



KLEMZIG KINDERGARTEN & Occasional Care NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Week 3 2023 ISSUE 1



*We acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of the Kaurna people and we recognise their connection with the land.
We will help be kind, care for and respect this land and the living things on it together.*

Upcoming Important Dates

Week 4	21st February – Pancake cooking (Group A) 23rd February – Pancake cooking (Group B)
Week 5	27th February – AGM 6pm @ Kindy (no children please) 28th February –Group A Family Fruit and Fun Afternoon 1:30 – 2:45pm 2nd March – Group B Family Fruit and Fun Afternoon 1:30-2:45 pm
Week 6	9th March – Kindy Working Bee – help if you can
Week 7	13th March – Adelaide Cup public holiday – NO KINDY 17th March – Pupil Free Day – NO KINDY
Week 8	21st March – Group A Harmony Day Family Gathering 23rd March – Group B Harmony Day Family Gathering
Week 9	28th March Group A BUS TRIP TO BOTANIC GARDENS - 9:30am Bus departs kindy 30th March Group B BUS TRIP TO BOTANIC GARDENS - 9:30am Bus departs kindy
Week 10	7th April – Good Friday Public Holiday – NO KINDY
Week 11	10th April – Easter Monday Holiday – NO KINDY 14th April – Last day of Term 1 – Early finish for term clean up - 2:30pm Kindy closed

AGM 2023 YOU'RE INVITED

**Date: Monday the 27th of February 2023
at 6.00pm at Klemzig Kindergarten.**

This meeting is for parents of children attending Klemzig Kindergarten OR our occasional care (no children to attend meeting please)

At this meeting, we present the 2022 Annual report, and say farewell to non-returning 2022 Governing council and vote in our new 2023 Governing Council. We would love as many of our parents to join the meeting that can. There are a range of positions available (chairperson, minutes) and no experience is necessary. The only people who are not eligible to sit on Governing Council are people who have previously been declared bankrupt. This is due to GC requirement to sign off on annual budget and monthly acquisitions.

Some of you nominated when you returned your child's enrolment forms, that you would like to be on GC. If you are unable to attend and would still like to join the 2023 Governing Council, please let us know and we will nominate you on your behalf.

Being on GC is a great to get to know other parents and have a closer understanding on how a Government Preschool works.

YOU'RE INVITED



Family Fruit & Fun Afternoon – Our first "family event" will be in week 5. From 1:30pm – 2:45pm we invite you to join your child and enjoy some learning experiences together. We will be having "shared fruit" that day and encourage you to bring in 1 piece of fruit (already cut) for the fruit platter. At 2:45 we ask you depart with your child (they may get upset when you leave without them). Hoping you can make it as it will be a great chance for you to meet us and other parents in your child's cohort.

Botanic Garden Excursion – Throughout the year we will be working with Trent Hill. He is an Indigenous storyteller, educator and guide who has worked at Adelaide Botanic Garden and visits preschools for many years. For our first session we are going on a bus trip (excursion). Your child will come to kindy as normal. With kindy staff, the children will travel to Botanic Garden on seat belted coach (Grants Coachlines) and then return to kindy before lunch. Kindy dismissal time will be as usual. As the Botanic garden area we will visit is fragile, we are limited to kindy children and staff only to attend. Further information will be sent home. See staff if you have any questions and stay tuned for the excursion note.

Sign in Register

It is a requirement that you sign your child in and out every time they attend kindy. There is a comments spot next to your child that you can add a note regarding pick up or staff will use if they need to see you at the end of the day.

Kindy Fee invoices

have been emailed to families. Please endeavour to have these paid by end of week 3 (17th February 2023). If you are having difficulty or need a payment plan, please speak Ali (Director), Cathy (Group A) or Laverne (Group B).

Your child's fee payments contribute to the resources that the children use, maintenance of the kindy yard, furniture etc. This year we are having a new playground installed by LCS Landscapes (hopefully works starts soon!) We have been planning for this upgrade for a few years and have been saving accordingly, however, like most things, the costs or materials have increased, so some of this year's fees will be needed to pay for the playground upgrade. FYI: Total cost of the new playground is \$98,939.39

How to contact us

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Facebook (**PUBLIC PAGE**) <https://www.facebook.com/KlemzigKindy>
Website: www.preschools.sa.gov.au/klemzig-kindergarten

Facebook (**PRIVATE GROUP**) 2023 Klemzig Kindergarten
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/704961417853483>
(need approval)
Please note Facebook messaging can be unreliable.

