



newsletter

september 2011

Donvale preschool *learning to grow*

End of term is here, hooray, or maybe not hooray - depends upon your perception I suppose. It's either - no running around and having to be everywhere on time (hooray!) - or being stuck with kid/s for two weeks with no place to hide (not). As I said, perception perception perception.

On another note, the lovely people at Fletchers Real Estate have recently provided the kinder with two promotional billboards, so don't be surprised if you're driving down Mitcham Road and see some familiar faces peering out at you. Until then, take a sneak peek at what it looks like (right).

We also had a visit from a photographer from the Manningham Leader recently who covered the 4 year olds as they participated in the colourful fruit and vegetable program. Hopefully an article will appear in the paper over the next few weeks so keep your eyes peeled for it!

FLETCHERS

Donvale preschool
learning to grow

we have the **largest kinder playground** in the area

where it's **always OPEN DAY**

Enrol NOW

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7 Florence Ave Donvale
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www.donvalepreschool.org.au

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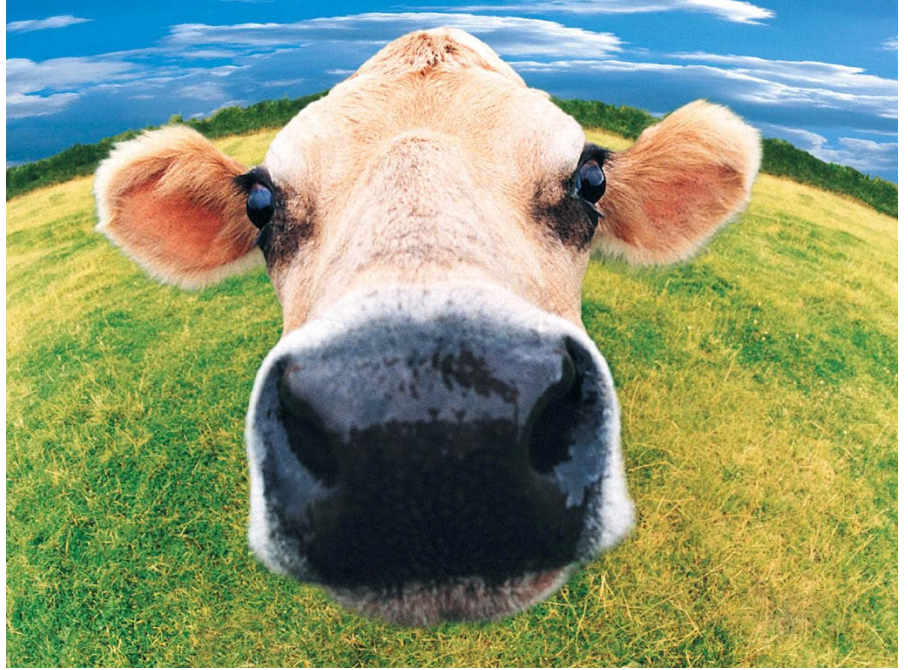
Look out for our new billboard on-show now



Congratulations to Carolyn and Simon Datson on the safe arrival of their new baby boy "Harlan Datson" born 26th August, Weighing 3.79 kg (8 pound 5 ounces) a new baby brother for Tahlia (kangaroo group) and Vaughn.

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3's



My name is Anita and I will be teaching with Ann and Jeanine in the 3 yr old group while Helen is away on holidays. It is great to be back at Donvale Kindergarten. I am looking forward to a fun and exciting time with the children. After wishing Helen a

lovely time on her holiday around Europe, we began to reflect upon our time at Tintern Farm. We had a lot of activities to engage in that had a farm theme and we learnt about the types of animals that live on a farm, their habitats and what farmers do while on their farms. The children have enjoyed listening to farm-yard stories and singing "Old Macdonald had a Farm".

The children are having fun playing doctors and patients in the Donvale Hospital corner, they have enjoyed dressing up in doctor and nurses' uniforms and bandaging sore arms and legs.

In the coming weeks we will be exploring the mathematic concepts of shape, size, colour and numbers. We have many wonderful and fun activities, games, stories and songs that we will be learning.

In early September we got ready to surprise Dad for Fathers' Day with a special gift that we had made whilst at kinder.

As the weather has been getting warmer, on particularly sunny days we have been spending our time outside, bringing some of our favourite indoor activities outside.

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In our last week of term the children will be celebrating with Friend Bears 5th Birthday and also the end of term! There will be many party-themed activities and games.

