

## Annie & Karen's Yellow Group

What a fabulous term we have had. We were inspired by the visit from "Go Africa" to get grooving and moving and have learned a new dance called the Waka Waka to add to our global repertoire. A delightful African story called "Hanna's Surprise" caught our interest we practiced balancing fruit in a basket on our heads, while our Japanese lessons this term have been focused on naming fruits and vegetables. We've enjoyed the opportunity to look at a wide range of fruits and veggies and to predict what we would find inside when we cut them open, and certainly enjoyed tasting them! (Even the lemons!) and had discussions on how they grow- above ground? Under ground? One trees? Vines? What's the part called that grows in the ground- lots of really interesting discussions around plant biology. This week we will plant our sunflowers into the ground and make predictions on how much they will change once the roots find our nutrient, rich soil. It will be exciting to see how much they have grown by the time we get back from the holidays!



I had the privilege to attend a local forum of leaders in education working towards developing a 30 year plan for education in Queensland. Being the only representative from Early Childhood there, I was able to deliver my proposal to the forum, on changes we would like to see in the future of early childhood and it was really greatly received. (Phew!) All levels of the education system (Primary, High school and University) saw value in investing in high quality Early Childhood opportunities. The University representative suggested that we are on the right track – they don't ask their students at what age did they learn to read or write – they feel it's irrelevant too! They want to know what inspires their learners, what motivates or engages them to continue seeking knowledge. We share the same philosophy in Early Childhood. The more opportunities your child has to build their social and emotional capacities in these early years, the more engaged learners they will become. It is when learning becomes pressured or too instructionally based that our young learners can find themselves disengaging from the education system- often manifesting in behavioural problems in the early years of primary school. So how do we help get our young children ready to learn? By immersing them in learning opportunities and by supporting the development of their emotional and social resilience. Our Triple P Parent Evening gave some great tips for families to work with. There is another one coming up in October with Dr Paula Barrett – so keep an eye out for that one to mark in your diary! Or talk to us- we are always happy to discuss issues with our lovely families. Enjoy your holiday break! Wishing you sunshine and glorious winter days!



Annie and Karen



## Fiona & Lynsey's Red Group

Hello Africa was an amazing show that really wakened the senses with loud drums, dancing and singing along with Sunday Ali. He engaged all the children for over an hour with stories from his village in Africa and the techniques and methods of the wide range of drum he bought along for us to play!! An African story called HANDAS SUPRISE extended Sunday's story about carrying your shopping in a basket, but upon your head. A small bowl of fruit displayed on the table at kindy prompted wonderful fruit paintings, with detail in colour and in line. Please come into home corner to see this art display! ***As teachers we promote an awareness of other cultures eg: languages, practices, connections to people/places and heritage. (CONNECTEDNESS – Showing increasing respect for diversity Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guidelines).***

Other African books prompted a renewed interest in numbers and writing numerals. We have learnt how to write the numbers 1-5, some "write" in the air, others are drawing the numbers on paper, and some find the numbers in books or on the Ipad screen. We are exploring number in games, and counting songs – "Alice the Camel" is a favourite at the moment!

Story writing has begun for our group after many told stories and books about possums. A discovery of a possum in the tree watching us play one morning has added to learning more about nocturnal animals. A discussion on what animals we know might be nocturnal did bring along a fabulous comment by a child in our group! She believes her mum to be nocturnal!– we thought that maybe mummy would prefer not to be a nocturnal creature – maybe mummy just wants her children to go to sleep!!! .....As they say "Out of the mouths of babes!" xxx☺ We have also noticed this possum has been eating our sunflower seeds we planted last month!! We are writing our own possum book which is a sequel to POSSUM IN THE HOUSE by Melanie Carter. Another story "THE APPLE TREE", the children learnt about a possum coming late at night to eat new apples that had grown on the tree. From this we learnt a finger play.... - 5 red apples hanging on the tree, the juiciest apples I ever did see, the wind came up and gave an angry frown, and one red apple came tumbling down. 4, 3, 2, 1.



