



Tecoma Preschool

Newsletter 2, 2021

President's Report

Hello to all our kinder families!

This has been a busy term for all our students. Despite the ongoing instability we have all experienced because of the coronavirus, we have been lucky enough for our children to experience an uninterrupted second term. It's been wonderful to see them developing more confidence, independence and their growing friendships.

Thank you to our educators for smoothly managing the ongoing challenge around coronavirus requirements and restrictions and keeping families informed regarding what is required to remain COVID-safe. Unfortunately, the recent snap lockdown meant our social night scheduled for June 18th had to be cancelled. With the easing of restrictions, we look forward to bringing our kinder community together soon for social events soon – including the upcoming Trivia Night.

Thank you also to everyone who participated in the working bee on May 1st, helping to maintain our kinder as a safe and fun place for the children. A special thanks to Lachie and Simon for leading our maintenance team and making sure everything gets done. Thank you to those families who have helped out with other jobs that have come up over the course of the term; it is an important way to be part of our kinder community.

Thank you to our fundraising team for organising the gorgeous tea towels. The children have now come home with plate templates for them to complete during the holidays; these contribute to the kinder through fundraising and are a fun activity as well.

As always, our educators have done a wonderful job nurturing and encouraging our children. By creating a supporting and inclusive environment, they make a great place for our children to learn. The children have brought home lots of great artwork over the course of this term and reported back on the many things they have been learning about, including space and volcanoes. They were also very excited to bring home the beautiful gifts and cards that they had put a lot of effort into making for Mother's Day.

On behalf of the Committee, have a safe and happy holiday. I look forward to seeing you in term 3!

Anna Gardner

Term 3

Key Dates:

04th - 11th July:

Naidoc Week

Monday 12th July:

First day of term

03rd - 09th August:

Dental Health Week

Tuesday 04th August:

National Aboriginal & Torres
Straight Islander Children's Day

14th - 22nd August:

Science Week

21st - 27th August:

Book Week

09th September:

Are you ok Day?

Friday 17th September:

Last day of term



3-year-old report



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GAWA Happenings So Far...

Hello to all the Gawa Families:

I hope you are all looking after yourselves and each other. With another term over and slightly interrupted with lockdown and that terrible storm, I am keeping all my fingers and toes crossed for a fun full term 3.

It was lovely to see some new friends start their kinder journey in term 2, they have settled in well and made a smooth transition into kinder and meeting their new friends. Term 2 can always be a bit of a rollercoaster with emotions, however most children have settled and starting to make some lovely friendships.

It has been a really busy term!!! First celebrating Autumn, having fun with the leaves in the Autumn corner.

Celebrating the special mums, making them tasty treats and hand drawn cards!

The children showed their beautiful smiles to the photographer for our special kinder photos.

Exploring and learning about dinosaurs and volcanos, I was hoping for an incursion on this interest, fingers crossed for next term! Outside we created our own volcanoes in the sandpit and watched them erupt with Vinegar and bicarb.

The dress ups have been a real hit outside especially the superhero capes and dinosaur costumes. We brought this interest inside, and the children created their own stick figure superheros, telling me their superpower if they too were a superhero!

The last couple of weeks we have been engaging with some number activities through group time discussions, songs and books and tabletop activities. This will continue into next term. With the annual Belgrave lantern parade usually taking place we thought we would still join in the fun and make our own, they are currently decorating the kinder.

It's been a busy few months of celebrating special birthdays, which we always love to share with our kinder friends.

To end the term in comfy fun style we thought Pyjama day would be a hit!

I hope you have all found Storypark an easy platform to use and communicate, if you do have any questions, you can also send an email or give us a call.

Next term promises to be exciting with lots to look forward to.

I look forward to seeing you all in two weeks!

See you

Sami & Alina



4-year-old report



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This term has been very busy one with many areas of learning. We survived yet another lockdown and it was great to see that our attendance numbers stayed quite high and we were able to keep our program running.