Thank you

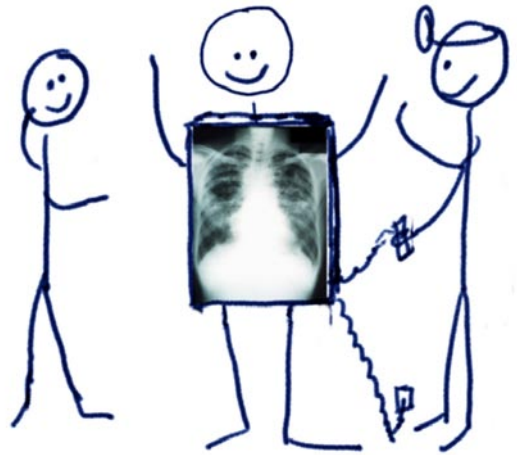
Anita, Ann & Jeanine

I can't believe it's almost the end of term three already. I hope you're all ready for Christmas!!

What a month we've had busy, busy, busy. The children have embraced all the different topic ideas and have been practicing all their skill areas through these topics and we couldn't be prouder of their achievements. You will see the progression of your children's journey through kinder in their portfolios. The children are very involved in their portfolios and frequently ask to add items to them. And please remember that as a parent you can add to them too. Just let Sue or Jackie know and we'll add to them.

4's

We started off this month with a trip to the Box Hill Hospital. The children were all really excited and very well behaved as we learnt about all the things that would happen if they ever had to go to hospital. This was a really important experience and many children shared their own experiences with hospital and I think were comforted by the fact that the lovely ladies at Box Hill made going to hospital sound not scary at all. We saw a one day old baby in the nursery, how a hospital bed works, inside an ambulance, the x-ray machines and all the things the doctors and nurses might use such as stethoscopes, name bracelets, blood pressure cuff etc. etc.



We had some hilarious moments when the children tasted lots of vegetables that Jackie had steamed up, (some children were more eager to try than others) and smelt some really smelly things like garlic, vinegar, tomato sauce, peppermint and vanilla blindfolded with Sue.



Back at kinder this inspired many a learning experience with our hospital corner and we moved into body awareness, healthy eating, senses, how to keep healthy through exercise and much, much, more. We have cooked, tasted, smelt, felt, looked and made our own body drawings

that are displayed around the kinder. We had some hilarious moments when the children tasted lots of vegetables that Jackie had steamed up, (some children were more eager to try than others) and smelt some really smelly things like garlic, vinegar, tomato sauce, peppermint and vanilla blindfolded with Sue. Apparently not everyone was as impressed with Sue's bolognaise sauce as she thought so back to the drawing board for me.

During this interesting and exciting interest area the children were able to decorate their father's day cups and make the delicious rocky road, (thanks Ann and your cooking skills) to go inside. We hope all our dad's had a great day and are enjoying their favourite beverage from their mugs.



We have now moved into our imaginative interest area spurred on by our excursion to Peter and the Wolf ballet. The children have been really inspired by the story and fairy tales in general and were wonderful at the ballet. Thank you to all the parents for both excursions for dropping the children off - we know it can be a bit of a hassle when the usual kinder sessions are altered and you have to go out of your way. We can assure you it was very much worth it. Thank you also to all the parents who stayed for the ballet and helped us out with supervision of the children.

Now as you are probably all aware we have a fourth year student teacher Alex with us at the moment. The children are loving having her and she has brought a lot to our kinder program. It is really important to Jackie and myself to help mentor and guide student teachers as

they enter the kindergarten or primary field. Alex is doing amazing things and is in full control of the program from last Friday for the next two weeks. She has many exciting and interesting activities organised and Jackie and I will be in the kinder room, but taking a back seat so that Alex can practice running the group on her own. We have no doubt that she will do this brilliantly.

So we now will be moving into planning for fourth term at our conference day Friday September 23rd. Don't forget NO KINDER ON THIS DAY.

Thanks,

Sue, Jackie, Ann & Jane

Transition Reports

These will be completed for all four year old children attending school in 2012. Information has been sent home to all four year old families in regards to these essential reports.

Toy catalogues

This week a variety of children's toy catalogues will be sent home for you to keep, read through and if you are interested, to order from.

Toy orders and payments are not due back at the kinder until 21st October,

so please keep an eye out for the catalogues, as they will be sent home as we receive them. If you do not wish to order from the catalogues, perhaps you could give them to your children to practice cutting with? If you require more catalogues for family or friends please see a staff member when they are sent home. Toy orders are optional.



All kinder photo orders and payments are due back by the end of third term - that's this Friday everyone!



Reminder
for term 4
- sun hats are a must

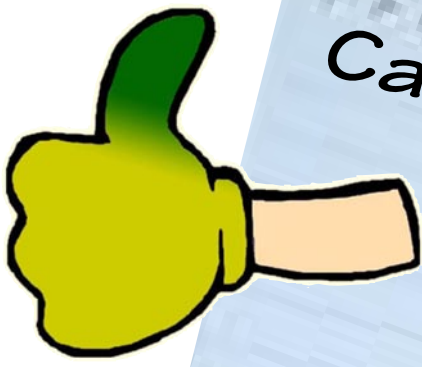


Are you missing something?

