PALS Program:

Across the Preschool next term we will start the PALS group sessions, focusing on social skills. This is a wonderful program which we do with the children each year. They respond so well to the puppets, the DVD stories & the role-played scenarios, making it easier to understand the concepts. A group permission sheet will be at the sign-in desks from the first week of next term.

Below is a detailed description of the program:

Mittagong Preschool will be running the PALS (Playing and Learning to Socialise) program for preschool children.

This is a program to help children learn essential social skills such as greeting skills, turn-taking, sharing, solving problems and regulating emotions.

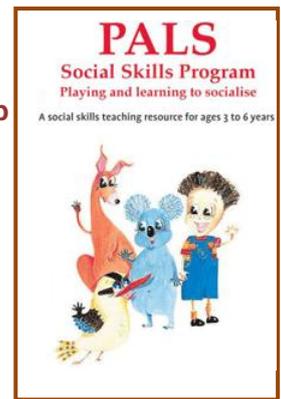
The program will be conducted at the Preschool for all the children by our staff in a small group setting (approximately 5 children per group).

It runs for 10 weeks throughout Term 3, with one session per week covering:

- ❖ interactional social skills - greeting, listening, taking turns, sharing and asking for help
- ❖ development of emotional literacy - identifying feelings, empathy, overcoming fear & anxiety, managing frustration and calming down

For more information on the program, visit the website:

<http://www.palsprogram.com.au/>



Children's Individual Developmental Records AKA Individual Portfolio

At Preschool we compile a digital portfolio of jottings, reflections, observations, planned experiences & a developmental summary for each child.

Soon you will each receive a Dropbox link to an information page about your child's digital portfolio.

This will be a test to make sure you have

downloaded the Dropbox App in readiness to receive a link to your child's individual file. This link will be sent out to you during the school holidays and will be available to you until the end of Term 3 Week 1. This file can be viewed, downloaded or printed.



This individual file will include a copy of your child's developmental progress summary, outlining his/her individual developmental profile. The individual progress summary will give us as a staff, and you as the parents/families, a clear direction for the rest of the year for your child - focusing on enhancing strengths whilst also improving developing skills. We will also be emailing you a copy of your child's progress summary. Please email back with any questions or feedback.



Early next term, we will be offering interview times with your child's teacher. This is a wonderful opportunity to discuss progress, raise a concern, discuss school readiness or talk about your child's developmental summary and planning directions.



Preschool Movie Night
at Empire Cinema
Thursday 28th June

Movie Showing:



Tickets available from
Preschool Office & Cinema
All tickets - \$15
2 years & under free
5.00pm for 5.30 pm start
Snack food and drink provided
with ticket price
Lucky Door Prize!

Movie Overview:

Mavis surprises Dracula with a family voyage on a luxury Monster Cruise Ship so he can take a vacation from providing everyone else's vacation at the hotel. The rest of Drac's Pack cannot resist going along. But once they leave port, romance arises when Dracula meets the mysterious ship Captain, Ericka. Now it's Mavis' turn to play the overprotective parent, keeping her dad and Ericka apart.

Movie Duration:
95 minutes

Classification:
CTC (to be
classified)

Hotel Transylvania 2 was PG.



Service Report continued

From Michelle

Pie Time at Mittagong Preschool:

We have just finalised orders for our super-successful Pie Drive, with deliveries due in next Monday 18th June.

We thought it would be nice to share some of the pies with the preschoolers, so on Tuesday 19th June, we will heat up some beef pies and apple pies for the children to sample. Delicious!!



From Sue

Pie Time Follow-up:

The children have been making potions in the outdoor environment and the other day we noticed that Holly made a pie. In the creative room, the children have been discussing some bush tucker, trying damper and kangaroo sausages. Putting these two things together, we entered the community section of the Southern Highland's Pie Competition – creating a Bush Tucker Pie, with kangaroo and bush herbs and a yam topping! Stay tuned to see how we go with our entry!



From Janel

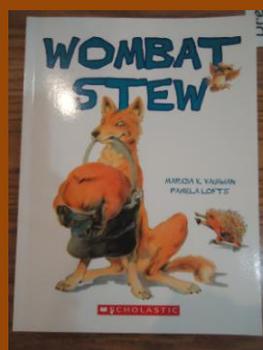
Mud Week at Preschool: 25th – 29th June



International Mud Month happens in June and is a global movement which aims to encourage children and early childhood professionals to celebrate nature by getting outdoors to play in glorious goeey mud. Given that International Mud Month happens in Winter in mud around. We will celebrate with a Mud Week!

Outdoors we will be making clay sculptures & using our mud kitchen to make mudpies & mud-stews. Indoors in the creative room we will be painting with clay slurries and focusing on experiences based on "Wombat Stew".

The most important thing is to dress the children in old clothes so they can enjoy the freedom of playing with mud.





Defibrillator News Flash!

Great news everyone ... between our 2017 Colour Walk and our 2018 Mini-Commonwealth Games, we raised enough to buy the defibrillator, a cabinet and even fund some CPR training for the staff!

Thanks to everyone who contributed!



More Grant Success

This month we were informed that we were successful with a \$15,000 grant to replace our hard flooring throughout the Preschool.



It is so important for us to maintain, refresh and replenish our environment, ensuring it is a clean, safe and functional learning environment for all. Keep your eyes open for our new floor!

Living Safely with Dogs Program

On Thursday 14th June, we enjoyed a visit from Tiffany and Ruby (her border collie) – representatives from the Responsible Pet Ownership Education Program. They came to talk to us about living safely with dogs. This program focuses on teaching the children skills and strategies on how to stay safe around dogs. We will have a visit from Vicki and her dog-friend Montana on Tuesday 26th June.



The children were educated through rhyme and song, sharing important messages such as "No Owner, No Lead, No Touch!" and "Stop, Ask, Smell, Pat – Let's say hello to a dog we don't know" being shared.

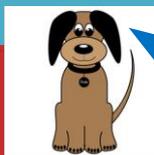
Pictures were used to teach the children how to tell how a dog may be feeling – angry, scared and happy. We even mimicked their emotions through our own actions e.g. going on all fours and gritting our teeth to indicate an angry dog.

At the conclusion, each child was invited to put the 'Stop, Ask, Smell and Pat' sequence into practice as he /she approached Ruby for a pat! Each child was so brave & took a turn!

Stop, Ask, Smell, Pat!

When meeting a new dog:

1. Stand still
2. Ask owner – "May I please pat your dog?"
3. Put hand out (back of hand towards dog with fingers closed) under the dog's nose
4. Pat the dog - stroke down back from collar down



This program reflects Outcome 2 where educators promote respect, care and appreciation for living things.



Community Building Partnership Grant Application

We have applied for a large grant to create a glass enclosed learning space in the courtyard between the Preschool rooms ... I will keep you posted!



We're on the Web!
Visit us at:
www.mittagongpreschool.org.au



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