



Volume 2, Issue 1

A Message from the Director – Amanda Quilty

This year is flying past – can you believe we are already at the end of February. It has been a busy beginning to the year with lots of new families starting at the Service. We welcome you and hope that you enjoy your time with us.

We were lucky enough to receive a grant last year to have a new shade sail put up in our kindergarten playground. This has been very timely with the hot weather and has been a great addition to the playground.

Room 4 went through some renovations at the beginning of the year to ensure that the toilets are accessible from inside and that they are a more appropriate height for children (now child sized toilets). Due to circumstances beyond our control we are still waiting on the change table to be installed. We have been advised that this should be installed in the next week or two. We will keep you informed.

Just a reminder to all families that we need to have the 2019 Enrolment forms returned to the service as soon as possible. These were sent home late last year, if you don't have a copy please ask any Amanda or Shey for new forms.

As per our email last year all families must be on Direct debit from 2019, if you have not completed the Direct Debit form and returned it to the centre, please do so as soon as possible.

Update on the kindergarten language program

As you are all aware we were successful in being one of the 120 kindergartens to receive funding for the language program. We had been approved to receive an Aboriginal language but due to unforeseen circumstances the Department of Education and Training (DET) have had to delay the Aboriginal

Up coming event and public holidays

Tuesday 5th March
Pancake Day

Monday 11th March
Labour Day - centre closed

Friday 15th March
St Patrick's Day - wear something green

Thursday 21st March
Harmony Day and Holi Day

Tuesday 2nd April
World Autism Day – go blue for autism

Thursday 18th April
Pyjama Day and Easter raffle

Friday 19th April
Good Friday – centre closed

Monday 22nd April
Easter Monday – centre closed

Wednesday 24th April
Kinder children to lay a wreath at Lilydale

Thursday 25th April
Anzac Day – centre closed

language until 2020. We will still be able to incorporate a language in 2019 and after looking at our survey results and taking into consideration what the schools in the area are doing we will be doing Italian in 2019. Whilst we are disappointed that we cannot teach an indigenous language this year we are excited about the opportunity and benefits a language brings to our service. This should commence sometime in March/April.

From the Front Desk with Shey

Hi everyone,
Welcome back to the start of a new year, it is great to see all of you again and I hope you all had a really nice Christmas break.

I would like to thank you all for returning information required so quickly since the start of the year, and a friendly reminder to all parents, any time your child is immunised, please provide us with the most recent updated immunisation history statement from Medicare. (we must have the most recent at all times).

Any changes big or small to your child's Medical plans (should they have any: intolerance, allergy, conditions, food preferences, sensitivities), please advise myself at the front desk so I can update any changes and ensure it is put into place.

Thank you so much, have a great month.
Kind Regards Shey

Staffing

You may have noticed that there are a few new faces around the service this year. We would like to welcome to our team, Lisa – our new cook, Zoe – one of our new assistant educators that will be working alongside Bianca in room 3 and Beverley who is a new casual educator that will be working in all rooms throughout the service.

We also have Chelsea who has started at the service in the last couple of weeks, Chelsea will be assisting Michelle doing centre support. Please take the time to say hello and introduce

yourself to our new team members if you see them around the service

Kiara has made the decision not to return to the service after her overseas adventure and is returning to school to further her education – we wish Kiara all the best with her future studies.

I would also like to congratulate Shey and her partner Pete on the upcoming arrival of their first child. We wish them all the best as they head into the next exciting chapter of their lives

Hot topics

With all the hot weather we have been having just a reminder to make sure that you and your children are drinking a lot of water and keeping hydrated. It is very easy to become dehydrated in this weather.

Just a reminder that the Service will be closed to all children on Extreme and Code Red days as forecasted by the CFA.

Parent Committee

If there are any parents that would like to be a part of a parent committee within the service could you please let Amanda or Shey know. We would like to establish a parent committee to encourage parent involvement within the service and assist with decisions the effect the service and our children.

PLAY GIVES
CHILDREN
A CHANCE
TO PRACTICE WHAT
THEY ARE
LEARNING.
- Mr. Rogers

Room News

Room 1



Dear Room 1 and
2 families

The room 1 and 2 children have all settled into the shared space of room 1 and are enjoying the company of the babies. Watching educators take care of the babies and their needs provides rich learning opportunities and encourages them to take on a nurturing, caring and mentoring role. We have extended this learning through play with dolls where many of the room 2 children are feeding them, helping to change the dolls nappies, settling their dolls and even toilet training them.

The children have also been enjoying venturing over to the lower yard which is situated between kinder and our big yard. This is a great space to explore and use imagination in play as there isn't a lot of established play equipment which enables the children to connect with their natural environment and learn through nature. The children have benefited from the open space, running, walking, jumping exploring little nooks in the garden, some children lying under the shade of the trees and watching the leaves blow in the wind and birds fly past and expressing such wonder and awe. This fosters and develops a respect and appreciation for their natural world.