Someone ordered books from the last Scholastic Book Club and forgot to put their name on their orderform. If you think this might be you, please see Jackie and list the books you ordered so that she can deliver them to you.

Did you know that Donvale Preschool is a Registered Care Provider?

Families who meet the work/training/study test are able to claim the Child Care Benefit for Registered Care. This subsidy is available for both the 3 & 4 year old programmes (visit www.familyassist.gov.au for further info). Should you require a Registered Child Care Benefit receipt for your claim with the Family Assistance Office, then let the Fees Officer Roslina Harrison on 0417 974 679 or email roslina@optusnet.com.au



Calling all gardening green thumbs!

Are you one of those people who just love love love your garden? Are you someone who is constantly dividing and separating plants? If so, we'd love your help as our fairy garden is in desperate need of some new plants.

So if you have some that you can spare, and let's face it they'll have to be of the truly hardy persuasion (think lavender, colourful, scented, bomb-proof

plants etc) please think

of donating

some to the

kinder when

you're doing

your Spring

separating.



Message from the President

Dear Parents,

We have received feedback that some people are disappointed with the level of social interaction with other families this year.

I would like to thank you for bringing this to the committees attention and we will take steps to diarise purely social events throughout the year next year. What about the rest of this year? While the Trivia night is a fundraiser, it doesn't get much more social than this! A night out with other members of the kinder community to have some laughs, some drinks and possibly win some prizes! If you want to bring along other friends you are more than welcome to. Please don't feel expected to fill a table for the night, if you would like to come along just put your name down on any table where there is a space. If you have feedback for the committee on any matter at all, there is a comments box in the foyer near the sign-in sheet. I really hope we see you at the Trivia Night!

Sally Wilson - President 0400 140 176.



Happy Birthday to you & you & you

~ 3 year olds

september

Peter	7/9/07
Nathan	9/9/07
Noah	13/9/07
Chantal	20/9/07
Lara	21/9/07
Jade	24/9/07

november

Mitchell	7/11/07
Alison	10/11/07

december

William	2/12/07
Kiara	27/12/07

~ 4 year olds

september

Alessio Guerra	29/09/06
Charles Mercuri	17/09/06
Luca Orsini	04/09/06
Samantha Spencer	29/09/06

november

Oscar Thomas	14/11/06
Sophie Cunningham	16/11/06

december

Demi Rowe	23/12/06
Giulia De Girolano	05/12/06
Jesse Younger	05/12/06
Max Marshall	29/12/05
Sebastian Born	22/12/06

AGM Meeting

Our next Annual General Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday 22nd November at 7.30pm**. This is a chance to get the low-down on how the kinder is operating and to nominate for committee positions. Everyone is encouraged to attend, so please mark this date down in your diaries.

Did you know?

Kids are free so why not make the most of all three Melbourne-based zoos!

Zoos Victoria are excited to announce that from 1 July, 2011 children under 16 years of age will receive free admission to; Healesville Sanctuary, Melbourne Zoo and Werribee Open Range Zoo; on weekends, Victorian public holidays and Victorian Government school holidays - so if you're stuck for an idea of what to do with the kids over these holidays, why not make a zoo your next day out?



FATHERS DAY RAFFLE

Tickets \$2 each

Please print NAME & PHONE N° on the left ticket stub

Please return all money and tickets by THURSDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER

Raffle drawn Sunday 4th Sept 2011, winners will be phoned

Fathers Day Raffle - Prize Winners

The Fathers Day Raffle was drawn Sunday afternoon at the Bunnings BBQ. We had 3 fantastic prizes for dad and therefore 3 lucky winners...

- 1st Prize- Nikki Healy
- 2nd Prize - Carmel Pilikidis
- 3rd Prize - The Murphy Family

CONGRATULATIONS!

Thank you to all those who sold tickets for this raffle, your contributions to our kinder are appreciated. Considering we had Fathers Day as our allocated Bunnings BBQ we managed to make a rather respectable profit of \$1986.28 and another \$328 was raised by the raffle itself.

I would also like to sincerely thank those parents who volunteered their time on Fathers Day to help at the Bunnings BBQ. We had lots of fun and laughs as we made bread/napkin towers, rotated sausages and asked "would you like onions?", not to mention our tidy profit for the day. Well done to everyone involved!

Jackie Harkin

Special thanks to: Wayne Elliot, Marita Warner, Nikki Healy, Stella O'Connell, Annette Powell, Roslina Harrison, Melinda Pecher, Sally Wilson, Danny Eckhardt, Dejun and Adam An, Christine Marshall, Clinton Le Page, Marina Younger and Kerri Brown.

