



ECC News for You



Dear ECC families

It seems that we may be finally seeing a little bit of spring weather and aren't we glad!

Thursday 27 August

The children in Prep and Year 1 enjoyed French activities and a croissant for morning tea on Tuesday. The costumes ranged from colours of the French flag through to a fully suited French patisserie chef! Great fun was had by all - as the photos in today's newsletter demonstrate.

Thank you to the ECC Kindergarten parents and the PSPA for assisting with the fundraising event for the RSPCA last week. The animal cupcakes decorated by the students in the Kindergarten looked fabulous. It was so funny watching the children devour the animals - first the ears, then nose, then the cake itself! The money raised was forwarded to the RSPCA to assist with animal care.

As we are preparing for our program of orientation for 2010, we remind Kindergarten parents that the current uniform will extend into Prep next year. This change has been planned over several years and is designed as a gradual move from the traditional uniform to one that is more in keeping with our program at this level. The ECC encourages children to be physically active and to investigate the outdoor environment throughout the day - much easier with appropriate clothing.

We recommend parents view The National Prescribing Service site commoncolds.nps.org.au as it is an excellent reference for information and tips on the "common cold".

We have two important PSPA events approaching! Father's Day is less than 2 weeks away and we are asking for parents to help with the **wrapping of gifts** and to assist on the day with the **stall** itself. These are always great opportunities to meet with other parents and have a laugh or two (a free coffee is an attraction too!) Please contact your class rep if you can assist with either of these activities.

There are many challenging aspects to raising a family. The ECC newsletter regularly includes ideas and strategies from Michael Grose, who is a writer and speaker specializing in parenting and family matters. ECC staff continue to encourage you to speak with them if you have any concerns regarding your child.

Louise Cook
Head of Early Childhood

PLEASE NOTE: LUNCH ORDERS CAN NO LONGER BE PUT ON BOOKROOM ACCOUNT
(ONLY IN EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES WILL THIS OCCUR)

ECC 5 CENT COIN TALLY AS AT 26 August 2009

CLASS	3KA	3KW	4KG	4KM	PREP M	PREP N	1M	1S/R
MONEY RAISED	-	-	\$24.85	\$22.90	\$68.65	\$39.20	\$36.70	\$37.20

DATES TO REMEMBER

TUESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER	4KG EXCURSION TO MONASH MEDICAL CENTRE
WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER	3KA FATHER'S BREAKFAST
THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER	KINDER 4 FATHER'S MORNING
FRIDAY 4 SEPTEMBER	3KW FATHER'S BREAKFAST/PSPA FATHER'S DAY STALL
THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER	END OF TERM CHAPEL SERVICE
FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER	PSPA BROWNLOW BREAKFAST
FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER	END OF TERM 3
TUESDAY 6 OCTOBER	TERM 4 COMMENCES
FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER	SPRING LUNCHEON

SIBLING RIVALRY

Children who are close in age or adjacent in birth order often compete with each other for parental recognition. Competition is shown through constant fighting, criticising and telling tales; it can be destructive to family harmony. Competitive siblings generally display different personalities and interests and excel in different areas. If one child is an able student the other child may excel in sport or music. If one is responsible the rival may be irresponsible. Excessive sibling rivalry is a sign of discouragement - children adopt certain behaviours to show that they can be better, or get more attention, than a sibling. As competitive children will often not try to succeed in an area where a sibling is successful, rivalry places limits on children's potential.



BRIGHT IDEAS

Accept each child's uniqueness and value their differences. Help children to understand that they can all achieve in their own ways and show them how they can improve in their particular areas of interest or ability.

Emphasize children's effort, improvement and enjoyment in activities rather than praise them for good results. Excessive praise often leads to sibling rivalry.

Stay out of children's disputes. Children often argue to involve their parents - so bear it, beat it or boot them out when they have disagreements. Avoid apportioning blame as this often reinforces the notion that one child may be favoured over another.

By Michael Grose

Write A Book

If your child sees other members of the family writing letters, reports for work, homework, it will seem only natural for him or her to write, too. A blank journal is perfect for practising writing.

Relocate Storytime

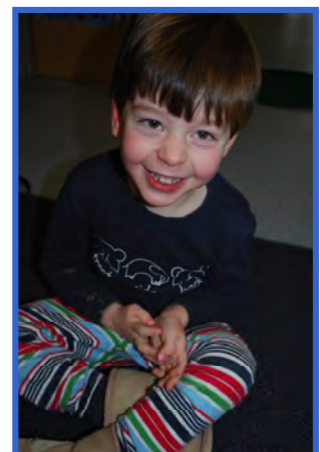
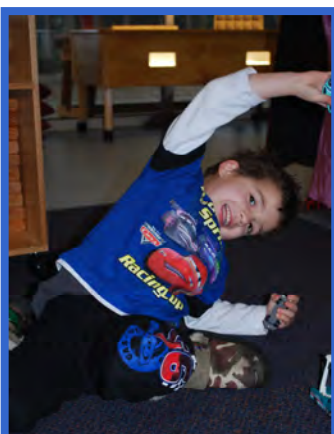
On a warm spring or summer evening, surprise your child by moving your nightly storytime outdoors and reading together by torchlight.

Share Your Childhood

Kids love hearing stories from your childhood (especially about times you misbehaved or got into trouble). So share some of your memories - and don't be surprised if your child asks, "Tell me again about the time you and Aunt Susan broke the clock."

3KA PYJAMA DAY

3KA held a 'Pyjama Day' last week to help support 'Melbourne City Mission Youth Homelessness' campaign. The day was a huge success with every child very excited to be at Kinder in their pyjamas! We ate pancakes for breakfast, played games in our pyjamas and snuggled down with teddies and stories under a huge cubby for rest time. All in all, a great (and very comfy) day in our pyjamas!



FRENCH DAY



Bonjour! As part of French Day activities the children in Prep enjoyed listening to Yvette (Carter Bayne's grandmother) read a story in French. They also made French flags, counted in French, took a tour of France on the Interactive White Board and enjoyed eating delicious croissants.



PLEASE NOTE

The ECC staff are planning to take photographs of the children to include in a recipe book that we will publish as a fundraiser later in the year.

The photography permission form you signed on enrolment is still relevant, however, if you do not wish your child's image to be published please contact your child's teacher ASAP.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION **SWIMMING CLASSES 2010**

In Term 1, 2010 Physical Education classes for Prep and Year One will once again be focusing on aquatic skills. I would encourage any children not involved in formal swimming lessons at present, to enrol in a Swim School for Term 4, 2009. This will ensure your child will be well prepared for the activities, along with the necessary confidence and skill to enjoy the pool sessions. If you have any questions regarding swimming lessons please feel free to discuss this with me at any time.

Marg Pike
Physical Education Teacher

PMP

**HELPERS ARE DESPERATELY NEEDED FOR YEAR ONE PMP
ON A MONDAY AFTERNOON AT 1:40PM (NOT 2:40PM AS PREVIOUSLY STATED)**