

S P R I N G E D I T I O N , S E P T E M B E R 2 0 1 9



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

Yandell Kindergarten Newsletter

Welcome!

*Spring is here, said the bumble bee
How do you know, said the old oak tree
I see yellow daffodils
Dancing with the fairies on the windy hills.*

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Yandell Kindergarten Newsletter.

What a glorious time of year, as we gratefully soak up the warmth and colour that Springtime offers us!

There is much to celebrate in the Yandell community over the coming weeks – read on and find out!

Dates for your diary

3YO Spring Festival – Thursday 19th September
10.30am-12.30pm

4YO Spring Festival – Friday 20th September
10am-12pm

Playground Opening Celebration – Friday 20th September
4.30-7.30pm

End of Term 3 – Friday 20th September

Start of Term 4 – Monday 7th October

Term 4 Working Bee – Saturday 19th October
9am-12pm



From our President...

How lovely that spring is well and truly in the air (both the sunshine and the unpredictable weather!). It feels like all the blossoms suddenly appeared this week, and the world is full of interesting birdsong. It has been a busy and eventful year for Yandell, with a very important milestone recently achieved...drum roll... We have a new playground! Many people have worked hard over a long period of time (both committee members and staff) to get this project up and running, and, with the help of a government grant from Vicky Ward, and the council support, it's finally a reality.

I'd like to take this moment to send a big thankyou to all who have been involved directly and contributed to essential fundraising efforts (both past and present committee members and staff). However, in particular I would like to thank Rachael Sinclair our fabulous leading 4 year old teacher, and generous individuals who have been the heart of the executive committee over the last two years; Nicola Van Breda, Susan Kruk, Suzy Bragulla, Dan Tunley, and Lucy Adams. These individuals have all put in so much of their precious time to make this project come to life!

We now have a playground that supports the children's development across the domains of gross and fine motor skills, balance and co-ordination, midline crossing and bilateral integration, core strength, imaginative play and social development. I have observed how excited the children are when they are using the new equipment! I'm also very pleased at how many of the 4 year olds are mastering the monkey bars! Our graduates will likely have the best handwriting in their prep classes (catch me in person if you want me to explain this one).



To celebrate the new playground we will be having an official opening and kinder picnic on the last day of term. We will have an official ceremony with the minister Vicky Ward and local councillors, and then we can all relax, picnic, and play in the lovely grounds of the kinder. I hope that as many of you will be there as possible to celebrate with us!

In other news, the council has begun the process of organising our kitchen and bathroom renovations but these will not be completed until the beginning of 2020.

I also want to extend gratitude to all those who put their hand up to help when we put out the call for committee members earlier this term. Those who came have already contributed so much with fresh ideas and fantastic new skills.

I love being part of this community and look forward to seeing everyone at the spring festival and playground opening event.

Cheers,
Meg

From our Four Year Olds...

The sun is occasionally peeping out for us and the wattle trees are bursting with their little balls of yellow, hinting that Spring is drawing nearer. Our garden beds have been warmed enough for some new flower and vegetable shoots to pop out from the earth. However, in the 4 year old group we still haven't hung up our gumboots or put away our rain coats and there is still lots of mud and slushy puddles to enjoy outside, along with our new outdoor equipment which has brought great excitement to all.

We are also delighted that a touch of the 'old' has stayed with us. The tyres which were recycled from the dismantled fort have initiated some wonderfully creative play, becoming bird's nests, pizza ovens and even a bus that was taking passengers to the beach! And the old swing frame, which was repurposed into an arbour near the mud pit, now has a little creeper to adorn it which the children helped us to plant. Since it is still a little chilly, we have had camp fires in the new tepee and to keep warm we have been practicing our skills on the monkey bars, counting as we grow stronger and reach more and more bars.



We waved goodbye to 'Goldilocks and the 3 Bears' last week to begin our new morning circle (which is a secret until the Spring Festival), but we had a special treat with our 'poddleopps' (rice porridge) on the last day to connect to the story – Berries! Yummy!

We have started our Spring Festival preparations busily juicing lemons for our lemon cordial and making lemon curd for our tarts. The smell of fresh squeezed lemons has awakened our senses and hinted further at Spring. We will soon be watching our biscuit jars fill up as we count the days and to the festival.



In craft we have been enjoying a very lovely sensory experience in wet felting new table runners for our lunch tables in the colors of the days of the week. And we will soon be making fleece butterflies. Many are still working at their pom poms and some children have begun finger knitting and attempting big daddy pom poms. Our inside play is bursting with rich imaginative storytelling collages and very clever construction, showing the children's emerging imagination and skill development.

We hope you will all join us for the color, warmth and fresh breath of Spring at our Festival on Friday 20th September. And please bring along some vines, greenery and flowers suitable for our activity of making a Spring wreath together.

Rachel ☺

Yandell 4 year old Spring Festival

Friday September 20th 10am – 12pm

We invite all families to join us in celebrating the return of Spring.

