



May2014



# WE WELCOME YOUR FEEDBACK

The Diamond Hills Preschool Committee of Management and Staff are committed to maintaining strong partnerships with families in providing the best preschool experience.

We welcome your suggestions. Let us know if you have feedback or a complaint, or if you want to give us a compliment. Feedback is valuable as it helps us shape our services to meet your needs.

There are a couple of ways in which to communicate with us:

- Speaking with your child’s teacher/s
- Use the feedback notice board, located behind the sign in book (return feedback form the the “Other” mailbox outside the staff office)
- Online contact form <http://www.diamondhillspreschool.com.au/feedback.html>



As you the parents are their child's first and most influential educator, your views and ideas on your child and their education is of the highest regard. We appreciate your taking the time to communicate with us.

Linda Wein  
President, Committee of Management  
M: 0409 007 815 E: linda.wein@gmail.com



## Bunnings BBQ- Fundraiser Saturday June 21st

Please if you can spare some time on this day to help with our sausage sizzle it would be great. See volunteer sheet at sign in book. Mums- Dad- Grandparents welcome



LIKE US ON 

**facebook**

Diamond Hills Preschool  
are on Facebook!



Please join our page to keep up to date with things happening in and around the preschool.

- \* Important Information
- \* Updates & Reminders
- \* Fundraising Info
- \* Ask questions & communicate with other parents of the preschool

# Community Advertisements



**Dr Carly Broadbent and Associates**  
Osteopaths

Gentle treatment for:

- The whole family including babies
- Neck & back pain
- Headaches
- Sciatica
- Reflux
- Feeding issues

t/ 0416 161 411  
w/ [www.osteofamilies.com.au](http://www.osteofamilies.com.au)  
a/ 2 Cockatoo Court, Diamond Creek 3089  
(Located 1km from St Helena Marketplace)

plenty **HEALTHCARE**

Quality Healthcare, Experienced Practitioners

▶ plenty **PODIATRY**

▶ plenty **OSTEOPATHY**

**P: 9435 4547** [www.plentyhealthcare.com.au](http://www.plentyhealthcare.com.au)

[www.rubyfish.com.au](http://www.rubyfish.com.au)



**3 FREE\* outdoor training sessions**

with **Step into Life Diamond Creek.**

Just present this Guest Pass at your first trial session.

For more info and to book

contact **Steve** on **0401 070 759**

**step into life®**  
Group Outdoor Personal Training

**We do it outdoors.**

\*Valid for new enquiries only. Valid for 7 consecutive days.  
Not valid with any other offer.

## Diamond Creek Rubbish Removal

Hard rubbish, green waste, home renovations, furniture, mattresses etc. No load too small.



6cubic metre bin that I can load for you or can be left for the weekend for you to load yourself.

Pensioner discounts **FREE Quotes**

**Builders welcome**

**Heath**

**0404 892 698**



**SUNDAY 23 FEBRUARY**

**9AM - 12PM**

*Lloads of great activities for children 2-12yrs to try. Free Play, Gymnastics Circuits and Giveaways. Come in and give gym a go. Bring all your friends too :)*

**OPEN DAY**

Jets Diamond Creek - Community Bank Stadium  
129-163 Main Hurstbridge Road Diamond Creek

**WICKED SCENTS BY TAMMY**



**Handmade Soy Scented Candles and Melts From Montmorency Melbourne**

**M: 0421 212 600**

**W: Facebook: Wicked Scents By Tammy**

*We Specialise in Healing Candles Bonbonnières, Wholesaling School Markets and Fetes Online and Home Parties and more....*

**Enchanted ENTERTAINMENT CHILDREN'S PARTIES**

**Children's themed party entertainer**

*2 Hrs of fun specialising in:*

- Invitations
- Themed Character Host
- Basic Face Painting
- Temporary Tattoos
- Games/Prizes
- Craft dancing
- And More!!!

