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Diary Dates

Week 4 Term 3 2020

August	
26th	Statements of Learning go home
Sept 2nd	Pupil Free Day
3rd	Kindy Photos
9th	Father's Night
16th	Governing Council
22nd	Bush Kindy
23 rd	Last day of term
FUTURE DATES	October 11 th - Working Bee

Jane's News

What is risky play and safe risk taking?

Everyday life is full of risks and challenges. Children need opportunities to develop the skills associated with managing risk and making informed judgements about risks from a very young age. Risky play helps to develop the skills necessary to judge activities and ask one's self: Is this too high? How far can I go? How do I keep myself safe?



Our Bush Kindy excursion provided lots of opportunities for risk taking, making risk assessments, checking our own safety, following the lead of others, helping our friends and learning how to stay safe in a new environment. Children were given the opportunity to freely explore some very high rocks, noting the size of the drop down one side, talking about walking slowly near the edge, watching out for your friends and lying on your tummy to safely look over the edge. Children ran freely in a large area, noting that they ran faster downhill, watching for uneven ground and trees both tall trees and stumps that jump out at you!

In the afternoon we had a campfire where children recalled safety rules from our Kindy Campfire days, remembering to stay seated near the fire, not throw things in the fire or run around near the fire. Some of our warm Milo's were a little hotter than we expected – children could see the steam coming off their drink (mainly because the air temperature was near freezing!) and worked out that they need to sip carefully or ask for more water to cool their drink down.



Some children challenged themselves to balance on fallen logs, jump off rocks, play hide and seek or even use the drop toilets independently! All these new experiences in a new environment give children skills in having a go, realizing how capable they are, developing their resilience and building their confidence for next time we venture out of our Kindy environment.

Finally, it was a particularly cold day – children who normally run around in shorts and t-shirts were reaching for coats and beanies! While the cold caught some of them off guard, they quickly learnt that if you get busy playing, running, dancing and exploring – your body warms up! Children were able to get their hands out of their pockets and use them to touch, collect, climb, pull, steady themselves and help their friends.

Next time we visit the forest, these children will be even better prepared, having conquered these challenges, to take on new ones and discover more about their environment and themselves!



Our Learning



Term three has seen us finally be able to get out and about. We have delighted in being able to explore our community once more. Walking excursions to the Woodside School Library and the Community oval have given us opportunities to practice our road safety skills, our team work and our physical skills.



When out and about we have opportunities to share language with others about our environment, notice what's in our community, read signs and explore direction, and have fun in the fresh air.

Another wonderful off-site adventure we have had, which we have been so excited for this year, was Bush kindy! We set off by bus, on a very chilly Thursday morning to explore and learn in the Mount Crawford Forest Reserve. It was a day full of adventure with children being challenged and taking risks, noticing and engaging in nature, using all of their senses.

We made discoveries about insects, birds, rocks, weather, trees, fire, pollen, and even pool! We balanced our bodies atop of huge rock formations, we ran and ran and ran through the forests and rested our bodies on the forest floor. We enjoyed our warm milos by the campfire and the sleepy ride back home to kindy. We can't wait for our next bush kindy visit.



During a discussion about how we could use our flowers at kindy, we began to think about the people in our community who are helping keep us safe and healthy and how we could show kindness to them. We set up a flower shop and made small posies to sell to families. Children were involved in making signs and tags for the posies, they then had opportunities to put together a bunch, had a go at tying and wrapping them and displayed them in the verandah for sale. The children hope the Doctors and nurses could use the money raised to "buy medicines, tools and band aids for peoples jabs!" It was a wonderful lesson in kindness, community involvement and contributing to our world.



We love our kindy community and are developing further our sense of belonging.

Sayonara - Kathy, Jodie, Jane and Jo ☺

Governing Council

Governing Council met on Wednesday night at the Kindy. As well as the usual update on finances and curriculum there was also discussion about kindy photos and an upcoming Parenting Course- there is more information on both of these later in the newsletter.

Another matter discussed was the outdoor learning environment. There are a number of small jobs we need to work on and the decision was made to have a **Working Bee** which will be on Sunday October 11th from 9am.

If you are unable to make it, but can help us out at some other time here are the jobs we have:

- paint/freshen up the cubby
- set new children's seat in concrete (by swing area)
- lay sleepers for new garden areas
- weed/clear carpark garden, repair irrigation to it
- paint inside of tyres white
- turn over bark chips and sand.

Please let staff know if you can help us out with any of these jobs.

The restart of Playgroup was discussed- we are closely following any updates to the regulations and working towards a restart which is not too onerous on our Coordinator and others in regards to a cleaning regime. We will keep you informed and will hopefully be able to recommence in the 2nd half of this term.

Don't forget our **Picture Plates Fundraiser**- orders need to be in by Thursday August 20th. See staff or Jodie Squiers for more information.

The next Governing Council Meeting is on Wednesday Sept 16th

Snippets



Thank You- to Rob Thomas and Luke Beltrame who sourced and moved our fabulous new climbing logs for us. We Love them!

Thank You also to the Lowe family for their donation of a tractor tyre- it is so much fun!



Kindy Photos- we have booked our Kindy photos for Thursday September 3rd- if your child doesn't usually attend on this day see staff to arrange for them to come in if possible. Payment information will be sent home soon

Father's Night- we have everything crossed for Father's Night this year. We are planning on having this very popular evening on Sept 9th and invitations will go home in the weeks before. It runs from 6-7pm and we would love to see as many Father's (or grandfathers/uncles/family friends) as possible (appropriately spaced around the yard of course)

Wheel-a-thon- our popular community event is planned for Thursday 17th September. We hope as many families as possible will be able to join us for our revised 'COVID safe' wheel-a-thon. Once again, more information will go home soon (as soon as we have confirmed details about COVID regulations)

Bush Kindy- we had so much fun last time we have decided to go again! The date will be Tuesday Sept 22nd.

Parenting Workshops – we have been offered the opportunity to have a series of 2 parent workshops at kindy. They will be free of charge and are entitled My Child and Me. They will be from 6-8pm on Thursday Sept 10th & 17th.

Playgroup- we are working on the re-opening of playgroup as soon as we are confident we are able to safely do so and meet the rigorous requirements without placing too much additional stress on the organizers. We will let you know when we are ready to go again.