



"learning through play"

Greenhills Gazette

May 2017

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Reminders...

- Ensure that you sign your child in and out as this is a legal requirement.
- All items need to be labelled with your child's name.
- Please sign up for Parent Helper, Gardening and Laundry on the rosters located near the sign in book.
- Please ensure you only leave kinder with the child you are collecting and be vigilant about keeping the gate closed.
- If you are going to be late at pick up time please call the kinder to inform Educators

Donations of the following would be greatly appreciated:

- Shells
- Boxes (small and large)
- Cardboard tubes
- Vases
- Wood offcuts and wire
- A ream/packet of paper if you haven't already donated one.

President's Report

Already we find ourselves a month into Term Two. The time has flown by and there has been a lot packed in: Easter, ANZAC Day, the Bunnings bake sale, and the Mother's Day stall!

Well done to the fundraising team for organising the bake sale and Mother's Day stall. They were both a great success. I just wanted to also thank the volunteers who baked and manned the stalls. Without volunteers, we wouldn't be able to run these stalls and make money for projects around the kinder. If you see another fundraising event that needs volunteers and you are free, please don't hesitate to put your name down. It's also a great way of meeting everyone.

We had our Emergency SMS test run at the end of last term and it has come to our attention that there were quite a lot of you that DID NOT receive this SMS. If this is you, or you would like to update your emergency contacts, could you please see the Educators and they will give you another form to fill out. We will then re-test the system. This system is an integral part of the kinder as we are in a bush fire area and we need to know that it is working properly!

The Educators have also asked me to remind everyone to make sure that you know about the gardening roster. The kinder received a \$10,000 grant at the

Important Dates...

Grade 3 & 4s from Greenhills Primary School visiting GGF groups

Monday 22nd and Wed 24th May

Marlies from Diamond Valley Library - Reading Time

Swift Parrot: Thursday 25th May at 10am

GGF: Monday 29th May at 10.30am

Queen's Birthday

Monday 12th June – NO KINDER

start of last year from the RSL, to upgrade the outdoor area. This included the planting of new plants, so we need to keep these plants healthy and our outdoor area looking neat and tidy. If you are able to spare a few hours on a weekend to come in and do this, please put your name down on the gardening roster. This is located next to the sign in sheet along with the laundry roster. If you are unsure where it is, and would like to put your name down, please ask the Educators.

And of course if you have any questions and see me around, please don't hesitate to come and ask. I always love a good chat!

I hope you had a lovely Mother's Day

Jacqui Armstrong



Dear parent/s,

We would like to invite you to join the Greenhills Preschool committee for 2017.

We currently have the following positions available:

- Vice president
- Fundraising (To join and support the current 3 members)
- general committee members

The committee is a great way to meet other parents and gain an insight into the running of the kinder.

If you are interested, please don't hesitate to contact our President Jacqui Armstrong.

Please email jacqui_carter7@yahoo.com.au, call 0404 870 470 or if you see her around the kinder please don't hesitate to talk with her or any of the other committee members.

Kind Regards,

Greenhills Pre-school Committee.

Educator's Report

Swift Parrots

Welcome Swift Parrot Parents to the 2nd Term!

It has been really lovely meeting you and your children. Everyone has been so welcoming and I am happy to be a part of such a lovely community.

The children have been really busy during their time at kinder. In everything they do – whether it's playing, talking, looking at books, writing their names, singing songs and saying their friend's names – they are constantly learning all the time. The children have been growing in confidence with asking for help, such as for help with putting the taps on. They are following routines and instructions, such as when the bell rings it means it's time to pack up, collect their bag, find their photo and sit on the mat.

The children have been enjoying using the dress ups, and will often ask the teachers for help putting them on. There has been a lot of interest in the sand pit, where the children have been making cakes, cups of tea, setting up a café, and enjoying playing with each other. The children have started to build some friendships within the group too, which has been really lovely to see. However, at this age it is still parallel play. Autumn leaf painting was introduced and there was some interest, however the children wanted to use it for finger painting.



To help celebrate Mother's Day/Special Friends Day, the children made a card or painting and had the opportunity to ice some biscuits with either pink or green icing and some sprinkles. As it's a new experience the children seemed really engaged in the experience.





Cooking teaches children about maths, measurement, experimentation, creativity and curiosity. By including experiences such as cooking at kinder, it encourages the children to have a go and to try something new. We will be extending this by doing some more cooking with the group. It would be really great to have some parent helpers too. If anyone knows of a chef who could come and cook with the children, that would be fantastic! We will also be talking to the children about who helps us in our community, so if anyone knows a police officer or fire fighter please let us know!