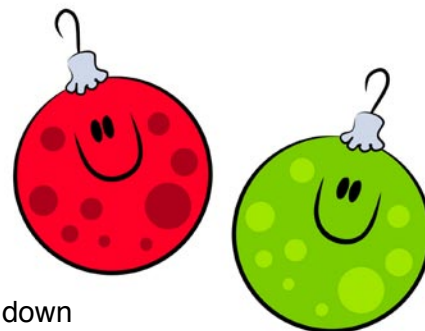
Support those who support us

Thanks go to these businesses that have donated prizes or goods towards our fundraising efforts.

- Tunstall Fresh, Tunstall Square
- Bakers Delight Donvale
- Mobil Donvale
- Maxi Foods, North Blackburn
- Mirabella Bros, 54 Jackson Court
- Kmart Eastland
- The Good Guys, Jonathan Finch, Home HQ
- Cherry Hill Tavern
- The Tunstall Pharmacy, Tunstall Square
- G & G Michaels (Shoe Repairs), Tunstall Square
- AMF Bowling Centres Australia Pty Ltd



Christmas Carols



The kinder Christmas carol night has been set down for Friday December 2nd, (time to be confirmed later) so please pencil this date into your diaries now as we understand that it is a crazy-busy time of year and we want to get you all there! Guaranteed cuteness factor x100!!

fundraising

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learning to grow

You can dear if you wish...
I'll organise the drinks

Darling I hear that the Trivia Night is coming soon?
Should we study?

TRIVIA NIGHT

\$15 entr + great prizes on offer

Friday 21st October
7.30pm at Donvale Primary School Hall
(Elata St Donvale)
Bring your friends, some food & drinks

There will be an auction and silent auctions too
- so make sure you bring your wallet.
(start collecting your gold coins as well for our party games!)

for further details contact Jackie Harkin on 0411 232 071

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CAN YOU HELP?

Do you have something you can donate towards the **Silent Auction at our Trivia night (21st Oct)**, or for another fundraising event throughout the year?

It could be a **product**, or a **service**, or you may know of **someone** who can donate.

Ideas to get you thinking:

- You could **make something** - eg: childrens' clothes, knit, craft
- Do you have a **skill** to auction - eg: photography, cooking, tutoring, music teaching, architect skills, tradespeople, hosting a party
- Offering a **service** - eg: gardening, babysitting or ironing time
- A **new item** you were going to put on eBay
- **Why not ask** your hairdresser, local merchant, tradesperson, your neighbour or anyone you think **might be able to sponsor us!**

A great way to support Donvale Preschool and gain publicity for your help!

Imagine if we all raised just one donation.

Please contact either Jackie Harkin at jharkin@exemail.com.au or on 0411 232 071 OR Carol Daisic at carol_daisic@hotmail.com or on 0447 419 661 with your ideas. We'd love to hear from you. Thanks!

WE WANT YOUR DONATIONS FOR THE SILENT AUCTION

Trivia Night
get your table
together **NOW!**

Tips for encouraging your child to try new foods

Sensory food experiences are all part of learning to try new food. It's the eating, touching and squishing that help young children learn more about food. Avocado and other veggies and fruit tick all of these boxes when it comes to education and your child's food choice journey.

Tip 1. Try getting children involved, as it is a great learning technique. When you are shopping, pass you child the avocado/fruit or veg and ask them what it is and let them know that they can help you cook with it later. This will increase their interest and confidence around new foods.

Tip 2. It is very important to be a good role model. Your children are very curious and are generally very interested in what you and other people are eating.

Tip 3. If possible, eat with your children. They will be more inclined to try new foods if you are eating them too.

Tip 4. When you're eating something new, offer your child a mouthful. This will help build their confidence and their pallet. Don't give up if at first they refuse, some children need up to 10 experiences of a new food before they are willing to try it.

Tip 5. Let your child choose from a healthy selection of snacks. This is a good way to maintain the right food boundaries, But keeping them feeling independent and involved.



event calendar

dates to remember

Friday 23rd September - No kinder for 4 year olds.
Teacher Conference day. Kinder session will run as usual for 3 year olds.

Monday October 10th - First day of term four

17th – 19th October – jumping castle program at kinder

19th , 20th , 21st Fun run at kinder –
details sent home at the start of term four

Thursday 27th October – Kew traffic School (4's)

Friday 28th October – Kew Traffic School (4's)

Tuesday 1st November – Cup Day - no kinder

FUN RUN

A graphic illustration showing the silhouettes of three children running from left to right. The background consists of radiating lines in shades of red, orange, and yellow, creating a sense of motion and energy. A large blue star is positioned above the children on the right side.

The children will be participating in our kinder fun run in Term 4. It will run over three days, Wednesday 19th, Thursday 20th & Friday 21st October. We have also managed to obtain the use of a jumping castle over these days so it will no doubt be lots of fun and outdoor activities during that week. More details on this event will be available next term.



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