



"learning through play"

Greenhills Gazette

DECEMBER 2014

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Dates to Remember

End of Year Celebration Days

Swift Parrots:

Monday 15th December
10.00 - 11.15am

Growling Grass Frogs:

Wednesday 17th December
12.00 - 1.30pm

Orientation for 2015

Growling Grass Frog Educators will be spending time with the Swift Parrots on **Monday 8th December** during their Kinder session. We welcome Swift Parrot families to come an hour before the end of session (10.15am) for a meet and greet with the 4 year old staff.

Families enrolled in the 4 year old program who are new to the kinder are invited to attend Kinder on Friday 12th December.

Information regarding these times and sessions was included in your AGM pack.

President's Report

Hello Kinder families,
Well this is the final time I will be writing to you as President. I am excited to announce that **Jackie Macdonald** will be taking over the role next year and I know that she will do so with dedication and gusto.

It has been a privilege to work alongside our educators and committee these past 3 years and see the dedication that they bring to their role. I have had to interview for five staff over the past couple of years and I know that the five women we have at our Kinder are outstanding. Again, I thank them for all their hard work and look forward to watching the way they walk alongside my youngest son as he begins his educational journey at Greenhills next year.

Most of you will be aware of the struggles our sector has had this year. We have had to petition the government to ensure that 15hrs of Kinder is provided again next year and you will be aware of the statewide struggle to have our educators pay in line with the rest of the educational sector.

Both of these challenges will continue into next year and threaten to hinder the quality of education our children will receive. So can I ask you to continue to advocate for 15hrs beyond 2015? And where possible, support our educators.

I sincerely hope that you enjoy these final weeks and that you look back on your time at Greenhills 2014 with fondness. It really is a special place and I am most grateful for the opportunity to have had a small part to play in this along with many others. Please support your committee and educators as much as you can next year. We are all a bunch of volunteers and the more we can share the load, the better. Enjoy your Christmas holidays and I will see many of you next year.

*Kayte Kitchen,
President*

We are still in need of a Treasurer for 2015. Looking for someone who is keen to support the Kinder. This role is something you can do from home and has a wonderful support network. Please consider this wisely - the kinder constitutionally cannot run without all executive roles filled.

Educator's Report

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Our 2014 AGM was a great night where we showcased everything that our children do and experience at Greenhills. This was not only a visual experience with a power point presentation but also a culinary delight! Both groups of children made some special slices as a thank you to the Committee for all they have done for the kinder this year. The Swift Parrots made delicious 'Lemon Slice' assisted by **Charlotte's** Grandmother Alison.

The Growling Grass Frogs with some help from **Tracey** made Hedgehog slice. They also made a large thank you sign to go with their offerings.

There were so many slices that we were able to also share them with all the parents and families who came along as well.



Discussions with Children:

We acknowledge that every child and family have unique ways of celebrating. To continue our child – focused program we will be providing children with the opportunities to share how they wish to celebrate their time at Kinder.

We will be having conversations with children about different ways and reasons for celebrating

- End of the year
- New beginnings
- Friendships that have been built
- Families & Celebrations

Children may decide to incorporate cooking, parties, special songs..... We look forward to hearing their ideas.



Celebration Tree:

We will be implementing a celebration tree at Kinder and invite all families to add a special object to our tree. Children will have the opportunity in our studio to make & display their unique objects for our kinder tree.

Celebration Flags:

We invite you to think about ‘a special time this year’ and then represent that on the bunting that has been placed in your pocket. This could be a photo/picture/written memory/drawing/collage etc. These will become our ‘Celebration Flags’ and will be displayed for the remainder of the term and then placed in your child’s journal.

Family Hampers:

Although receiving gifts is exciting for children, we thought it would be a valuable experience for all of us at Kinder to be able to give to others. **Thank you** for your generous donations to our family hampers which will be distributed to families in need with Diamond Valley Food Share Inc. We will be taking donations up until **Friday December 5th**.

Dates for Your Diary:

End of year celebration days

(look out for invitations in your pockets)

Growling Grass Frogs: Wednesday 17th December 12.00 - 1.30pm

Swift Parrots: Monday 15th December 10.00 - 11.15am

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Thank you

To all our Kinder friends and families

*We thank-you for your
participation, contributions, friendship and
support throughout the year.*

What a wonderful year we have had!!!

*For those friends who are moving on we wish you
all the best and for those returning we look
forward to seeing you in the New Year.*

*On behalf of all educators at Greenhills we would
like to thank the 2014 Committee for their support,
hard work and dedication throughout the year.*

Love from the Educators @ Greenhills Preschool

Jo, Emily, Karen, Stephanie & Tracey

From the Fundraising Team

Bike Count was the last of our Fundraiser of the year. We had 5 stations in the Nillumbik Council and there were 6 families Kinder families involved in the counting the number of bikes, people and dogs between 9-1pm on Sunday 9th Nov. Each station gave us \$120 so we made \$600 for a day in the sun. Thanks to **Sophie** and **Mel** for their efforts organising this and all those who gave up their time to help raise money.



Photos supplied by Carissa

The full report for the year is in the AGM meeting/minutes but here is the final tally of the year. We are very thankful for all the effort of so many families, especially committee, for their support and generosity of time, money, gifts and effort to raise the money we have this year. We know that the Kinder will benefit from the extra resources and opportunities.

Thanks to our wonderful team **Anita, Eva, Jackie** and **Mel** - great times, great friendships.

Event	Projected	Actual
Welcome Picnic	\$ 120.00	\$ 72.85
Find Booklet	\$ 350.00	\$ 279.00
Easter Raffle	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,046.00
Trivia Night	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,206.70
Bunnings	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,701.00
Bike Count	\$ 800.00	\$ 600.00
Other	\$ 200.00	\$ 753.14
Total Profit	\$ 6,370.00	\$ 7,658.69