End of the Year  
It’s hard to believe that we are approaching the end of the year! This will be our last Kinder Connections newsletter for 2015. Thank you all for your contributions over the year, whether it has been doing parent duty, cutting and getting materials ready, sorting and tidying, filing into the portfolios… We thank you for your support; we have enjoyed getting to know you and your children!

Sadly you will all be aware that Robyn Peck will be leaving our team at the end of the year. She will continue to work with children in another centre. We thank Robyn for her contributions to our centre over the last 3 years, and we wish her all the best for her new venture.

Helping and Clean Up  
We want to thank you all for the willing and able help that you have consistently given to us at Kinder. Your time is of great benefit to the program and the children. We would appreciate any available extra parents on duty at this busy time of year, for any amount of time that you can give us. We have a large amount of jobs to do before the end of the year. Please speak to your teacher about helping.

Our official clean up day is Wednesday 16 December. We would appreciate any available parents dropping in to help out between 8.45am and 12pm - even just an hour would be a great help to us. We will be washing down the furniture and stacking it in the centre of the rooms ready for the big cleaning of the floors that happens over the break. Other jobs include washing sandpit toys, sorting books and puzzles, and tidying the storeroom.

Kinder Parent Information Night  
We have our annual Parent Information night coming up on 26 November for parents of children who will be attending K3 or K4 in 2016. It will be held in the Primary Use Multi-Purpose room (PUMP) starting at 7.30pm. We hope you can attend this important evening. As well as hearing important information about kinder next year, you will receive your child’s group and session times, and also hear about children’s social development from our Guest speaker Jo Glassi.

End of Year Celebrations  
We have our final days coming up with some special celebrations to end the year. For each group we have a party planned, short concerts to share with you where we will song some of our favourite songs for you. Each group will receive a letter very soon with more details.

This Christmas, I pray that you will celebrate in recognition of the astounding love that God has for us that he sent Jesus to live on Earth with us. However you may celebrate, we pray blessings on your families and may the Joy of Christmas be in your hearts this season.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

Blessings

Wendy Mason  
Early Years Coordinator
How the weeks have quickly flown by this term! In K4 we have been looking at the many different countries and cultures around the world, and the children have begun to share their knowledge of different countries and cultures. We have talked about ‘culture’ in terms of different places, climate, food, clothes, language, music and money. Thank you to the parents who have helped to contribute to our discussions. On Monday Mrs Rachel Jaraba, our lovely Indonesian teacher, visited us with many items to teach us about Indonesia. Next week we will have a visit from Mr Duc Tran, one of our middle school teachers, whose background is Chinese. He will share a little about his country of birth and culture.

On Friday November 27 we have King Marong from Africa coming to kinder for a drumming workshop with the children. He will share his people’s love of drumming and celebration. The children will participate in singing, dancing and playing the drums – the Djembe, Tombea, Silba and the Conga.

Over the next couple of weeks we will visit stories that lead up to the birth of Jesus. Advent means ‘The Lord is coming’ and in the two weeks before the end of the year we will look at Hope, Peace, Joy and Love, to prepare for Christmas. We will read stories that show us how blessed we are that the word of God has been spread throughout the Earth. We also have been exploring what it means to ‘love thy neighbour’. We found that your neighbour is not only the person that lives next door to you, but also the person you are sitting next to or even the person you are playing with in the playground. In other words God wants us to try our best to love all people no matter who they are.

The ‘Step into Prep’ transition program has gone very well, and the children have been well acquainted with the Prep rooms and teachers by now. Last week we visited the Library and met Mrs Distefano who read a story to us. It was great fun; the walk up to the Library was an adventure, and it is an important part of getting to know our school better, in preparation for next year.

Orientation Day for the whole of MECS (Primary and Secondary) is on Tuesday December 8. 2015 Preps attend from 9am to 12pm.

Our last session for Possums and Koalas for 2015 is Friday December 11. On this day we will be having a party lunch.

Our K4 Concert celebration will be on Monday December 14 starting at 2pm. This will be instead of the usual kinder session. The last Primary GT (Assembly) will be in the morning in the gym. We will begin with a dramatization of the Christmas story followed by some singing. We will send home some further information regarding this special celebration day very soon.

Wendy, Robyn, Cherie and Andrea-K4 Educators
Bluebirds News

During the last couple of weeks we will continue to talk about our senses and how we use them for learning. In particular, our sense of touch, taste, smell and movement.

In December our program focus will be on the biblical and historical account of Christmas. We will celebrate the end of our awesome kindergarten year with a special celebration and concert with yummy party food on **Thursday December 11**:

- **Rosellas**: 10:30am – 12pm
- **Blue Birds**: 1:30pm – 3pm

Our Orientation went well and all of the children met Koala and Possum Educators in readiness for next year.

We will be sending your kinder hats home over the summer to wash, fix if needed and maybe to re-label in a creative and colourful way. If you are attending K4 next year you will need to bring this hat with you on the very first day in 2016.

*Lee and Karen-K3 Educators*

Busy Bees News

Busy Bees has certainly been a hive of activity this term! As the year draws to close we would love to celebrate on our last sessions, which will be on **Thursday December 10**. Please bring a plate of food to share, as we celebrate our year together.

*Lynda- Playgroup Leader*

Blessings from the Kindergarten Staff,

Robyn, Cherie, Andrea, Lee, Karen, Susan, Lynda & Wendy