**Party Themes Include:**

- Disney Princess Parties
- Glitz & Glamour Parties
- Ballerina/Dancing Parties
- Pirate Parties

**Call Michelle on 0400 537 527**

**to book your next party with Enchanted Entertainment**



Advertise in this space for only \$10 per month. Email [rubyfish11@gmail.com](mailto:rubyfish11@gmail.com) for information

# Penguin Monthly Report

Hi everyone,

The Penguin group have settled well into term 2 and the children continue to make us smile, to laugh, to be amazed over their learning and we continue to reflect on how we can continue to foster and encourage their love of learning, & develop their skills. The first weeks of the term have included the introduction of the Sport/PE weekly program, Mother's day, cooking and creating library bags.

The children are participating enthusiastically in their Tuesday Sport session and we are having lots of fun. It has been fantastic to see the children practising and trying new skills, becoming more aware of their own body's in space and an awareness of others in their play space.

Following warm up fun and locomotion and skill sessions, the children particularly love the games we play near the end of the session. These games so far have included Captain's Treasure and Poison Ball. We are already seeing an increased willingness and awareness of fair play, turn taking and resilience during these games. The educational objectives for this program include:



- developing and encouraging the children's awareness of their bodies and healthy activities (*wellbeing*)
- For the children to persist when faced with challenges and when first attempts are not successful. To persevere and experience the satisfaction of achievement. (*identity, wellbeing*)
- to demonstrate spatial awareness and orient themselves throughout the activities, confidently and safely (*wellbeing*)

- developing more complex motor skills of hopping, skipping, catching, throwing, kicking etc. (*wellbeing*)
- developing and strengthening large muscles, co-ordination, balance, core strength
- listening, receptive language and processing skills - following instructions (*communication, learning*)
- promoting working together in teams, following game rules and developing increased awareness of fair play (*Community*)
- Brain development: practising skills repeatedly, crossing the midline to develop both sides of the brain, body crossing activities to stimulate and develop the brain etc. (*wellbeing, learning*) Having fun. (*Identity, Community*)

In addition to the above educational objectives, this program is extremely advantageous for pre-reading and pre-writing skills, the children's ability to focus and other perceptual motor



motor skills. Make sure the children teach you the "Waddely Archer' song" - a great brain stimulator.

The children have also been busy with Mother's Day preparations and have taken great pride and excitement in preparing surprises for the special day. We hope you enjoyed your children's art and craft creations and their baking for the Mother's day picnic. Many thanks to Bronwen

and Louise who celebrated Mother's day with you while I was away. The Penguins love baking and also made Anzac biscuits recently. Cooking provides a great opportunity for mathematical language - number and measurement.

(*learning*) The Penguins continue to develop awareness of their environment and interdependence between living things (*community*) through their recycling activities with the worm farm, watering plants and preparation of the vegetable garden.

We are introducing library borrowing in the coming weeks. The children are decorating their own library bag and will be able to choose a book to take home and read with their family.



We encourage your child to take responsibility for choosing a new book and returning the one they have read.

Reading regularly with your child is an important part of their early literacy development. We realise family life is

busy - please don't worry if you keep the book over a few days or a week.

The 'Circus of Disarray' visited the children last week and entertained them with lots of antics and funny characters. (The performer was one of our very own Diamond Hills dads from the Wombat group) To extend this experience, we have purchased a small puppet theatre (thanks Rebecca) and we have used this at group times for songs, stories and language and counting activities. The children will also be interacting with a variety of puppets and developing their own puppet shows. These experiences are a



fantastic way to develop communication skills.

**Dates for your diary:**

17<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> June: Grandparents or Special Friends Days - between 10am and midday.



