**Program**

Wow we are already at the half way point of the term!!

It’s been great to see that everyone has settled in well to Kindy and we are really enjoying getting to know your child. If you haven’t already, check out our ever growing display on the green wall. You will find some fantastic drawings that the children did of themselves as well as some very cute answers to a ‘getting to know you’ questionnaire.

During group times we have been talking about our families, who is in our families and how each family is different. We have even drawn some pictures of our families and are all in the process of making our own family tree.

The children have enjoyed exploring the outside yard area on the cooler days that we have been having. During this exploration the children have discovered caterpillars on the vine leaves. Last week this involved lots of problem solving around how to get the caterpillars into the bug catchers and looking at the photos we had taken, to investigate which way the caterpillar moves and how many legs it has. This also led to an unplanned discussion about caterpillars and on Monday this week lead to the children collecting some caterpillars and placing them in a tank. The hope is that we can watch the caterpillars grow and maybe turn into butterflies. Some of the children’s learning and experiences can be viewed in our Floor Book. (See below for more information about Floor Books)

Each week we have also been focusing on a colour, number, letter and shape. The aim of this is to increase the children’s knowledge of these area through a variety of fun and hands on activities. Each week the children have been doing a threading only using the colour of the week. This activity is helping the children learn the different colours and also develops their fine motor skills. We are hanging our threading’s up in the block area and hope to make our own unique rainbow with them.

In the coming weeks we will start to look at ourselves and how everyone is different eg. Height, hair, eye, skin colour, mobility. This will be a lead in to the Fun Run, Walk and Roll for Elise and Luke which we will be involved with later this term.

It has been great to see some of the parents taking the time to look at what the children have been doing at Kindy. When children get home from Kindy they can be reluctant to share with you what they have done during the day. So by taking the time to ask them while they are still at Kindy will encourage them to open up and discuss with you what they have done, as they have something to actually show you.

Please be sure to read the diary dates so you don’t miss any up coming events and due dates.

If you have any questions, concerns or want to know how your child is going, please don’t hesitate to make a time to see Kindy staff. The door is always open!

Amanda, Hedy & Ros

**Parent-Teacher Interviews**

You would have all received a letter last week explaining that we will be hold parent-teacher interviews on Tuesday 10th March. This will be an opportunity for you to have an informal chat with Kindy staff about how your child has settled into Kindy. Thank you to those families who have booked a time to see us. You do not have to have an interview but the opportunity is there if you wish. Please remember that the door is always open and you can make an appointment to see Kindy staff at anytime to discuss how your child is going or if you have any concerns.

**No Kindy**

Please remember there is a public holiday next **Monday 9th March** so the Kindy will not be open. We will have another public holiday on **Monday 6th April** due to Easter Monday, so again the Kindy will not be open on this day.
Snake sighting
On Tuesday this week, one of the Kindy children spotted a Brown Snake moving through the Kindy backyard. Thankfully this child acted very maturely and alerted both staff and her peers that there was a snake on the lawn and everyone needed to stop moving. Staff monitored where the snake went and it passed out of the Kindy yard under the back fence. A discussion was had with the children about snakes and what we need to do if we spot one. Staff will conduct checks of the yard before allowing the children outside and will remind all children to be vigilant while outside.

Floor books
Late last year all Kindy staff attended a workshop in Talking and Thinking Floor books run by Niki Buchan. What is a Floor book? Floor books are a way to record the children’s thinking, explorations, learning, discussions, brainstorms all in 1 book. We can then use this information that we have collected to help in the direction the children wish their learning to go. The beauty of this way of recording is that there is no right or wrong way to do it. Each site that uses these Floor books makes it unique to their children and setting. We are starting to introduce this process to the children and so far they seem to be enjoying it. They are particularly enjoying being able to look back at what they have done, which has started discussions between each other about what they can see in the photos and what they remember from the experience. Please feel free to look through our floor book at any time to see what we have been doing. If you aren’t sure where it is or what it looks like please ask either a staff member or your child.