If anyone has any concerns or would like to speak to us about anything, please feel to do so after the session.

Kirsten and Deb

Growling Grass Frogs

What a wonderful time we had with our visitors during our Mother's Day celebrations. The children came up with some very special things for their Mums and Grandmas to do and enjoy while they were at kinder. The children prepared a delicious orange cake for our visitors to enjoy, we played, sang and presented our Mums with a range of very special and individual handmade gifts. Here are some lovely comments from children we would like to share:

Charlie: I love my Mum because she takes me to the park

Dean: I love my Mum because we read stories together

Hunter: I love my Mum because she has soft cheeks

Nova: I love my Mum because she gives me cuddles when I am sad and that makes me happy



We would like to thank everyone who came. As Educators, it was lovely to be part of this special celebration, and see our visitors connecting with other families and our play space. Your children demonstrated that they were confident, comfortable and proud of their kinder.



Another visitor we welcomed recently was Kate from Bunnings. As part of their sustainability program, Bunnings have donated coir bricks and worms to help us begin our worm farm journey. Kate spoke to the group about what we can feed the worms, so that they in turn can produce lots of worm juice for our growing garden.



This term we have introduced a range of costumes at kinder and we have seen many friends enjoy dressing up and role playing a range of different characters.



This is so cool, I'm a knight and I can help people, I can save the day, this is so cool, informs Mason.

I'm being super grass, I am camouflaged informs Ben whilst wearing a green cape. I look like grass or plants, can you see me?



Joshua has waited patiently for his turn of a costume and is a Super Hero!

We believe role play is very important for children to learn negotiation and social skills, to encourage them to use their imagination, and take on different characters/roles in their play.

We love family members spending time with us at kinder so please remember to add your name to our family helper roster. If you or any other family members have a skill or passion that you could share with our kinder friends, please speak to Educators about your idea. Some ideas include: sewing, knitting, building, drawing, sport, cooking, painting, reading stories in English and other languages... The list is endless.



Also, we are on the hunt for some tinkering items. If you have any small electrical equipment that you no longer need, please bring it in so our friends can pull it apart and discover what is inside. Items we would love include: beaters, power tools, dvd players, radios...

Emily, Karen, Tracey and Debbie

Greenhills Fundraising

What We are Fundraising for this Year – Equipment for Visits to the Reserve

The Educators have started regular visits to Yandell Reserve, and have decided to order a class set of children's safety vests to be used for these visits.

They would also like to order a class set of splash pants for children to wear when it's wet in the Reserve. The Fundraising team and Committee are happy to support



Bunnings Bake Sale

The Fundraising team would like to thank all the generous Kinder families who donated baked goods for us to sell at our fundraiser bake sale. Thank you also to the Growling Grass Frogs group on Thursday for making honey joys and brownies for us to sell. A special thank you to the people who helped out at the bake sale on the day. We managed to raise \$600!



Mother's Day Flower Stall

Our Mother's Day Stall was a great success! We had heaps of flowers for people to choose from, and we estimate that we made around \$253.

A huge thankyou goes out to Debbie (Jacqui's mum) and Jess Higgins from Floral Concepts (Swift Parrots group) who both donated a huge amount of flowers and also their time and expertise. We couldn't have done it without you!

Thankyou also to everyone who purchased a bunch or two of flowers – we hope your mums and special people enjoyed them on Mother's Day!

Stuck On You Labels

Our Stuck On You labels fundraiser is still in progress. These labels are a fantastic way to keep track of your child's belongings and reduce the ever-growing pile of lost property at Kinder! When you visit <http://www.stuckonyou.com.au/> to order from a fantastic range of kids' labels and gifts simply enter the code "GREENHILLSPRESCHOOL" for us to get up to 20% commission!

stuckonyou®

Newsletter Advertising

We are still selling advertising space in the Greenhills Newsletter. If you, or anyone you know, owns a business that may be interested in advertising in our Newsletter, which reaches all Kinder families as well as prospective families who may be perusing our website, please contact melissa.moore@live.com.au to get further details on the newly revised prices.

Facebook Page

Please take the time to "like" our Facebook page – "Fundraising for Greenhills Pre-school" to keep up to date with our various events.

Uniforms

Our new purple and green uniforms, in line with the kinder colours, have arrived they look awesome! They are up on display at kinder, so check them out next time you're in.

It's \$15 for a hat \$20 for a t-shirt or \$30 for both.

Please see the Educators if you would like to purchase something.

The Fundraising Team

