Important Information

Over the last few weeks the Preschool has experienced a few cases of Slapped Cheek, School Sores and Head Lice. So what are they and what do we do if our children are unfortunate enough to get them?

**Slapped Cheek Disease** (Fifth Disease) is a viral infection, that starts with a low-grade fever, headache and runny nose. Once these symptoms start to ease, a rash then appears on the face that appears as if the child has been slapped. The rash, usually not itchy, then spreads across the body. Antibiotics are of no benefit and rest at home is what is usually required. Exposure to the virus can be dangerous to pregnant women. *(Source: Raising Children Network 2009)*

**School Sores** (Impetigo) is a skin infection caused by the Staphylococcus bacteria. The bacteria can live harmlessly on the skin, however cuts and abrasions may allow the bacteria to cause infection to deeper skin tissues. School Sores take up to four days to develop signs of the infection. Common symptoms include:

- Skin itches and reddens
- A collection of blisters forms, commonly around the nose and mouth
- The blisters pop and weep a yellow, sticky fluid
- The area develops a raised and wet-looking crust
- The scab dries and falls off
- The skin completely heals after a few days.

School sores do look unsightly, however they do not cause lasting damage to the skin. It is however, highly contagious. Antibiotics are required and the child should be kept home until appropriate treatment has commenced. Additionally, the sores on exposed areas should be covered with a waterproof dressing. *(Source: Better Health Channel 2009)*

**Head Lice** (nits) are transmitted by having head to head contact with someone who has head lice. Children with head lice should be kept at home until treatment has commenced.

**Finding Head Lice**

Itching is not a reliable sign that head lice exists, as half of the people who get lice never itch. The easiest and most effective way to find lice is:

**STEP 1** Comb hair conditioner on to dry, brushed (detangled) hair. This makes it difficult for lice to grip the hair or run around.

**STEP 2** Wipe the conditioner from the comb onto a paper towel or tissue.

**STEP 3** Look on the tissue and on the comb for lice and eggs.

**STEP 4** Repeat the combing for every part of the head at least four or five times.

**STEP 5** If the person has been treated recently and only hatched eggs are found, you may not have to treat them again since the eggs could be from the old infection.

**STEP 6** If lice or eggs are found, the person should be treated.

**Preventing head lice**

Whilst there is no recognised product available that prevents head lice, tying long hair back and checking weekly for lice, using the conditioner and comb method, can help prevent the spread. Some people swear by the use of tea tree oil to prevent head lice. Whilst there is no research to verify its effectiveness, the following may be useful:

- Add tea tree oil to your usual shampoo, and wash the hair every other day. Alternately you can mix tea tree oil with water in a spray bottle. Apply it to the hair on a regular basis in an effort to prevent head lice.

*(Source: Better Health Channel 2009)*
Fundraising Report

Efforts so far:
Thanks to all of you our fundraising efforts so far have raised approximately $3,200. Our first major project with funds raised so far is the purchase of a ‘Studio Space’. Intrigued? Keep a look out at the kinder. Stay tuned!

We would also like to introduce a new member to the fundraising team. A big thank you to Katrina from Green group for helping us so far this year, and welcome aboard.

Upcoming Term 2 Fundraising Update:

Picture Plates
The plates have just been completed at kinder last week and we have seen some amazing work. We look forward to the plates arriving in the coming weeks.

Entertainment books
“Entertainment” Book flyers have been distributed in the pigeon holes, if you are interested please place your order form in the fundraising box. Most of you would be familiar with these as the discounts vouchers for many popular restaurants and leisure venues etc. They will be selling for $65 with $13 for every book sold going directly to the kinder. If you haven’t already received the flyer in your pigeon hole, please see your Kinder teacher for more information.

Girls Night
Sometime in late June we are planning on holding a ‘Girls Night’. This will be night to catch up and meet other kinder mums. There will be champagne and nibbles and some pampering and other surprises. More information to follow.

Term 3 & 4 Future Events.