### Dates and Reminders

- We are looking forward to our Japanese cooking lesson! YUM ☺
- Parent teacher chats are FRIDAY 21 JUNE.
- I am heading to a conference next Saturday ECTA and I am looking forward to a workshop on developing handwriting skills.
- Toilet rolls for gardening – Can you please bring in any spare toilet rolls? Monica (Shae mum) has a brilliant idea to stop the pesky possum!! We will plant our seeds in the toilet rolls and keep them in the room until they grow bigger. Once big enough we can plant the toilet roll and seedling straight into the ground! Great recycling project!
- I also wondered if anyone was handy enough to build a possum box?? Would be great to have a clear Perspex wall to the box to watch our furry friend while he sleeps!



## Kate and Margo's Purple Group

Look what we've been up to this month.....



### WE HAVE A NEiTA TEACHER!

The NEiTA Foundation has congratulated Kenmore Park Kindy on having a teacher nominated for an ASG Inspirational Teaching Award.

Fiona Guthrie was nominated by members of our community and this week will be presented with a NEiTA Certificate of Nomination at the centre committee meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> July.

The purpose of these prestigious awards is to honour and recognise inspirational teachers, and highlight the work, not only of individual teachers throughout Australia and New Zealand, but also the team contribution of all teachers in every school and centre.

Fiona is now eligible for consideration for a National ASG Inspirational Teaching Award and grant. Congratulations Fiona, thank you to the nominator, and 'well done' to all our teachers for doing a great job!

Nominations can be made online, or forms can be downloaded, at [www.neita.com.au](http://www.neita.com.au) Forms are also available from the centre office, or by phoning free call 1800 624 487. Closing date is 31 July 2013.



## Becky & Lynsey's Pre-Kindy News

The children in both Pre-Kindy groups have continued to delight Lynsey and me as they grow in confidence and we see more of their personalities coming out. We are beginning to see early friendships form, as they play make believe games, and explore their Kindy environment.

It was such a joy to see the whole of the afternoon group in the sand pit all having a party, someone had fetched a cake from the home corner and I joined in as we blew out candles and sang happy birthday to everyone ☺

Both groups enjoyed camping. We made a tent and put camp beds in it, even Lynsey and I had to snuggle up in sleeping bags on the floor, and we made a pretend camp fire and caught fish with our magnet fishing lines, which we then cooked on the fire and on the BBQ. There seemed to be a lot of clothes washing happening while we camped, with a very busy washing line and lots of peg action. What a great way to practice our fine motor skills.

A highlight of the last few weeks was Dentist Tom coming for a visit. He came in to talk to the kids about caring for their teeth, promoting healthy eating and regular teeth cleaning. He played games and sang songs, dressing up in his dental clothes, showing them some of his equipment. The children volunteered to show Tom their lovely teeth, "my turn" said the next one, as they all wanted to let Tom see their teeth! All the while building confidence for when they have to visit the dentist.

Have a wonderful holiday and we look forward to seeing you all next term. Love Becky and Lynsey x



### Note.....

Next term we are excited to welcome Miss Kirsty, into our morning session. Kirsty joins the teaching team with Becky and Lynsey as an extra pair of hands in our busy group.

Kirsty comes to us with a wealth of experience and qualifications in early childhood education, we are so lucky she is able to join our team, and I know all the children will benefit greatly by having an extra teacher in the group.



### Reminders:

Parent Teacher chats Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July





## MAINTENANCE ROSTER

DATE: July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013

TIME: 7-10am at Kindy

### Term 3.

July 27 LARKHAM, PEEBLES, ROWE, SARTOR, TORKINGTON, CATIONS, KILMISTER, QUILTER, SMITH, ZHANG, MOON, SANDALL, STEPHENS, CRAFT, ABBOTT, BUDDEN, CHOU, DEARDS, EMBER, GARDNER, DOUGLAS, DOUGLAS, FOWLER, FOLEY, McCALLION

Thank you to everyone who participated in their allocated Maintenance Roster last Saturday, June 15 2013. It was a bit of a windy, wintery start, but we had a good turnout and a successful morning.

