Dear Parents,

We are well into the term now, with many rich learning experiences happening in all of the groups.

**Health**

Some skills we have continued to work on at Kindergarten are blowing noses and handwashing afterwards, and washing hands before eating. We appreciate you following up and helping children with these skills at home. Please remind your child that this is an important thing to do at Kindergarten.

If children are not well, coughing or have runny noses, please **do not** send them to Kindergarten, even if they say they want to go. Rest, warmth and quiet is required to help children recuperate properly and not spread germs. In this way we can reduce the spreading of germs, and children remain healthy. This is important in consideration of others.

Blessings,

Wendy Mason – Early Years Coordinator

---

**Important Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>K4 Road Safety Awareness with ThingleTootle</strong></td>
<td>11.15-45 minutes</td>
<td>Monday Aug 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12.15-45 minutes</td>
<td>Koalas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>K4 Bring Your bike to Kinder Day</strong></td>
<td>Koalas</td>
<td>Wednesday Aug 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Possums</td>
<td>Friday Sept 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>K4 Father's Night</strong></td>
<td>Koalas</td>
<td>Thursday Sept 1 5.30pm-6.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Possums</td>
<td>K Koalas &amp; Possums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>K4 Platypus Education Session</strong></td>
<td>Koalas</td>
<td>Monday 5 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Possums</td>
<td>10-11am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11.15am-12.15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>K4 Foundation Teachers Visit</strong></td>
<td>Koalas</td>
<td>Wed Sept 14 &amp; Fri Sept 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Possums</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Possum and Koala News**

The children were very excited about our bus ride to Montrose a few weeks ago. We looked in the shops and talked about what was being sold there, however the highlight was definitely posting a letter home. The children were delighted to tell us about their letter arriving at home!

What a wonderful excursion we had to Kew Traffic School, where we were involved in lots of learning about traffic, crossing the road safely and riding bikes around the little village. The road safety talk is very important, and in preparation for this excursion we have had lots of discussions in our groups.
about how to cross the road, (stop, look, listen, think) or why we alight from the car on the left – the safety door. As a part of our road safety education program we have been talking about different types of transport. Our God made people to be creative, and we can see how inventive people are simply by looking at all of the modes of transport and their purposes. These discussions include road safety awareness and crossing the road safely.

‘ThingyToodle’ is the road traffic authority mascot, teaching children to cross the road safely, and we are excited that he will be visiting our Kinder this year. You can YouTube these quick videos and look at them at home with your child to reinforce the importance of being safe such as holding an adult’s hand, looking both ways, listening for traffic and importantly thinking.

Here are some links to the songs and some parent information:


We have challenged the children to hold hands as they leave the Kinder, and walk with their adult down to the car park. Please support your child’s learning by reinforcing this important safety rule.

BIKE DAY

Koalas: Wednesday August 31
Possums: Friday September 2

On these days, please bring along your child’s bike and helmet to Kinder. When you arrive please leave them in the front entrance area of the Kindergarten. During the session we will take the children out to ride them on the basketball courts, practising some of the skills we have been talking about at Kinder and will have learnt at the Kew Traffic School and from our visit from ThingleToodle.

FATHERS NIGHT AT KINDER

We invite Fathers (or significant adult) of K4 children to a special night at Kindergarten. This is a night where children can spend time with their Father at Kindergarten, show them their favourite things to do, play, paint and at the end, we will sing some songs for them!

POSSUMS AND KOALAS: Please arrive at Kinder on Thursday September 1 from 5:30pm to 6.30pm.

PMP- PERCEPTUAL MOTOR PROGRAM

The children have been enjoying the Wednesday visits to the Primary School PUMP room to do our ‘exercises’. They have been involved in balancing, moving on scooter boards, eye tracking and ball skill activities. Could you please remember to send your child in easy to remove shoes and socks (no tights) as this can become slippery and children do not get the full benefit of the program. Bare feet heightens the sensory experience. If you could stay to help with these exercises at the beginning of the session we would greatly appreciate the extra hands to make sure children get the full benefit of the program.

PLATYPUS EDUCATION GROUP

We will have a visit from Jen from the Platypus Education group, on Monday September 5, which is funded by the Yarra Ranges Council. During her talk she will discuss how unique the platypus is, and how we can help to protect them. She will also talk about the environment and sustainability, which will be a lovely introduction to our ‘Australia our Country’ unit. During these last two weeks of term we will talk about Indigenous Australia and some familiar icons/cities around our country.
Footsteps to Foundation (previously known as Step into Prep)

Our wonderful Foundation teachers will be visiting each Kindergarten class and undertaking meeting with each child. Our Foundation teachers take this opportunity to get to know the children in a familiar environment. Watch the noticeboard for the days when the teachers will be visiting!

Wendy, Karen, Cherie and Andrea-K4 Educators

Bluebird and Rosella News

Since the beginning of this term, the children have been learning about farming and the way Jesus provides and cares for them. They have extended their knowledge on how sheep give us wool; cows supply us with meat and milk and pigs are farmed for their meat. The children even know that the milk from cows was used to make the cream to make our delicious butter. On the same day, the children made some bread using the flour, which was once a little grain of wheat, which was milled to make our flour.

The highlight I think for the children was actually seeing and patting Farmer Skye’s baby farm animals at Kinder on Thursday August 11. This was a great way for the children to demonstrate their fruits of the spirit (gentleness, kindness, love, and patience) as they waited their turn to pat the animals. This week we have moved our farming conversation to flora farming where the children have been learning about plants that give us food, such as fruit and vegetables. The children even had a glimpse inside a shallot bulb — which is a little embryo filled with the information it needs to grow into a shallot plant.

From week 8, the children will be learning about our oviparous animals, firstly wondering what they might be and how they can provide food for us. And we hope to have an opportunity to visit the chickens in the MECS Creative Garden during that week.

We have started making our Father’s Day gifts, which tie in well with our ‘learning about farming’. It has been a very busy and fulfilling term.

Lee and Sarah-K3 Educators

Busy Bees News

Hello to all the lovely families belonging to Busy Bees,

I have noticed how much the children have grown since the start of the year and how they have really settled into the routine of the session, seeing how the very little ones are now sitting on the mat ready for a story is wonderful and the bigger children are sitting for longer at activities and playing well with each other, sharing and taking turns.

During the session, please take the opportunity to go and visit all the activities set out with your child as there are some great educational and imaginative opportunities to be experienced.
If you are into Facebook, we have a private group happening where we all can communicate and add photos. Please let me know if you want to join.

A quote I recently read that reminded me of the kids at Busy Bees especially the new babies.

'Sometimes the smallest things take up the most room in your heart'
Pooh Bear.

Lynda – Playgroup Leader

From all of the Kindergarten Staff,
Karen, Cherie, Andrea, Lee, Sarah, Susan, Lynda & Wendy