With the arrival, of our creative new cook the children have been able to explore new foods, tastes and textures. This encourages them to explore food and develop an appreciation and begin to form an understanding of healthy eating and good nutrition.

We have been exploring early maths and science concepts through shape sorting and water play. The children have been filling and pouring with the use of containers, pipes, cylinders, buckets exploring concepts of empty and full, width and depth, round, square and circular.

If there is anything that your child is interested

in or curious about at home, we would love to hear as we would love to support them in this learning.

Thank you
Maria, Denice, Rachael, Suzanne and Mandy

Room 3



Hi families!

After a couple of months of getting into the rhythm of Room Three, we have settled and have been enjoying the time we spend together.

Personalities are shining through and friendships are beginning to form between children which has been awesome to see. We have been LOVING movement and dance and play music throughout the whole day. We have a couple of favourite songs, our favourite at the moment being 'Hop little bunnies!' We could dance along to this song at any time of the day.

Some of the children have requested we do some cooking! We will start incorporating as many cooking activities as we can and attempt to use as many ingredients from our garden as possible.

We are really trying to support the sense of being and belonging in the room by having a 'family board' up on the wall. We ask that you please provide a photo of your families or people/ animals that are important to your child. We will have these up on display at all times for the children to access whenever they feel. This will provide a sense of security if they are feeling unsettled whilst incorporating a sense of belonging whilst in our care.

Just a reminder that if you notice you are missing something after collecting your child, and it isn't in their bag, it may be in their locker (which is in the sun room between Room Three and outside.)

Also remember to check the whiteboard which is up on the wall in the room for information about your child's day.

Thank you - Bianca, Brooke and Zoe

Kinder 4



Hello from Kinder,

We would like to welcome all the new children and families to our room! This year we are combining the room 3 and 4 children, effectively running 3-year-old and 4-year-old Kindergarten together. My name is Ange and I am the Kindergarten Teacher in the room every day from 8-3 (except every 2nd Wednesday). I am passionate about early education, and have been working in the early childhood field for 17 years. Joining me in the room will be Aimee, every day, Adam on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, and Belinda on Thursdays and Fridays, all of whom are dedicated and passionate early childhood professionals. Please don't hesitate to come up for a chat to get to know us, or ask Ange any questions you have about our curriculum.

Over the last month or so we have been settling into our new room, getting to know each other, and the new routines and rhythms of Kinder. The children have been enjoying lots of water play outside, as well as cracking dinosaurs out of giant frozen ice blocks. We have spent time watering the herbs and tomato plants, and practising new skills on the balance bikes and three wheeler bikes. There has also been much interest in play cooking in the sandpit. Indoors the children have been practicing their problem solving skills, working on some challenging puzzles, as well as designing long train tracks. There has been much lovely imaginative play in the home corner and at the dolls house, and also designing with Lego, Mobilo and the blocks.

The children will have a labeled locker made for them and a bag hook each. Ange will be sending out a letter for families to fill out, so that we can better get to know your child and your hopes for their development this year. We would also love it if you could send us a photo of your family, so that we can add it to our "family tree" display. We are really looking forward to getting to know you and your children. Please don't hesitate to come to any of us if you have any questions or queries.

Warm regards

Ange, Aimee, Adam and Belinda

Cire Community

We are extremely excited to announce that Cire Services has taken over the running of Kimberley Place in Kimberley Drive, Chirside Park. It has a new name, now called Chirside Park Community Hub. We have already started running courses there and will also start a playgroup over the next few months. There is also a great space you can hire for parties and events. We have already had 3 x first birthdays held at the hub in January. Contact Cire on 1300 835 235 for more information.

Occasional Care

As from Monday 18th March we will be extending our Yarra Junction Occasional Care Hours on Mondays from 9.00am to 12.00midday to 9.00am to 2.00pm. This has been following feedback from the community requesting longer hours on a Monday.

Other News

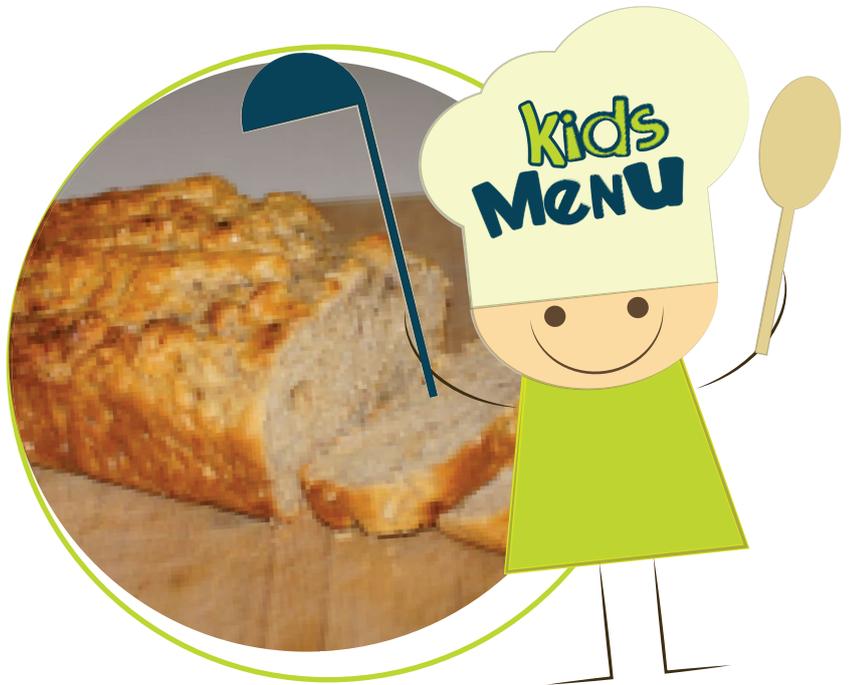
We have recently reviewed the following Policies: If you would like to have a copy of any of these please do not hesitate to contact Amanda or Shey and we can email or print a copy out for you.