Trivia Night: 4 September
We are still looking for any assistance with our major trivia night which will be held 4th September. If you feel you can assist in any way please contact Ros on 0423 773 729. If you feel you have any gifts or services you may be able to donate please contact Daniela on 0413 150 577. The night will be hosted by a professional Triva host and there will be silent auction. Please start thinking of marking this event in your calendar. Obviously family and friends are welcome.

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle: 22 August
If you feel you can assist in any way eg ordering and purchasing goods, helping on the day etc please contact Mary on 0419 539 766.

Toy Network
We will be selling tickets for you to gain entry to wholesale Toy Distributor. Tickets will sell for $5 and this allows you entry to purchase toys directly from a major Toy Distributor. The date for entry is 21 October 5-9pm. Mark this date so you can buy all your Christmas shopping and cheap prices.

Desperately Seeking…..
If you are a beautician can you offer your services for our girls night in late June (mini manicures etc..) please call Daniela on 0413 150 577.

Once again a big thank you and please remember every dollar raised goes straight back into the kinder.

Until next time
Ros, Kathryn, Daniela, Mary and Katrina.
Children Learning Through Play - Support children’s learning

Parent Information Night
3 June 2009
7:15 p.m arrival for a 7:30 p.m. start.
Guest Speaker: Anne Houghton from 7:30 - 8:30 pm.

About our Speaker:

Anne has been an early childhood teacher for 32 years working in sessional kindergartens, including our own. She has been empowered and inspired through her career by opportunities provided through mentoring and networking. Anne has published a children’s story book “There Stood Our Dog”. Anne was invited by the Suzuki Institute to visit Japan, resulting in a strong relationship and reciprocal visits by early childhood staff. An experienced speaker, Anne has presented at conferences in New Zealand and Hawaii.

A registration board will be put up at the kinder closer to the date. Please take this opportunity to meet other kinder parents and to learn more about your child’s education. If you have any further questions please see your teacher.

Fees and Payments

Receipts for term two fees have now been distributed to your pigeon holes. Just a reminder that fees can be paid via direct deposit at the bank or online.
Hi everyone, we have been enjoying getting down and dirty this second term with messy play being the highlight! We’ve enjoyed many different textures being mixed, moulded, slopped, flicked, squeezed, stirred, plopped and mashed within our outdoor trough. We'll continue experiencing various mediums with our fingers, hands and even up to our elbows, this week we’ll have fun with shaving cream, last week it was GOOP! This was very enjoyable and unlike no other textures we manipulate throughout life generally so we were very curious.

Last Friday was very windy wild weather which was perfect for our trampoline and soft climbing equipment the children were very active, the children love this equipment but we usually need an extra pair of hands to supervise otherwise our enthusiasm can get a bit dangerous! The trapeze swing has been out of late which has challenged the children in a healthy way and they’ve all been interested in trying it watching it, pushing it or just talking about it.

The past weeks have also seen us sharing very simple discussions about Autumn and Geralyn and I will now begin small discussions about animals, beginning with Australian animals, if you have anything at home that you think would be of interest to share with the group bring it along.

We'll be singing the song ‘Kookaburra sits in the old gum tree’ if you’re wondering what that tune is, plus ‘old Mac Donald’. The children continue to enjoy reading stories from their journals that their family has composed, thanks for your support.

I would also like to thank everyone who made the effort to support our Mother’s day celebration it made it very special to see the children smiling up at their loved ones, it’s such a busy period to organise with the children and it’s so worth it when we see everyone enjoying themselves.

Recently I updated my anaphylactic training, and attended an Autism Spectrum Disorder information day both were intense but very worthy. This past weekend we conducted our annual open day which was very busy with many new perspective parents visiting the centre.

I wish to thank Charlotte’s parents from green group, Barb and Andy for creating our new very professional ‘Kinder Flyer’, we have been wanting to put this information together for many years and these two clever souls did it in a flash! With the professionalism of Joan Sison, Rebekah’s mum from the Seal’s group creating our wonderful new web site the Kindergarten is appearing very modern, up to date and savvy. It’s these voluntary services that are very generous from our committee and I thank everyone to date for their commitment and hard work towards our kinder.