Library Visit
Last Wednesday we had our first visit to the library. The children really enjoyed the walk and there was lots of discussion about the different things we saw on the way, eg. Birds flying, Levi and Grace’s houses and dogs and numbers on the letter boxes. Also on our visit we discovered that Malia’s mum, Mrs Gum works at the library! We also met Mrs Summerton who also works in the library. The children enjoyed being able to look for their own book and borrow it themselves. After we finished borrowing, we found a table to sit at in the school grounds and ate our snack. These library visits are a great way for the children to become familiar with the library and how to borrow a book but also for them to become familiar with the school grounds. We hope to make at least 1 more visit this term to the library.

Kindy Clothes
Our Kindy clothing order of Polos and Jumpers have arrived. Please see Kindy staff on a Monday afternoon if you would like to purchase any clothing. We are still waiting for Size 4 navy polos to arrive as these were on backorder.

Drop off and Pick up
Just a reminder that Kindy starts at 9am. We ask that you arrive no more than 5 minutes before the Kindy day starts, with the exception being for the children that arrive by bus.
We also ask that you are prompt when picking up your child at the end of the session. This means 12 noon on Mondays and 3pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. It can be quite distressing for the children if everyone else has gone and they are the only ones left.

Bakery Fundraiser
The Governing Council has decided to run the Pinnaroo Bakery Fundraiser again this year. Each family should have received an order form. Please ask your family and friends if they would like to place an order. All orders and money need to be returned to Kindy no later than Tuesday 24th March. Orders will be ready to pick up from the Kindy on Wednesday 1st April after 2pm. Thank you to Bec Boseley for working with the Bakery to organise this fundraiser for us. The money raised from this fundraiser will go towards new equipment for the children. This is a great way to raise money for our Kindergarten while getting something yummy to eat!

Fun Run, Walk & Roll for Elise and Luke
As most of you know the Pinnaroo Community has organised a Fun Run, Walk & Roll for Elise and Luke on Sunday 29th March. For those of you that don’t know about this event, it is a fundraising event that has been organised to raise funds for former Pinnaroo resident Elise Summerton and her fiancé Luke Kennedy. Elise and Luke were seriously injured in a car accident in September 2013. This accident left Luke with multiple complex fractures to his face, hip, pelvis and feet and Elise is now a quadriplegic.
To get the local school and Kindy children involved, the organising group have organised a Primary School Event to be held on Wednesday 25th March. We have decided that all Kindy children will be involved in this event and have sent home today a letter explaining the day in more detail as well as a sponsorship form. We encourage all families to make a donation/sponsorship towards this event and if you have any questions please see either Ros or Amanda.
**Sun protection**
As stated in our Skin Protection Policy, it is encouraged that children come to Kindy with sunscreen already applied. Can you please ensure that your child has sunscreen applied in the mornings. We understand that the mornings can be busy and you may run out of time to do this. So if you have forgotten, let us know as we have a bottle of sunscreen for you to use to apply sunscreen to your child in the morning. We will then reapply it during the day as required. If your child has sensitive skin, please provide your own sunscreen. Also please make sure your child has a hat in their bag. A few children this week have not had a hat and our Sun Protection Policy states that hats must be worn in terms 1 and 4.

**Catastrophic Fire Days**
With the bushfire season upon us, we thought we should remind parents that the Kindergarten does not close on forecast catastrophic days. However NO buses will be able to run on these days. On these days parents will need to make the decision to transport children to Kindergarten or keep them home. The announcement of these days cannot be made until DECD is notified of the following days’ forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology after 4pm. The Kindergarten will make every effort to contact parents once the announcement has been made. Information will also be provided on the DECD Parent Hotline 1800 000 279, ABC radio 891 and local regional stations, ABC TV and the DECD website [www.decd.sa.gov.au](http://www.decd.sa.gov.au)

**Governing Council Meeting**
The next Governing Council Meeting will be on Monday 16th March at 7pm at the Kindergarten.
All apologies to Hedy/Amanda or Bec Boseley.

**Kindy Fees:**
Kindy Fees are now due. Thank you to those families that have already paid their fees. We would appreciate payment of the remaining fees as soon as possible. If you cannot afford the whole amount all at once please see Hedy or Amanda and we can work out a payment plan.