The children will be invited to make a Spring wreath together with you on arrival. We ask that you bring some suitable foliage for this and dress them wearing Spring colors.

The children will then present their morning circle, which will be followed by a special puppet story, and a light morning tea in the garden.

Please note our regular session will not be held on this day

We look forward to sharing this joyous occasion with you.

Rachel, Jo, Amy & Jenny



From our Three Year Olds...

Hello Families,

What an eventful term three we have had so far. We have said goodbye to old friends and welcomed new faces to Ring a Rosie this term and the children are vibrant and joyful as soon as the doors open each morning. We are seeing lots of collaborative play, with strong friendships being made and play scenarios being revisited week after week as if no time has passed at all. Through play with their peers children learn to assert their social competence, as well as their ability to make and keep friends. Play is a transformation of reality into the true source of wisdom and the basis of all forms of creativity.



As you know Melinda and I are very conscious of respecting that we provide the children with an environment in which free play can flourish, such as sufficient time and appropriate space (indoors and outdoors). Please remember that a quick goodbye is best and if you would like to chat with another parent try not to do this in the classroom as it can delay the children's ability to engage in play.

Our beautiful harvest festival bulbs have finally flowered, as I know many of yours have at home, we have loved seeing the photos you have been sharing on Storypark!

Our Term 4 parent helper roster is now available for you to fill out suitable days for duty, also, please remember to add your name to the food sharing list for Spring festival located on the sign in desk.

See you all soon,

Sarah and Melinda.



Ring-a-Rosie Spring Festival

*Please come with your child to celebrate Spring.
This is a time for colour and you may wish to dress for the season.*

Date: Thursday 19th September 2019
Time: 10.30am-12.30pm

Please bring flowers and vines to make Spring time garlands.

We will share a meal together. To make it simple, please put your name down on the festival food sharing list and please bring a small plate to avoid waste.

Upon arrival, please wait outside until you are invited in; where we will begin with garland making, followed by morning tea and a story. Please note that the festival is held in place of a regular kinder session.



Warm wishes,
Sarah and Melinda

Playground Opening Celebration!

On Friday the 20th of September the wonderful Yandell community will come together to celebrate the official opening of our beautiful new playground.

We will be joined by Vicki Ward MP, Member for Eltham, for a planting ceremony and ribbon cutting, following which we can kick back and listen to some of our talented Yandell musicians and enjoy a picnic together.

Time: 4:30: families arrive
5:00: speeches, ribbon cutting and planting ceremony
5:30 - 7:30: BYO picnic and music

Bring: Picnic rugs, snacks, food and drinks for your family

If you would like to sing a song or two on the night please contact Sarah (Annabel's mum) on 0438 808 141.





Wattle Festival



Yandell Kindergarten was delighted to be involved in this year's Hurstbridge Wattle Festival on Sunday August 25th. In collaboration with the Universal Learning College playgroup, we shared a stand in the children's hub showcasing Steiner Early Childhood Education.

Our beautiful stone mill provided such enjoyment as an activity for the children who visited the stand and the playgroup prepared a lovely gumnut threading activity. We received much interest from families attending and distributed information on the kindergarten along with flyers for our forthcoming nutrition for children talk with Nicole Vuillerman. It was a busy day and a lovely opportunity to share our beautiful kinder with the wider community.

A big thank you to all those who helped out with getting a new banner made, and designing and printing flyers and to the staff who gave up their weekend to help on the stand.



Cake Stall Fundraiser

Yandell had a very successful fundraising cake stall at Bunnings Eltham on Saturday 17th August. Thanks to a wonderful supply of delicious treats we raised \$600!

A truly fantastic effort by everyone involved. A huge thank you to all our bakers and sellers! I believe the top seller award goes to Wade Burton (Dad of Alby, Ring-a-Rosie, and my husband!) who made an enormous batch of choc-chip cookies which were hugely popular.

Best wishes,
Sarah – volunteer cake stall coordinator



Spring Raffle

All families should have received tickets to purchase for Yandell's fabulous Spring Raffle, with 3 stunning prizes totaling \$370 in value!

Don't forget to return your raffle tickets and money (\$2 per ticket or three for \$5) to the purple box in the kinder foyer by Friday 13th September.



The draw will take place at the playground opening on Friday 20th September!



www.goinggreensolutions.com.au

Inspiring sustainable product choices in every home and business



Sunday
27th October
10am - 3pm

Market * Rides
Food * Concert
* Activities

25 Gladstone Rd
Briar Hill

www.briar-hill-ps.vic.edu.au

Newsletter contributions welcome!

We'd love the next edition of the newsletter to include as many recipes, poems, craft ideas, artwork and photos (with permission) as possible. Please send contributions to me at

newsletter@yandellkinder.com.au

Or, feel free to hand them in to the pigeon hole at kinder!

Sally Kuhlmann, *Newsletter Editor & mum of Arabella*
(3yo group)

