



## Dear Families

Our term began with much sadness with the passing of Lynda Matthews who was Director at the kindergarten from 2014. We thank families past and present for their condolences.

Lynda and her family have given a generous donation of \$500 to purchase a reading chair or couch, as story telling was one of Lynda's passions and she would often be surrounded by a group of avid listeners. We would like to purchase a seat for both sites and the Governing Council will fund another \$1,000 to ensure we are able to buy good quality furniture as we know it will be very well used. If any families would also like to contribute please place your donations in the fees box labelled 'Lynda's Chair' and your family name. We will also organise a plaque.

We would like to welcome to the team Sam Bacchus who is filling in for Lakyta for four weeks while she does her teaching placement at Tyndale. Gail Phasey is also working on Wednesdays and we know that you will all make them feel welcome.

We appreciate the energy and enthusiasm of our volunteers, Pene Jeffries [Outreach], Trudy James [both sites] who provides a music program and Sue Bartlett [Coronation Rd].

Regards

Cathy, Pauline, Georgia, Carol, Jo, Maxine, Lakyta, Sam, Gail and Penny



## Vale to Lynda from Richard Costi

Lynda Matthews was an outstanding educator and has had a wonderful DECD thirty plus year career in schools, preschools and central office. As well as her teaching Lynda has been a curriculum advisor, an Aboriginal Education consultant and a manager with Early Childhood Services.

Lynda finished her career as the Director of Strathalbyn Kindergarten. In this role she was both the leader of her centre and a peer leader for her colleagues. Lynda always structured her practice around what it means for a child and subsequently, his or her family. Her focus for learning generated from both child interest and intentional teaching.

The families and staff adored Lynda and they all become empowered by her leadership style. As a peer leader she was unassuming in her manner and momentous in the change she assisted her colleagues to achieve. The work she has done in capturing progress against Numeracy and Literacy Indicators for the partnership was state-wide 'best practice'.

Any person who met Lynda would describe her as always calm, humble and selfless. Equity, empathy and compassion were her underlying beliefs. Lynda was an honourable human being who added value to all the children, parents and colleagues she has worked or interacted with. Colleagues salute Lynda Matthews for her significant contribution and she will be missed in education.

Richard Costi (Education Director)

## Thank you to:

Our maintenance handyman, Djuane, for levelling the pavers at Coronation Rd. which was a big job. We are really lucky to have your services.

## Governing Council



At the meeting this week the Governing Council endorsed two new policies and two policy reviews. They were:

- Allergy Aware
- Fees
- Medical conditions
- Priority of Access

If you would like to contribute to policy development or have had experience in this area through work or community involvement, please talk to Cathy.

Our Quality Improvement Plan for 2017 was also endorsed and our key areas for improvement are:

- Literacy/ numeracy learning
- Children's engagement in the program.
- Nutrition
- Sustainable practices
- Children's emotional regulation
- Philosophy Review
- Staff induction
- Parent involvement
- Parent information
- Transition to EFS

The QIP will soon be available on our website to read.

The Governing Council has a busy time ahead with the Antique Fair on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of August. Please put these dates in your diary as we will need volunteers to work in the kitchen and sell entrance tickets all weekend.

We have also been offered the opportunity to provide security which means 2 people sleeping over at the Town Hall on Friday and Saturday night.

We would have to have a firm commitment to take this on. Please let Cathy know this week if you would consider this. It could be a couple or friends who would enjoy a beer or wine while they catch up overnight.

This is our only fundraiser for the year as it generates a great income so we hope that all families will support it.

The Governing Council has set a tentative date for our 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration - Sunday September 24<sup>th</sup>. This will be an afternoon tea, memorabilia display and hopefully old style games for the children, reminiscent of the era our kindergarten began at Coronation Rd. Kate and Karen have begun to fossick through our archives and we will begin on what will probably be a very long guest list. If anyone would be interested in helping organise aspects of the event please talk to Cathy, Kate or Jo.

As part of our 50<sup>th</sup> celebrations we plan to have a personalised pathway made from pavers leading up to the gate at the Coronation Rd. entrance. Families will be able to purchase a paver that they can design - name, message, picture etc. You will receive a flyer about this, pending council approval of the project.