**Literacy Kits**
We have a large range of literacy kits available for your child to borrow. These are a great way to do a special activity with your child, as well as help develop their literacy skills. We have allocated Monday’s after the Kindy session has finished as the time when your child can borrow and return the literacy kits. They can only borrow one kit at a time and it needs to be recorded in the red folder. Please ensure you watch your child when they use the kits, so that you can keep an eye on all the pieces. If you happen to loose a piece or notice a piece is missing please let Kindy staff know. Please see staff if you have any questions about the literacy kits.

**Washing Roster**
Below is the washing roster. We ask that one family a week washes the smocks and tea towels and returns them to Kindy the following Monday. The washing will be sent home on Wednesdays. If you have any questions please see a staff member.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Johann Oster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Jayla Dabinett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>Malia Gum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>Grace Boseley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>Blake Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>Nate Cowley</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Investigating magnets and how they work**

**Listening to a story with the headphones**

**Looking for caterpillars on the vine leaves**

**Borrowing books at the Library**

**Playing with water in the creek and pond on a hot day**

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*There is more treasure in books than in all the pirates’ loot on Treasure Island.*

—Walt Disney
**HOMEMADE MUESLI BARS**

Serving Size: Makes 24  
Prep Time: 10 min  
Cook Time: 20 mins  
Special Info: Egg free, Nut free

**Ingredients:**
- 1/2 cup (125mL) honey
- 1/4 cup caster sugar
- 125g butter
- 3 cups rolled oats (see note for gluten-free option)
- 1 cup Rice Bubbles
- 1 cup sultanas
- 1/2 cup chopped apricots, dates or choc chips
- 1/2 cup desiccated coconut
- 1/4 cup pepitas (pumpkin seed kernels), sunflower or sesame seeds

**Method:**
Preheat oven to 180°C (160°C fan-forced). Grease and line a slice tray (31 cm x 22cm) with baking paper.

Combine honey, sugar and butter in a saucepan over medium heat. Cook, stirring, for 2-3 minutes until butter melts and sugar dissolves. Bring to the boil and cook for 2 minutes or until syrup thickens slightly. Remove from heat.

Combine remaining ingredients in a large bowl. Pour over the hot syrup and stir to combine. Spoon into prepared pan and press firmly to make sure the mixture will stick together.

Bake in oven for 15-20 minutes or until golden. Cool and then refrigerate until well chilled and cut into 24 slices (about 2cm x 6cm).

**Notes:**
- To make these muesli bars gluten-free, use two cups of crushed cornflakes and two cups of rice bubbles.
- When spooning into prepared pans, I wet my fingers with a bit of cold water and press the top to get a smooth finish.
- The mixture has a total of 1 1/2 cups of dried fruit – use whatever combination you or your kids prefer.
- I have to put some obvious choc-chips on the top so my son will tolerate the sultanas. And let’s not mention the pepitas!
- You could use half honey, half smooth peanut butter in the ‘syrup’ or add nuts to the mixture, but as most schools are nut-free now I have omitted these from the basic mix.

Recipe created by Melissa Hughes for [Kidspot](http://kidspot.com.au), Australia’s best recipe finder.

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**Cheesymite Scrolls**

Prep time: 20 mins  
Cook time: 20 mins  
Total time: 40 mins  
Serves: 10

**Ingredients**
- 3 cups SR Flour
- Pinch Salt
- 50g butter
- 1-1½ cups milk
- 1-2 tbsp Vegemite
- 1 cup grated cheese
- ½ cup grated cheese, extra

**Instructions**
1. Pre-heat oven to 220C
2. Sift flour and salt into a bowl
3. Rub in the butter until the mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs
4. Stir in enough milk to make a soft dough
5. Knead on a lightly floured board
6. Roll to form a rectangle that is roughly 40cm x 25cm
7. Spread vegemite over the dough using a blunt knife
8. Sprinkle cheese over the top
9. Roll up the dough starting from a long side first
10. Cut 10 x 4cm pieces from the roll
11. Place these pieces close together, cut side up on a greased baking tray
12. Sprinkle the extra cheese over the top
13. Bake in the oven for 15-20 min