At times we will send emails and SMS via our EMS (admin management system). *The replies on this system aren't consistently monitored, therefore we may not see them.*

2023 Staff Focus Words – The staff team are striving to model and continue practicing the below in our work

CALM

KIND

CLEAR

CONSISTENT



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

What a wonderful start to the 2023 year our Klemzig Kindy community have had. We have seen our children settle, begin to connect and build friendships and become more familiar with the flow and rhythm of a kindy day. Children are beginning to feel more relaxed and at home in the kindergarten environment and are really beginning to steer their learning and the curriculum.

Kindy staff have worked extremely hard to balance the learning environment to include child led research and experiences along with intentionally planned experiences. This year staff are continuing to work on guiding children to “find joy” in their learning and encouraging collaborative learning projects. Staff do this by using strategies like “waiting” and “following” the child’s idea and asking questions such as “What are you researching?” rather than automatically giving the answer. It is a challenging way of working (it’s much easier to say “I am your teacher and you need to complete X, Y and Z today.”) We want the learning to be authentic and build upon where your child’s learning is. We know that 3 and 4-year-olds are very capable of

manipulating technology, and over time they will be able to search for correct answers, so the content (the a,b,c’s and 1,2,3’s) in preschool is only a part of the curriculum. A Klemzig Kindy staff’s role is to continue to build on the learning you have co-constructed with your child and extend their dispositions. Things like, learning how to work as part of a group (interdependence), listen to others, build upon other’s ideas, confidently share their ideas and most of all, have fun! If we can achieve this with your child, in partnership with you, we are confident that your child will have strong skills and strategies to take them forward into their schooling life and beyond.

Over the year we will share with you the collaborative projects (BIG IDEAS) that your child has been working on. This may mean we chat with you at the end of the day, showing you a photo, sending you a sms or email. Keep a look out for the displays around and browse your child’s “KINDY KEEPSAKE” for your child’s big ideas work. Every week the staff meet on a Wednesday and analyse the learning that is occurring in the projects. We reflect on our own practice to ensure we are providing the needed resources, appropriate questioning, child thinking time etc. This year we are also working with an Early Years Consultant based in Melbourne (David Gilkes). He is coaching us through our authentic planning cycle, documentation, and team approach, to help us ensure we are providing a high quality and reflective program, (and you thought we played in the sand pit all day!)

Our Annual General Meeting is in a few weeks (week 5). I encourage you to attend and then if you can, commit to being a part of the kindy Governing Council. It’s a volunteer role that enables you to have a deeper insight into the site improvement plans, contribute to the planning of kindy facilities improvements, budget plan (both short and long term) and be a great sounding board for the preschool community. It was the 2022 Governing Council who will helped steer and drive our improvement priorities for this year. They worked hard to connect, listen and support children, families and staff, and they all found it a highly rewarding way to contribute. We are truly thankful to all the parents who have volunteered to take on this important role throughout 2022 and prior.

Our 2022 review data told us that families wanted more family events and more on/off-site experiences for children. We have planned many of these experiences for the year (need to book early!) Our first off site trip with the children is this term, to The Adelaide Botanic Gardens. It will be “a get on the bus, learn amount a part of the garden with Trent Hill, have some fruit, get back on the bus and return to kindy” experience. We did this excursion last year which was most successful....and most likely your child’s the favourite part of the excursion will be the bus ride! In term 2 we are booked to attend “Possum Magic Performance” at Dunstan Playhouse. Once again it will be a get on the bus, have our viewing experience, get back on bus to return to kindy. To make these experiences work, we thoroughly plan to ensure we have eliminated any risks; attend to, understand, and implement correct procedures and paperwork. Also, this year the children we will be wearing brand new “high vis” excursion bibs. We are working hard to keep the costs of excursions to a minimum. The main cost is bus hire. We will be looking at our 2023 budget to see if site budget can carry some cost through Governing Council approval process. The other 2023 target is hosting more family events, starting with the “Family Fruit and Fun Afternoon”. We understand not all parents can make these family events due to work and other commitment. The aim is to make you to feel as if this is “your kindy” too.