Many thanks to our busy fundraising committee and wonderful Diamond Hills community for your efforts so far. We are really looking forward to using our newly purchased iPads (thanks

Nicole) in the program for research, information apps, recording, educational interactive programs etc. **Kim & Bronwen**



# Fundraising Update!

**A Big Thankyou for supporting the fundraising initiatives so far this year!**

**The funds we have raised so far have enabled us to purchase 2 iPad's for the classroom!! These will be a fantastic learning tool for the children, that I'm sure they will love using!**

**Your continued support of our fundraising events is greatly appreciated. Your contributions enable us to make purchases like these, directly impacting student experience.**

**We have more fantastic fundraising events & initiatives planned for the remainder of the year!**

**Thanks again for your support!**

***The Fundraising Team, Nicole, Dee & Anita***



## Platypus Monthly Report

It's hard to believe that we are already into our 4<sup>th</sup> week of Kinder for term 2. I am happy to say that the children re-settled easily back into the routine of Kinder, after the Term 1 break! The beginning of this term saw the commencement of PE/Sport and the children are responding to this supplement to the program really well. This addition is not only a great opportunity for the children, providing specifically chosen and stimulating activities designed to develop children's spatial awareness, motor control and increase participation, but it is a great opportunity for observation and raising our awareness of each individual child's skills and progress. It also aids us in being able to help children in areas that they may need more time to develop skills in. For guidelines into what we are doing each week in this area please check out the noticeboard under "Educational Program - Platypus" What else has been happening throughout our Learning Program?

With the changing of the season we decided to provide examples of different colour and shape with the idea being to provide provocation of thought and interest in this area. We have been encouraging the children to make observations and using this in discussion with the aim to develop their language and learning . We are very fortunate to be in the position that allows us to witness the children's surprise and amazement at their own discoveries. Many of the children have an ongoing interest in the recycling area of Make/Create especially using box construction. The importance of allowing time and opportunity for this, is that it provides opportunities for children to explore scientific and mathematical concepts as they combine boxes and other materials together into three dimensional structures.



As children construct they develop skills for problem solving, investigating, applying and are able to reflect on what they are discovering. ! The children have also had an ongoing interest in dressing up and in imaginative play. This has been provided not only to encourage this interest but to provide them with the opportunity to act out what they see and experience from real life situations. When the children are provided with this opportunity it helps them to make sense of the world around them. This is why these experiences are so important. It also provides them with the chance to practice conversational and social skills.! The Platypus children also enjoy art experiences. We endeavour to provide them with different experiences to encourage their wonderful creativity. Art expands a child's ability to interact with the world around them, and provides a new set of skills for self-expression and communication. Not only does art help to develop the right side of the brain, it also cultivates important skills that benefit a child's development. Art can become an essential way to provide uninhibited self-expression and amazement for a child.!The children also have an ongoing fascination with mini-beasts especially seeing what they can find in our garden.

Millipedes are still a favourite invertebrate to find and I guess we have plenty of them. !The children are also showing a developing interest in early literacy in the area of letters. Many of the children have discovered that letters make up words. The children are intrigued to try and work out what letters they can put together to make a word apart from their names. It is exciting to watch this development. We continue to provide for this interest and extend it in many ways, even something as simple as reading to them and providing an environment that is rich in language will aid in developing literacy. !The Platypus children are curious, intrigued and ask questions all the time about everything. We recognise that this is important to encourage in the children, because curiosity enables children to continually learn, grow and question the world that they live in. It also helps to develop a healthy imagination and sense of creativity.

As we know a child's development encompasses many aspects including the physical social, emotional and cognitive/mental. In order for children to develop in all aspects, they must be supported in all areas and the one person most often responsible for this encouragement is their mum. Mothers tend to be the primary caregiver in both traditional and single parent families and are with their children more than anyone else. Mothers, therefore, are in the unique position of influencing their children's growth in all areas of development, beginning with the bonding and attachments that they usually develop with their children. With this in mind it was wonderful for us to be able to help the children With this in mind it was wonderful for us to be able to help the children celebrate how much their mums mean to them by helping the children make a special gift, card and morning tea. The children were very excited. We hope that all our mums had a very special day and we couldn't have asked for any better weather!

PS: Of course the children know that you are special every day but it is nice to have a chance to show you.



Creating mum's surprise



### What else has been happening?

As part of our ongoing connection to the wider community we currently have 1 student doing her Certificate 3, another student beginning this Thursday 15th May and a volunteer who offers her time for a few hours a week. Having people like this involved in our program aids the children in developing connections outside 'their community', helps build social skills and can help boost their self confidence.

