

W I N T E R E D I T I O N 2 0 1 5



*A Steiner Kindergarten
Nurturing wonder and imagination in every child*

Yandell Kindergarten Newsletter, June 2015

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Welcome to the third Yandell
newsletter for 2015!

Winter is here and what a
warm, wonderful time our little
ones have been having at
Yandell!



Save the Date!

Next Working
bee

Sat 18th July
9.30am-1pm

Committee Meetings

Thurs 16th July, 7pm

Mon 10th August, 7pm

Thurs 10th September,
7pm

Holiday Play Dates

Ring-a-Rosie: Thurs 2nd July,
11am-1pm, Alastair Knox
Park (Near Eltham Library)

4 YO Group: Friday 3rd July,
11am-1pm, Alastair Knox
Park (Near Eltham Library)

4-year-old Group Update

By the time you read this the Winter Solstice will have come and gone; the shortest day of the year. It's when the sun is at its furthestmost point from us in the southern hemisphere. It is an important turning point in the year as it challenges us to find the light in the darkness and the warmth in the cold.

The celebration of the Winter solstice helps us to become aware of the inner reality of the seasons, as is with all the seasonal festivals. The kindergarten Winter Festival was our opportunity to declare,



through symbolism and gesture, our wish for our own inner light to shine through the darkness and for the children to share a magical gift to the adults who love and nurture them. It is important that essential elements are repeated each time the festival is celebrated so that anticipation is satisfied.

It is reassuring to

remember that memory highlights the attitude around the activity rather than the activity itself. Simplicity and peacefulness are key thoughts.

To walk out early into the starry night with glowing lantern lighting the way, can be seen as

representative of each of us taking our inner light out into the world...simply we want to join our children in a celebration of human warmth in the coldest time of the year. In this way thanksgiving, along with gratitude are important elements.



Over the coming weeks I hope you find opportunities to reach out to those you love in your



community and invite them in for a candle lit dinner or go for a walk with lanterns in the starry night...sing together...share stories together...bake together, all of these will help provide the magical stepping stone towards the renewal of individual, family and community traditions.

It's time to surround and support one another (in the darkness or in time of need) so that the winter experience is not cold, fearful and gloomy; but rather warming, life confirming and wonderful.

Wishing you all a wonderful end of term break and I look forward to seeing you all again in term 3.

Cheers,

Sharon

PS: There will be a few changes to the program for term 3:

- Jessica, our Eurythmist, will be visiting on Friday mornings for terms 3 and 4 instead of Mondays.
- Painting will also be on Fridays instead of Mondays for the rest of the year.
- Woodworking will be introduced into the program during outdoor play time.
- Lastly, a reminder that with the cold winds and rain it is important to send your child along with a woolen hat, a raincoat and gumboots each day and please don't forget the layers.



Ring-a-Rosie Update

Hi Everyone,

Thank you for all helping to make our Winter Festival such a special night. The food people brought was so delicious! The children behaved beautifully and all looked so happy and proud walking with their lanterns. It was such a magical night.

After the holidays we will begin painting on a Tuesday. The paints are made from flowers and are very beautiful but do stain clothes. The children will wear aprons but please don't send children in special clothes especially on these days.

I hope you all have a joyful and restful holiday.

Love Mandy

CHIA CRACKERS

- 1/4 cup chia seeds
- 1/4 cup sunflower seeds
- 1/4 cup pumpkin seeds
- 1/2 tsp sea salt
- 1/4 cup oats (gluten free)
- 2 Tbsp flax seeds
- 1 cups filtered water
- 1/4 cup unrefined wholegrain spelt flour
(for gluten free substitute use buckwheat flour)
- 2 Tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 2 tsp dried thyme or mixed herbs

Recipe Corner

From Melissa, Mum of Mahli (Ring-a-Rosie Group)