- Relationships with Children
- Medical Conditions
- Incident, Injury, trauma and Illness
- Additional Needs
- Physical Environment
- Animal and Pet
- Delivery and collection of children
- Child Protection
- Supervision of children
- Debtor
- Clothing
- Asthma management
- Privacy and confidentiality
- Staffing arrangements
- Determining the responsible person

Over the next month we will be reviewing the remainder of our policies and procedures. Please feel free to give us feedback on any policies. Our Policy and Procedure manual can be found in our reception.

Recipe of the Month

Did you know that many of our **recipes** are from the **Healthy Eating Advisory Service**? Our **banana bread** is no exception and is both **delicious** and healthy.



Banana bread

* NUT FREE * VEGETARIAN * SOY FREE

Ingredients:

Very ripe bananas	3
White self-raising flour	1 cup (150g)
Wholemeal self-raising flour	1 cup (150g)
Brown sugar	¼ cup (60g)
Cinnamon, ground	1 teaspoon
Milk	½ cup (125mL)
Eggs, lightly beaten	2
Canola or vegetable oil	¼ cup (60mL)
Vanilla essence	1 teaspoon

Method

1. Preheat oven to 200°C.
2. Mash bananas with a fork.
3. In a large bowl, sift the flours with the sugar and cinnamon. Stir in the mashed banana.
4. In a separate bowl, combine milk, eggs, oil and vanilla essence.
5. Add the liquid to the flour mixture and fold to combine. Do not over mix.
6. Spoon the mixture into a prepared loaf tin.
7. Bake for 40 to 45 minutes until cooked and brown on top.

Each serve provides 1/4 children's serve of fruit and 3/4 children's serve of grain (flour).

Allergy modifications

- For a milk free option, substitute the milk with an equal measure of calcium fortified soy or rice milk.
- For an egg free option, replace each egg with 1 teaspoon of egg replacer and 2 tablespoons of water.
- For a gluten and wheat free option, replace all flour with gluten free self-raising flour.



Spread with ricotta cheese and serve with chopped fruit.



EASTER



Scan here
for more
info



HOLIDAY PROGRAMS
Fun for kids during the school
holidays

Badger Creek

WEEK 1 8th - 12th Apr

- > Colours of the rainbow - a day to celebrate the colours of the rainbow through craft, sports and food.
- > Music and arts party day
- > Space adventures - lets explore the universe with games and space creations.
- > Messy fun day
- > Healesville sanctuary excursion

WEEK 2 15th - 19th Apr

- > 'Minute to Win It' game day
- > Scavenger hunt adventure on wheels - bring your bike or scooter and don't forget your helmet!
- > Ace Space excursion
- > Hopping Easter fun! - with crafts, bonnet parade and Easter movie (PG)

Badger Creek Primary School
now taking bookings
0499 400 250

Woori Yallock

WEEK 1 8th - 12th Apr

- > Messy fun day
- > Colours of the rainbow - a day to celebrate the colours of the rainbow through craft, sports and food.
- > Space adventures - lets explore the universe with games and space creations.
- > Healesville sanctuary excursion
- > Music and arts party day

WEEK 2 15th - 19th Apr

- > 'Minute to Win It' game day
- > Hopping Easter fun! - with crafts, bonnet parade and Easter movie (PG)
- > Ace Space excursion
- > Scavenger hunt adventure on wheels - bring your bike or scooter and don't forget your helmet!

Woori Yallock Primary School
now taking bookings
0458 278 228

Mt Evelyn

WEEK 1 8th - 12th Apr

- > Music and arts party day
- > Messy fun day
- > Space adventures - lets explore the universe with games and space creations.
- > Healesville sanctuary excursion
- > Colours of the rainbow - a day to celebrate the colours of the rainbow through craft, sports and food.

WEEK 2 15th - 19th Apr

- > Scavenger hunt adventure on wheels - bring your bike or scooter and don't forget your helmet!
- > 'Minute to Win It' game day
- > Ace Space excursion
- > Hopping Easter fun! - with crafts, bonnet parade and Easter movie (PG)

Mt Evelyn Campus
now taking bookings
0408 203 797



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cire
children's services