## Photos



Simon Fleming Photography will be with us for our Annual Kindergarten photos. on:

Outreach: Thursday June 1st  
Possums: Monday June 5<sup>th</sup>  
Koalas: Thursday June 8<sup>th</sup>

Please note there was an incorrect date for Outreach in the last newsletter.

Every child (unless requested not to) is photographed and presented a 5x7" keepsake Kindy Memories album with three different individual activity portraits plus a class group photo. Families are given the opportunity to view the albums before choosing to purchase. No money is required prior to the photos. This year the complete album cost is \$45, or alternatively individual photos can be selected for \$15 each.

Group photos will be at 9.30 am so please ensure you arrive promptly on the day. Children do not need to dress up as the photographs represent them as learners at kindergarten and reflect their daily activities.

### Fees

Fees are due by Monday 29<sup>th</sup> of May. Please talk to Cathy if you have not organised instalments if you need to.

### Closure Day

Don't forget Closure Day on **Wednesday May 24<sup>th</sup>** for Outreach, Possum and Occasional Care children.

### Dad's Dinner

The next dinner is on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> of May at 6.00 pm. Jacket potatoes are on the menu and big box construction will keep the children busy. Cathy would love to see you there as she will be checking out the fun.



### Nutrition



It is wonderful to see an array of healthy food in the children's lunch

boxes - grain breads, a selection of fruit and vegetables, cheese and yoghurt, rice cakes and home made muffins.

Don't forget you are able to buy beautiful fresh fruit for no more than \$2.50 a bag from Coronation Rd. Outreach families are more than welcome to drop in and purchase some if they are passing by when we are open.

The fruit is provided by Nicci from Avindale Farm and certainly beats the supermarket variety.

The children have been busy with healthy cooking experiences. At Outreach they made pumpkin soup and capably prepared the pumpkin themselves.



At Coronation Rd apple pikelets were on the menu. We adapted the recipe to meet dietary requirements:

- 2 cups gluten free flour
- 2 cups grated apple
- Egg replacer according to directions
- 1 1/2 cups of rice milk
- 1-2 teaspoons of cinnamon

Mix and cook spoonfuls in hot oil.



### Learning Journals

The children are very proud of their Learning Journals which consist of learning stories, photographs, summaries of group experiences and work samples. Please feel free to view

them with your child so they can share their learning journey with you.

### Borrowing Packs

All of the children at Coronation Rd. will have the opportunity to borrow a Persona Doll pack for a week. They will take care of the doll or dog and we ask you to help them create a page about their adventures that they can share with the group at community time. This is a great way to extend their sense of 'caring for others' and building on literacy skills.

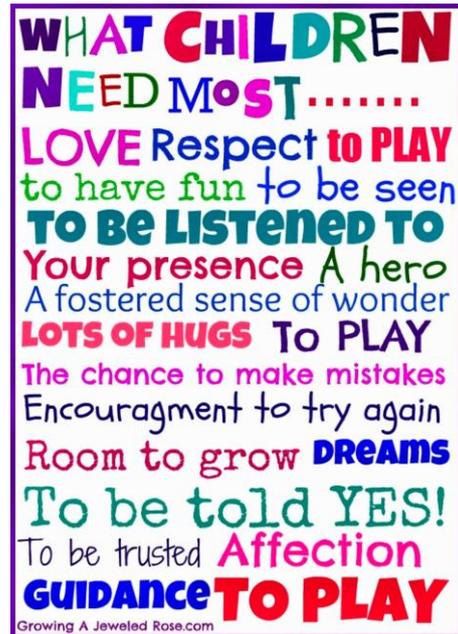


### Parent Involvement

We have wonderful parents who assist the staff with kindergarten jobs. We welcome you to spend as much time with your child at kindergarten as you have available. Please make good use of our library area and read a story or two. You will have attentive listeners. If you have any skills that you can share e.g. supervising a cooking experience, craft etc we would really appreciate it.

### Parent interviews

We program for children on a cyclical basis. This is our 'Focus' child routine. The staff at Coronation Rd. will invite you to have an interview with them when your child has been programmed for. The Outreach staff have completed many interviews but make a time if you have not had a chance.



### Quote:

**"To be in your children's memories tomorrow, you have to be in their lives today."  
-Barbara Johnson**

It's not only children who grow. Parents do too. As much as we watch to see what our children do with their lives, they are watching us to see what we do with ours. I can't tell my children to reach for the sun. All I can do is reach for it, myself.  
~Joyce Maynard