

Committee News – March 2014

Dear Yandell families,

Autumn is drawing in. Banyule's landscape of native flora keeps its green, blue and grey tones all year round; but here and there European deciduous trees are beginning to flame into warm golds, coppers and rusts as they prepare to shed their leaves for winter. Lawns have welcomed the rain and are growing lush and green.

The autumn solstice has passed, and light and warmth are receding as the nights get longer and colder. It is time to gather in summer's bounty, and contemplate how the sun's energy has been transformed into sustenance to nourish and strengthen us through the winter.



Image from urbanthreads.com

At Yandell, the children are beginning preparations for the Autumn Festival, which marks the coming of autumn and celebrates harvest time. Our teachers, Sharon and Mandy, will give you more information about participating in the Autumn Festival soon.

We are very happy to report that every committee position is now filled and we are blessed with a committee that brings a diverse and very complementary set of skills and abilities that will make this a successful year. Yandell's Committee is strong and energised to serve Yandell in 2014.

Yandell Kindergarten is assessed against the National Quality Framework (NQF) for Early Childhood Education. While Yandell is compliant in every quality area, our goal is to raise our ratings to 'Excellent' and become a best-practice service provider. .

We encourage you to be involved in your child's time here at Yandell. There are many opportunities for you to get to know other members of the community, including:

- volunteering at the Working Bees
- volunteering, donating to, or attending the Autumn Fair/Native Plant Sale
- volunteering your time as a kitchen helper for an afternoon at kindergarten
- joining some of the extracurricular social activities we will initiate later in the year.

By being involved in any way you can offer, you will help the stability, future and bonds of our lovely community.

Best wishes,

Yandell Committee 2014

Autumn dates for your diary

Thursday 3 April	3YO Ring-a-Rosie Autumn Festival – 11.00-12.30pm at Yandell (no regular kinder session)
Friday 4 April	4YO Kindergarten Autumn Festival – 10.30-12.30pm at Yandell
Friday 5 April	Term 1 holidays begin
Sunday 6 April	Daylight Savings ends Banyule Nature Play Day at 1.00pm – 4.00pm Andrew Yandell Reserve
Monday 21 April	Easter Monday
Tuesday 22 April	Term 2 starts Committee Meeting – 7.00pm at Yandell
Friday 25 April	Anzac Day holiday
Saturday 26 April	Working Bee
Saturday 3 May	Autumn Fair/Native Plant Sale at Yandell - Banyule Kindergarten Open Day
Monday 5 May – Wednesday 7 May	Photograph Days at Yandell

Autumn Festival

3YO Ring-a-Rosie - Thursday 3 April, 11.00am - 12.30pm

4YO Kindergarten - Friday 4th April 10.30am - 12.30pm

Families are invited to come to Yandell to celebrate the turning of the season and our first term together.

Please come with your child to kindergarten at the time scheduled for their program. There will be no regular kindergarten session on these days.

4YO Kindergarten - Please note that if your child does not usually attend on Fridays, they are all invited to the Festival as this is a special day for everyone, and not a normal session.



Bounty from a previous year

Nature Play Day – can you help?

Banyule Council is hosting a Nature Play Day from 1.00pm – 4.00pm on Sunday 6 April in Andrew Yandell Reserve. The Nature Play Day promotes connections between family play activities and nature and highlighting the physical and health benefits of playing in nature. Participating families will be equipped with information and strategies to engage children in natural play experiences in their recreation time.

Yandell is participating in this event as a local service. Banyule Council will provide a range of activities on the day and are looking for volunteers to help engage with families and children during the event. They particularly need help with their children's mud kitchen and making Eltham Copper Butterfly mobiles (including cutting out butterflies before the day).

If you would like to help, please email us at: yandellkindergarten@gmail.com. Natalie, our Secretary, will coordinate our volunteers for Nature Play Day.

To book in for this free event, please call Banyule Customer Service on 9490 4222.



Working Bee – Saturday 26 April

Nathan, our Maintenance Officer, reports that the last working bee on 22 February was successful, and thanks to all who came to help. Angeline Tarrant catered a delicious BBQ lunch for the volunteers, with sausages,

vegetarian patties, bread, salads, homemade relishes, and a moist apple cake (see the last edition of the Fairy Tree News for the recipe). Well done Ange!

The next working bee is scheduled for 9.00am – 1.00pm Saturday 26 April. You don't need to come at 9.00am on the dot—and you're welcome to leave when you need to. Feel free to bring your family; but for safety two adults need to keep a close eye on little ones.

Yandell provides lunch and cake, including vegetarian options. Dairy, gluten and sugar intolerances will be catered for. Please bring your own water bottles.

We look forward to meeting more of you and welcoming you to the Yandell family!

Autumn Fair/Banyule Kindergarten Open Day – volunteers wanted

Yandell holds its Autumn Festival & Native Plant Sale fundraiser on Banyule Kindergarten Open Day. It's a great time for any friends you have who are interested in enrolling their children at Yandell to come and visit, meet the teachers and community, and enjoy the goods and activities we will offer that day.

Find out more at:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Yandell-Kindergarten-Native-Plant-Sale-and-Fair/155627384557692?ref=hl>, in the foyer at Yandell, or in your emails.

We would love to have a parent of the 3-year-old group join the Autumn Festival sub-committee to shadow Tina, the Autumn Festival Coordinator, in her role. This person would be perfect to take on the reins in 2015 and carry on the knowledge and experience of the current team.

It is a great event with which to be involved, so if you feel a tingle of excitement in your toes about this opportunity, please get in touch with Tina at:

yandellkindergarten@gmail.com.

We also need outdoor advertising space! If you have, or know of, private land with main road exposure in Banyule or Nillumbik where we could place our advertising sign, please contact Tina.

Briar Hill Primary School

Briar Hill Primary School is capping its prep class numbers for 2015. Enrolments for prep will open in April. If you are considering enrolling your child at Briar Hill in 2015, we encourage you to complete an Expression of Interest form now so you will receive details when enrolments are due. The Expression of Interest form is here: <http://www.briar-hill-ps.vic.edu.au/page/85/Enrolment>.

Outstanding fees

It is nearing the end of Term 1 and many families have not yet paid their fees.

The total of outstanding fees for our kinder is now more than **\$6000**.

Yandell cannot provide a quality Steiner Kindergarten program and all it entails if fees are not paid.

If you are experiencing trouble paying please contact Paula Money, our book-keeper at: pandpmoney@bigpond.com to initiate a payment plan to pay off your fees.

We trust you can appreciate the importance of this issue.

Autumn Harvest Salad

By Natalie Simpson

Salad

3 large carrots, grated

1 apple, grated

2 corn cobs, kernels sliced off

Handful of snow peas, sliced thinly (opt. blanched)

3 tbs sunflower seeds and/or pumpkin seeds

1 tbs raisins

Dressing

Juice of one lemon

Equal part grapeseed oil

Sea salt to taste

Method

1. Whisk dressing ingredients together
2. Gently combine salad ingredients
3. Pour dressing over salad immediately before serving.

Enjoy!

An autumn poem

*Autumn has painted the leaves that we see
Red, yellow, gold they hang from the tree.*

*Yellow the bracken, golden the sheaves,
Rosy the apples, crimson the leaves.*

*Mist on the hillside, clouds grey and white,
Autumn good morning, summer good night.*