We continued our exploration of dinosaurs, recognised ANZAC Day, explored the seasons of Autumn & Winter, celebrated Mother's Day & much much more.....

Birthdays – A big happy birthday to the following children who turned 5 in Term 2: Harvey, Ashley, Ben, Hudson O, Indi, Hannah, Ivy, Quinn and Artie very soon.



DRESS UPS/DRAMATIC PLAY – Many children have enjoyed dressing up as super heroes, kings, queens, dragons, princesses and clowns. We have had multiple dramatic play areas inside including a Hairdressers, Flower Shop and Bakery. It has been great to observe how children delegate roles, suggest scenarios in the game and practice how to join in or invite friends to play. What wonderful skills to practice before we get to the school playground!



ANZAC DAY – The children enjoyed cooking ANZAC biscuits and we read 2 special books that focused on "remembering the brave soldiers". We also watched the last post on the projector screen multiple times and talked about the importance of remaining silent when hearing this.



NUMERACY – We have been exploring our numbers 1 – 10 this term in a variety of ways. Songs, visual recognition, cutting/pasting and writing them. Although there is no pre-requisite as to what level a child should be at when heading off to school, the educators at Tecoma Preschool aspire to send them off with a base knowledge that can be extended upon as soon as they begin school. If they wish to explore it..... we extend it. Many children have been enjoying the concept of how many numbers fit inside a bigger number. Eg – a 10 can be made of 2 - 5's.



LANTERN MAKING – Not only do we belong to this beautiful kinder, but we also belong to the local community. It is therefore important that children start to explore the community they belong to and open their eyes up to special events. The educators thought it would be nice to explore our creative skills and join in with making a lantern each. Although the official BELGRAVE LANTERN FESTIVAL has been postponed, we have enjoyed making some beautiful lanterns that we can hang up at kinder and home. It was also a great opportunity for children to use the hot glue gun and learn more about safety around others with something that it HOT.



AUTUMN CORNER – We had a ball in the AUTUMN corner throwing leaves up in the air and watching them fall. We found red, yellow, orange and brown leaves and they looked beautiful all mixed in together. Many children enjoyed using the spade and wheelbarrow to do some "work" and clean up the mess. This area also extended into researching about skeleton leaves and learning about "why leaves are green?". We learnt about the word chlorophyll and the difference between an evergreen and a deciduous tree. Our science experiment is still continuing as we speak – we have 3 leaves that we have been observing in water and watching carefully to see what happens to them over time. It's a slow process but we are finally seeing some results.



4-year-old report



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DINGAH & TARGOOT - (our Australian Aboriginal Dolls) have begun their home visits. All children are being very patient waiting for their turn. These dolls were developed to encourage children to be more aware of the Australian Indigenous Culture and background of others. The children really enjoy taking a photo or drawing a picture for the folder and absolutely love getting a turn to show their peers what they have done at home with the doll - this in turn developing their ability and confidence to speak in front of a group. If you missed our Storypark posts during the term, please click on the link below to hear the "Acknowledgement of Country" song that we have been singing to Dingah and Targoot.

<http://www.hullaballoomusic.com/>
(scroll to bottom of page for song)



VOLCANOES - Dinosaurs and volcanoes have been a hot topic this term, We have read many books, sung many songs and involved ourselves in a variety of art activities. We even explored our literacy skills and have been learning how to write the words Extinct, Dormant and Active.



MOTHER'S DAY - Although a while ago now, thank you to those who came along to the Mother's Day Stay & Play in May. We hope you all enjoyed your time at kinder doing the special activities and receiving your very own flower.

We hope you were taken care of on Mother's Day.

You deserve it!!!



INTERVIEWS - Thank-you to all those parents who attended their parent/teacher interview. We hope that you were able to learn something new about your child and feel comfortable with their progress so far. We hope it helped to establish some goals for the future for both at home and at kinder. If you missed out, please speak to Lauren and we can organise a time.



We finished off Term 2 with some FUN Pyjama Days!

Safe Holidays & Keep Warm



Lauren, Jo, Noeleen & Sami