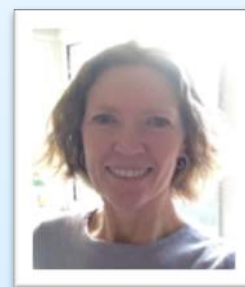
1. Combine all ingredients in a food processor until it's a coarse dough.
2. Let the mixture sit for about 30 min as this allows the chia seeds to absorb some of the moisture, making it a thick dough.
3. Spread the dough out on a piece of non-stick parchment paper with your fingers and a little water to combat the dough sticking to your fingers.
4. Score the dough into small squares using a large knife or pizza cutter.
5. Place in preheated oven and bake for 30-40 minutes until golden brown and crisp.
6. Let them cool for 5 mins before breaking them up into small squares. Enjoy with a dip or spread!

Committee Notices

- **Congratulations** to Susi, Martine, Yolande, Ivy, Olivia and all of the wonderful parents on the Plant Sale Committee for a fantastic event and thank you for your commitment and hard work!
- **Working bee**
Don't forget to come along to our next working bee on **Saturday the 18th of July** at 9.30am It's always a fun and productive day, and will count as one credit towards reimbursement of the maintenance levy.
- **Late collection of children**
The late collection of children incurs extra costs to the kinder, as extra staffing is required for supervision. The committee is considering a late fee schedule as is used in other kindergartens and childcare facilities. If you have any suggestions or feedback on this matter, please email yandelladmin@gmail.com or place suggestions in the communication box in the foyer.

Introducing Yandell's Administration Manager: Sharyn Hatton

Hi, I have been working as the Admin Manager since December last year casually. Recently my position here became permanent and you will now find me in the admin office (entrance from the foyer or kinder room) on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. My daughter Marlee came to this lovely kinder for the Ring-a-Rosie program and the 4yo kinder program and during this time I was Vice President on the committee. When I am not here I am busy running my Herbal Medicine and Natural Health Clinic and when time permits teach circus classes to children.



My role as admin manager involves:

- Supporting the committee with annual handovers, providing continuity of information, and professional management of the kinder
- Supporting the teachers by responding to emails, enrolment enquiries, committee enquiries, reporting to the department and other general admin duties. Consequently the teachers have more time for teaching, report writing and development of the curriculum and program.
- Managing policies and procedures
- Facilitating communications between families and the committee
- Navigating through emergency management plans and safe operations

2015 Main Focus

We are in the process of updating and preparing all the mandatory policies. A folder with the policies will be available in the foyer soon. We welcome any feedback from families maybe from an area of your interest. Stay tuned.

Communication Box

You may have noticed the purple communication box in the foyer. We welcome any feedback, suggestions or kind thoughts. You may also return forms into this box. Please don't leave money or sensitive information (e.g. enrolment forms are best given to the teachers directly).

Please drop in and say hello, the door is often closed to help with noise levels or to keep the room warm, but my heart is always open.

Fundraising Update

Tea Towels

Thank you to all of our Families for their input and purchase of our Yandell Kindergarten Tea Towels! We sold a total of 97 tea towels altogether, which contributed \$466.50 towards our outdoor Gazebo. **There are only 10 Tea Towels Left for sale!!** If you missed out and would like one please see Sharon and/or Mandy or email me on yandellgrants@gmail.com They are \$15 each or less if you buy more :)

Bulbs

Thank you again for purchasing some bulbs from our Plant catalogue in Term 1.

We raised \$151.50 from the bulb sale.

These funds will go towards our outdoor Gazebo area.

The bulbs I bought and have planted are already sprouting and I'm looking forward to having a garden full of colour soon.



... From Michelle
(Fundraising Coordinator)



Thank you

...to Karve it Up in Greensborough for supplying the delicious sausage sizzle at our Autumn Plant Sale and Community Fair.

Newsletter contributions welcome!

We'd love the next edition of the newsletter to include as many recipes, poems, artwork and photos (with permission) as possible.

Please send contributions to me at yandellnewsletter@gmail.com

Or, feel free to place them in the newsletter envelope in the foyer at kinder.



Kylie

Newsletter Coordinator & mum of William (4yo group) & Lucy (Yandell 2013)