So, what did we get up to this time??

We completed garden bed preparations for Unit 2 projects that are coming into fruition, such as the new 'Butterfly Garden' and 'Fairy Garden'. We also did some general cleaning tasks to get Kindy ready for next term. One of these jobs was cleaning all of the sand pit equipment in Unit 2 (and there is ALOT!!!) so a big thank you goes to Mary-Anne Quilter for taking on this massive task.

Over in Unit 1, the mural artwork on Miss Fiona and Miss Becky's side is really starting to take shape and is going to brighten up the garden. The walls near the BBQ were given a fresh coat of paint and the lockers (and even the tiles in front of the lockers) were cleaned....and the list goes on!

Thanks to the Hunt, Smith and Sartor families for volunteering their trailers (and dump vouchers) to do a 'dump run' on the day. This job is really important as it is keeping the Kindy clean and tidy.

Having so many families this year volunteering their time towards the Maintenance Roster has been really fantastic. It is only halfway through the year, but the Kindy is really looking great. Many 'hands' allows us to fulfil the different wishes our teachers have. For example, the 'MudKitchen' and the new 'Butterfly Garden' in Unit 2 and also the colourful murals in Unit 1 could not have been attempted without your help.

There are many more 'wishes' to fulfil this year for our hardworking teaching staff, so we look forward to seeing everyone at their next roster.

Jenni and Tom

  
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## Fundraising

# ***FIT FOR FUNDS = FUN!***



Green Hill Reservoir has proved to be the perfect spot for our training. Our group now has seven members who meet over four days. I am delighted to report that training with children alongside has been more successful than I anticipated. They join in, shout instructions, cheer on their mums and generally increase the fun factor! A jogging pushchair or children

who are able to ride bikes or scooters is all that is required. The sessions last an hour and take the form of a 2km warm-up, fitness exercises like burpees, shuttle runs, running up and down stairs etc, games (usually directed by the children) and some more running. You participate at your own pace and own level. My role is essentially chief cheer leader!



Want to join us? We meet at Green Hill Reservoir (off Russell Terrace) on Mondays and Tuesdays at 9am, Wednesdays 3pm and at Greenford St/ Beilby Road entrance to Mt Coot-tha on Saturdays at 6.30am.

Our aim is to participate in a sponsored run (either 5km, 10km, half-marathon depending on the individual) in the Brisbane Marathon Festival on 4/08/08.

Our go fundraising page can be found at

[www.gofundraise.com.au/beneficiary/kenmoreparkkindergarten](http://www.gofundraise.com.au/beneficiary/kenmoreparkkindergarten)

You can register to take place in the Brisbane Marathon Festival at

<http://www.brisbanemarathon.com/>

click on register now then join an existing team. Team name is Kenmore Park Kindy.

## Holiday fun idea's with the kids

### Hand Tree

With just a little help from an adult you can make this awesome tree to celebrate the autumn season with your little ones hand cut outs!



### Button Branch Fall Tree

Got spare buttons laying around the house? Turn them into a cute fall craft project!



### Leaf Creatures!

Go out into the yard and find some different kinds of leaves, and turn them into different creatures! A great imagination working craft!



### Hand Print Turkey

Great decoration for your Thanksgiving theme! Maybe even on your dinner table!



### Paper Plate Owl

How cute is this? Just a little bit of water color paints, paper plates, and some construction paper and you are all ready!



### Fall Hand/Arm Tree

Trees seem to be a popular theme for fall crafts, but this is a great idea for a hand print, and finger print crafts!