I also need to alert you to the fact that sometimes the kindy phone goes unanswered. In a government preschool, we are not staffed to have a “front office person” like a school setting. Among the core staff, we manage all the duties together...we are it. Due to adult to child ratio (1:10), we must ensure that is our number 1 priority is meeting that ratio. If you phone and get the answering machine, please leave a clear message and we will strive to get back to you in a timely manner. I wear a teacher hat on a Monday and Friday and site leader hat on a Tuesday and Thursday. As mentioned before, on a Wednesday the core staff are involved in collaborative planning, reflection, and professional learning. Cathy and Laverne have some hours where they manage admin tasks (attendance, finance, WHS, facilities and capital works, purchasing, enrolments, occasional care, medical forms, immunisation....oh my...there is so much more.. not sure how they manage!), so they may be able to answer the phone during admin time. We also lock the kindy gate at 9:30am until 2:30pm. Not only is this for the safety of the children and staff, but it limits site access from “cold callers”, again staff MUST be with the children if they are part of the adult to child ratio. We will be putting outdoor document boxes on the front fence, so interested families can collect preschool and occ care interest forms (what most passers-by are wanting). Having said all that, if you wish to collect your child before 2:30pm we will let you in, as we will, if you arrive at kindy with your child after 9:30am.

I hope you all have had a chance to join our 2023 Klemzig Kindy PRIVATE Facebook group. This will be a space where we post images of your child working on collaborative big ideas, their work, kindy environment etc. We will seek your permission prior to posting. We haven’t used a kindy Facebook group this way, we had a public page. Again, parent feedback told us that a private group page would support families in viewing what’s happening, children’s involvement and possibly get to know other families. We are also in the process of redeveloping our PUBLIC Facebook, purely to share information about our place, such as how and when to enrol, what we offer, links that the department have sent out etc. Thank you to the 2023 Parent who suggested this.

Finally, please remember if you are concerned about your child’s development or want further information into any aspect of the kindy, please see us. The staff are all parents too, we appreciate it’s a tough gig. We may not have all the answers, but we are great listeners, and willing to find solutions for each child. Staff also have 4 focus words to embed in our 2023 practice...to be CALM, KIND (that includes to others, ourselves, objects.), CLEAR, CONSISTENT. If we put these words in action, people will know what to expect of us, we will know our duties and purpose and continue to find joy in our work. We are also trying to promote calmness and kindness with the children too 😊

Looking forward to an amazing 2023. It has started so well. Congratulations for supporting your child in the way they are positively transitioning into their kindy.

Kindy House Keeping

Spare Clothes in Child's bag

Please pack extra clothing for your child to change into if they get wet or dirty from play, have a toilet accident etc. We promote that your child changes with a staff member being a guide on the side, so best to pack clothes your child can manage (sometimes zippers and clips are tricky!)



Kindy Clothing

You can purchase Klemzig Kindy t-shirts and windcheaters from us. Please see staff for sizing, cost and colour choices.

Water only at kindy

Only send in water for your child to drink. No juice, milk, etc PLEASE.



No Nuts

Klemzig Kindy aims to be a nut free Zone. Please do not send any nuts to kindy as we have some children with severe reactions to various nuts.



Bottles and Cans

We accept any bottles/cans you wish to donate to us. Each year we make around \$100 from family supply!

Illness

If your child is feeling a bit under the weather, then home is the best place for them. Whether it's a sore throat, runny nose, fever, body aches or cough, please don't send them to kindy until they are feeling better. We will also call you to collect if these symptoms present in your child at kindy.



Toys at Kindy

We know children love to bring their special things to kindy to show and share with their friends. However, please refrain from allowing your child to bring their toys to kindy. We have plenty of cool toys and resources for them to fill their days, and from experience it is very upsetting when their special toys are misplaced, broken, or lost at kindy.

Kindy Belongings – send back to kindy

Please check your child's pockets and bag at the end of kindy. We have many "nice shiny" resources and equipment that disappear each year and end up at a child's home. We understand that this occurs, we just ask for all kindy items to be returned ASAP. The puzzle with a missing piece is extremely hard to complete!

Collage boxes

Please collect and send in clean boxes for our collage making space.

Cereal, muesli bar, biscuit type boxes are great as 2-4 year olds can easily manipulate them for gluing, cutting, folding, tearing etc.

It's amazing what this age group can create! They just need a regular supply of boxes!

Car Safety

Child safety is our utmost priority. With this in mind, we ask that all parents/caregivers remain vigilant and aware when arriving and leaving kindy. Please only park in the designated parking spaces on Hender Avenue. There is also on road parking on The Parkway. Hender Avenue is a no through road and clear roadway access is a must for emergency vehicles. Also remember to NEVER leave children in cars, even for a few minutes while you dash in to collect your kindy child, we may need or like to chat with you.