Kim, Bronwen and Anmaree recently updated their 1st Aid in the area of CPR. This is required to be done on an annual basis.

The Photographer visited on Thursday 1st May and the photos will be available in approx. 1 months time.

We would love you to come and spend some time with your child at kinder so please check out this terms roster. Also don't forget to check out the Gardening Roster to see when your turn is coming up.

We really appreciate your help in keeping the children's play area inviting. We value your opinion - if at anytime you have any comments to make, whether they be positive or constructive we welcome you to do this. You are able to do this through either by talking to Kyla and myself, your child's Learning Journal, by dropping us an email or by a note. We appreciate your input so please feel free to do so. I would love you to take home your child's learning journal so that you can share some of what they have been doing at kinder together. In their journal you will find a page that provides an opportunity for you to comment. It would be greatly appreciated if you haven't already done so, to spare a few minutes to jot down just a couple of comments.

Keep warm as we start to head into the cooler weather!! - Kyla and Anmaree



# Wombat & Possum Monthly Report

Welcome back to term 2.

Since returning from the school holidays, the children have been very busy preparing their mother's day gifts. With the children's interest in colour continuing, the children have incorporated colour mixing using edicol dye on material to create a rainbow coloured hanky to hold the beautifully scented pot purri. The children steadily glued each button onto

the picture frames and carefully wrote their names with a little help. We hope that you will treasure their hands print frames which the children took great pride in creating for you. We also hope that you enjoyed a wonderful Mother's day with family and that you were spoilt for a day.

On returning from the term break, we found that the playdough has become hard and was no longer nice to work with, so we decided to make a new batch. The children gathered around the table and helped to measure the flour, salt, oil and water, amongst other ingredients. Together we kneaded the

warm mixture until it was soft and pliable.

"Cooking" with the children affords

many learning opportunities and skills. Some include predicting and observing 'change of state', measurements including counting and volume, reciprocal language including receptive and expressive when the children discuss what they can see, feel and smell and turn-taking. (EYLF: Learning - Children are confident and involved learners when they develop a range of skills and processes such as problem solving, inquiry, experimentation, hypothesising, researching and investigating.

**Communication** - Children are effective communicators when they interact verbally and non-verbally with others for a range of purposes)



Part of the focus this month has been on fine motor and gross motor muscles. The children have enjoyed singing and dancing to "Wriggle your fingers", "You've got to clap" and "Wriggle and Giggle", whereby the children have to follow the instructions in the song using their large and small muscles as they freeze, jump, hop, wriggle and giggle. We extended this outside by creating an obstacle course which included areas that allowed the children to climb up, jump down, step up and down and over, crawl through and balance on and roll over foam shapes on their tummies using their hands to 'walk' along the mat, in doing so, exercising all their muscles. **(EYLF: Wellbeing- Children have a strong sense of wellbeing when they take responsibility for their own health and wellbeing. They achieve this when they combine gross and fine motor movements and balance to achieve increasingly complex patterns of activity including dance, creative movement and drama and by demonstrating spatial awareness, orientating themselves around and through their environments safely and with confidence.)**



The short burst of sunshine in the last two weeks gave us the opportunity to enjoy some time outdoors. We had our snacks outside on the verandah, did paintings, gave Dodge a bath, played with dinosaurs in the riverbed, read stories and had tea parties in the sandpit. **(EYLF: Community - Children are connected with and contribute to their world when they develop a sense of belonging to groups and communities.)**



It's lovely to see how the children are mostly settled and beginning to form friendships, seeking each other out to play games or role play, comforting each other