Keep Smiling

Lynda
4 Year-old Report

We have all enjoyed a happy, busy, start to term two. We have been very interested in Autumn, collecting Autumn leaves, and exploring the autumn colours through art, discussions, music and movement—the children have especially loved dancing with Autumn-coloured scarves and singing Autumn songs.

The children have been very eagerly preparing for Mother's Day. We have had many conversations about what we love about our mothers, and I can assure you that the children really wanted to make our Mother's Day celebrations at kinder really special.

Everything associated with our celebrations was made by the children—it was all their own work. They decorated the table-cloths, made flowers for the tables, cooked the scones for afternoon-tea, and spent some very concentrated time making their presents and cards. They were all counting down the sleeps until they could present their Mothers with their gifts!

Our afternoon-teas were very well attended by Mums, Grandmas and other family members. We hope our special guests enjoyed themselves.

After sharing afternoon-tea, we read a book together, enjoyed a circle-dance called "Highway Number One", gave our Mums a lovely shoulder-massage (they gave us one too) and then handed out the presents.

Both groups visited Greensborough Primary School this week. We had a lovely day participating in “Prep” activities. These included stories, cutting, pasting and playing with play-dough. It was interesting observing the children in a school environment. Kate and I were very proud of them all!

We were very fortunate to have the assistance of the local police who stopped the traffic long enough for us to cross the road safely. The children loved seeing the police-car pull up on the side of the road. Thanks to Kathy and Steve Siede for organizing this.

Our special “dog” friends “Bruce” in Dolphins group, and “Jasper” in Seals group have started going home with the children. One child in each group takes a dog and the accompanying book home each weekend. The dogs can do anything and everything with your child over the weekend. So far, they have visited farms, stayed on caravans, visited grandparents and had many other adventures with the children. The children love showing their stories about Bruce and Jasper to the other children at the beginning of the week. During the week our pets stay at Kinder. The children quite often include them in their play, talk to them and give them cuddles during sessions.

The “treasure-bag” will begin to go home this week. This is like “show and tell”. Two bags in each group go home each day. If your child has the bag for the night we ask that they choose one or two items of interest to put in the bag to show to the children during the next session.

Kate and I attended the Seals group working-bee, along with some very enthusiastic parents last Saturday. Even though it rained for most of the morning, many jobs were attended to very successfully. Thanks to Louise for organising this very successful event. The Kindergarten looks sparkly-clean!

Congratulations to Louise our treasurer and her husband David on the birth of a little girl Eleanor – a beautiful sister for Jonah (Seals group) and Lewis.

Until next time.

Ann.
Announcements

Congratulations to Louise, our treasurer, and her husband David on the birth of a little girl Eleanor – a beautiful sister for Jonah (Seals Group) and Lewis.

Jonah's (Seals Group) kinder friends and teachers wish him a speedy recovery and hope that he gets well soon.

Thankyou to Charlotte’s dad (3 y.o. Green Group) for designing our new Kindergarten Information Brochure

Thankyou to Rebekah’s mum (4 y.o. Seal’s Group) for creating our wonderful new web site.

Thankyou to Hannah’s family (3 y.o. Red Group) for donating their couch to the Kinder

Lachlan’s family would like to wish Lachlan (3 y.o. Green Group) a happy 4th Birthday for the 6th of May, Love from Mum, Dad and Emily.

A Note from the Editor

E-mail greensborough.kin.news@kindergarten.vic.gov.au with your Ester Street Angels, birthday greetings, advertising requests or any other contribution that you would like to make. If you do not have access to an e-mail account and would like to make a contribution, a green newsletter box is located on the kitchen bench next to the fees box.

You will only receive this newsletter via e-mail if you have completed the e-mail privacy form. If you wish to change to an electronic newsletter please request a copy of the form from your teacher.

Barbara Newsletter Editor