Mosquitos

They are an active problem at kindy. We have many site actions in place, aiming to control them, such as planting of mosquito deterring plants, instillation of 5 bug zappers that are regularly checked by a pest service, preventative maintenance on rain takes, risk assessment on water use etc. Even by doing all this, your child may still get bitten! Feel free to apply mosquito repellent, patch, band etc., to your child prior to their kindy day.

If you wish for staff to reapply it to your child, you will need to send in the repellent with a pharmacy label with your child's name and directions on it, as well as complete a medical form with instruction.

Current Preschool COVID Safety Measures

Informed by SA Health and Department for Education SA. Dated 11/02/2023

<https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/Public+Content/SA+Health+Internet/Conditions/Infectious+diseases/COVID-19>

- If a child or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 they must notify the kindy if it is believed they were on site while infectious and:
 - Do not attend for 5 days if COVID positive
 - Do not attend service while symptomatic if after the 5 days

Klemzig Kindergarten will inform parents if there has been a positive case of COVID-19 on site.
- A child "classroom contact" is if the child was in the group where the staff or child has tested positive. If your child is a "classroom contact" and has no symptoms they are encouraged to continue attending Klemzig Kindy (unless they have tested positive).
- If your child is a "classroom contact" and they HAVE symptoms they MUST NOT attend the service and get tested ASAP.
- Physical distancing should be maintained between adults where possible. Please be mindful of congregating in groups.
- Promote natural ventilation (fresh air) and use air filters.
- Maximise the use of outdoor learning experiences where possible.
- Practice hand hygiene regularly and wipe down frequently touched surfaces.
- Cover cough or sneeze with tissue and bin appropriately.
- Support and guide your child in practice hand hygiene, keeping their nose clean, and covering cough and sneezes with a "superhero elbow"
- Facemasks are strongly recommended (but not required) to be worn by parents/caregivers when indoors (except if have a medical exemption).
- Staff have access to an opt in COVID surveillance testing which is done every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. A positive result MUST be reported to SA Health within 24 hours via website and to Kindy director.
- Anyone who is a close contact (NOT TO CONFUSED WITH CLASSROOM CONTACT) and is aged 12 years and older will need to wear a mask when they leave the house for 7 days following exposure (except if have a medical exemption).
- People who have recovered from COVID-19 will not be considered a close contact for 28 days after testing positive.

SA Health Illness Exclusion Periods

Thank you for keeping their child home when they are unwell. Any day you think “hmm, is my child well enough to go to kindy today?” the probable answer is NO. This helps to control the spread of illness and no child likes to be a kindy when they are sick. Below the exclusion periods for many of the common diseases.

Government of South Australia
SA Health

Childcare and school exclusion periods



Chickenpox
Until all blisters have dried (usually 5 days)



Common cold
A person with a cold should stay home until he or she feels well



Conjunctivitis
Until discharge from eyes has stopped (unless a doctor has diagnosed non-infectious conjunctivitis)



Diarrhoea
Until no diarrhoea for 24 hours

Government of South Australia
SA Health

Childcare and school exclusion periods



Hand foot and mouth disease
Until all blisters are dry



Head lice
Until appropriate treatment has commenced



Influenza
Until well (usually 7-10 days for children)

Government of South Australia
SA Health

Childcare and school exclusion periods



Measles
Until 4 days after the onset of the rash



Scabies
Until the day after appropriate treatment has commenced



School sores (impetigo)
Until appropriate treatment has commenced

Government of South Australia
SA Health

Childcare and school exclusion periods



Viral gastroenteritis
Until no diarrhoea for 24 hours



Whooping cough
Until 5 days after starting antibiotic treatment, or for 21 days from the start of any cough



Worms
If diarrhoea present, exclude until no diarrhoea for 24 hours

Visit **SA HEALTH** for more information.

<https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/resources/exclusion+from+childcare+preschool+school+and+work>

Did you know.....Staff a NOT PERMITTED to administer any medicine without a health plan with medicine instructions, risk assesment and health agreement in place completed by Medical pactioner, family and kindy staff prior to medicine given.

If your child becomes unwell at kindy we will phone you to collect your child.

Child and Family Health

offers face-to-face [preschool health checks](#) with parents/caregivers . Please ring **1300 733 606** between 9.00 am and 4.30 pm, Monday to Friday to make an appointment. <https://www.cafhs.sa.gov.au/topics/child-health-and-wellbeing>