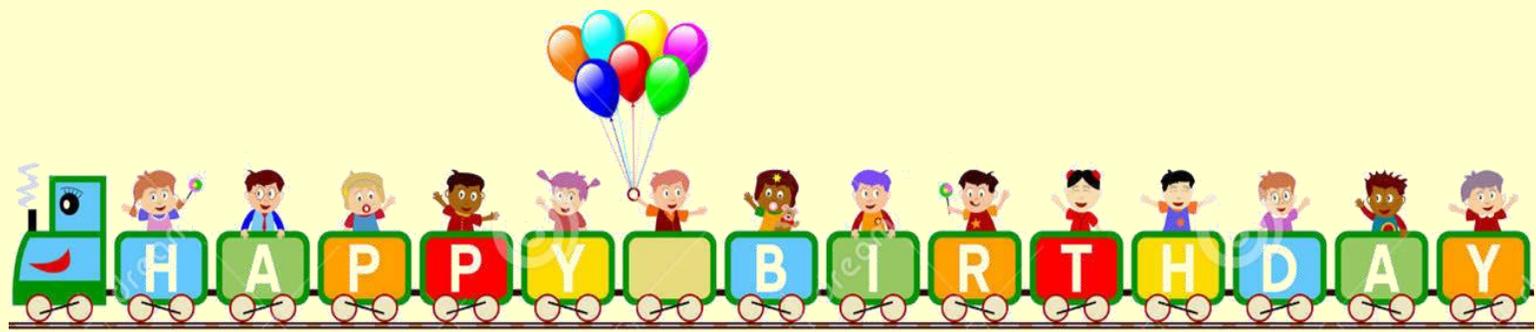


and showing concern if someone is sad or hurt. At three years of age, children often play side by side, looking over to see what their peers are doing, copying their actions, but not necessarily playing in the same game. Forming friendships takes time and some take longer than others. Nicole and I are constantly reflecting, modifying and adjusting the program to suit all the children's needs. What works well one session may not work so well in the next. If you have any concerns about your child, please come and have a chat with Nicole or myself.

Although we have had a few beautiful days lately, please remember to include a warm coat and a warm hat during the colder months as we will go outside most days, weather permitting. It can be very cold and windy at Diamond hills.

Till next time. Nicole and Tania

**Dates for your Diary   Possum Group Photos - Monday 21st July  
Wombat Group Photos - Tuesday 22nd July**



## Penguin Platypus

Zac W                      9th  
 Zac B                      25th  
 Xavier                     26th

Asha                      5th

## Wombat Possum

Logan                                      7th  
 Nash                                      28th  
 Tahnee                                    28th  
 Bianca                                    31<sup>st</sup>

Milana                      9th

### Mothers Day Creations

Thanks to these parents for sharing their pictures of their children with their beautiful Mothers Day creations. Please be sure to join our Facebook page if you wish to be able to share pictures with families via our newsletter.



# Diamond Hills Preschool Presents.....

## NIGHT INCLUDES:

- Pampering
- Shopping
- Nibbles
- Drinks
- Laughs

& much more!



Friday August 1st

# Ladies Night

Montmorency Football Club (Para Rd, Montmorency)

## HANDYMAN CLIFF



- No time? Call Cliff for all your handyman needs.
- No job too small. Everything from changing light bulbs to fence repairs.
- Decking, railing and picket fence repairs a speciality. Don't replace, repair!

Good old reliable and truth worthy service at an affordable price.  
Contact me today for your free non obligation quote!

PH: 9728 3965 MOB: 0424 626 738 [espurrell@bigpond.com](mailto:espurrell@bigpond.com)

Australia's largest  
**multi-sport  
& exercise**  
program for preschoolers



5 sports  
covered  
per term

Ask for a  
free trial



Your local  
Ready Steady Go Kids  
classes are held at:

Diamond Creek  
East Ivanhoe  
Greensborough  
Heidelberg

Lower Plenty  
South Morang  
Thomastown  
Thornbury

[readysteadygo kids.com.au](http://readysteadygo kids.com.au)

1300 766 892



FRANCHISE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

3590238



Provider of therapy based services for  
children and adolescents who require  
additional support to reach their full potential

FaHCSIA & Better Start approved  
Based in Diamond Creek

- Speech therapy
- Occupational therapy
- Ready to learn skills
- Behavioural support
- Educational psychology
- School readiness groups
- School aged social skills
- Swimming lessons
- Assessments



0430 800 750

[www.listenin.com.au](http://www.listenin.com.au)