



EASTMONT NEWSLETTER

October 2020



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to Term 4! I hope everyone had a relaxing holiday. Don't forget to pack your child's hat for kinder sessions this term and to apply sunscreen.

Over the holiday things have been busy at kinder:

- We have had our kinder roof repaired. Broken tiles were replaced, the ridges were removed and cleaned, the old mortar was replaced and the ridges were re-bedded and repointed. Thanks to Daniel from ProFinish Roofing for his work with this.
- All the fluorescent lights inside the kinder were replaced with LED 'daylight' lights. This has made the kinder room brighter for the children. New sensor spotlights into the outdoor playground have been installed and our old bollards that haven't been working have been replaced as well. Thanks to Wallgates Electrical for their work with this part of the project.
- Aaron's Outdoor Living have now started the playground works and there is a yellow digger in the yard! You will notice the heavily overgrown front plants have been trimmed back to create more space for the children and the retaining wall is being replaced with a sloping area. The pirate ship is now gone (soon to be replaced by a fort) and the area for the dry creek bed along the fence beside the St James walkway is starting to take shape. The shade sails have also

been removed to be cleaned and work on refurbishing the AdventureLand equipment has also started. The temporary fencing will be moved to open up the area as the different aspects of the works are finished. All works should take approx 2 - 3 weeks to be completed.

During Term 4, we will be organising for acoustic panels to be installed in the kinder room. This project will happen in the evenings.

We thank the federal government for awarding us this Community Development Grant which has allowed us to undertake these works.

I would like to thank Will, Megan, Orlando, Luke and Mark who all tidied up the kinder to prepare the grounds for the start of Term 4.

Our AGM will be held on Wednesday 25th November at 7:30pm. We will be holding this meeting virtually for the first time! Attendance is compulsory for all 2021 families. AGM packs will be handed out in Week 2 of Term.

Finally, we are looking for some new committee members for next year. Being on the committee is a great way to meet others and contribute to your child's education. Eastmont Pre-School can only continue to operate effectively with a full committee. Feel free to email me (president@eastmont.org) or speak to the other committee members if you would like more information about how you can get involved.

Cassie





DIRECTOR'S REPORT / 4YO GROUPS REPORT

The children, not to mention the parents were very happy to make

the long-awaited return to kinder after the stage 4 restrictions and school holidays. It has been lovely seeing the children's smiling faces in person once again. We have a busy term ahead with lots of fun experiences planned.

We are all very excited to see the playground works underway- the biggest in more than 25 years. There have been lots of questions from the children- mostly about when it will be finished. The children have been taking a great deal of interest watching all the developments, particularly the little yellow digger and the little orange digger reshaping the landscape, digging holes and moving soil.

Following recommendations from the Department of Education and Training, we are continuing to run an indoor/ outdoor program and eating outside. Rather than holding formal indoor group times (singing is currently not permitted) we are taking opportunities to reconnect with children in small groups-

chatting, reading stories, playing games etc.

Both the Koalas and Possums have been decorating a rocket ship made out of cardboard and have also been busy painting, designing and making their own kites and creating collages and other art works. There is also an expanded reading corner with bean bags and soft cushions for children to take a break and enjoy some quiet time.

The stick insects are back at kinder after holidaying at Sue's over the last couple of months. The children were amazed to see how big they have grown and fascinated seeing one of them shed its skin.

Thank you to Cassie and Melissa for all their efforts organising and coordinating the projects at kinder and for spending the holidays getting up early to open up for the various trades to work on the lighting, roof and of course the playground. Thank you also to all the committee members who came to the working bee before the start of term.

Sonya & Kate



3YO GROUPS REPORT

We started Term 4 with 18 children attending on Monday and 19 children on Tuesday. Children were excited to go back to the kinder and reunite with their friends. They were remarkably resilient in their abilities

to get familiar with the routine again, reconnect with their peers and the staff and follow the COVID safe rules, including temperature check, indoor-and-outdoor programs as well as washing hands before and after meals.

They had fun making collage by ripping off magazine pages and cutting them with scissors, doing pretend play in the newly set-up library corner and racing against each other on the grass. We have been working on their self-portraits for the tea towel making and it is amazing to see how they were able to catch the details of their body features such as curly hair, fingers and shoes. In addition to these activities, they also had ongoing discussions regarding the playground renovation project. Sometimes we heard them saying, "What is the worker

doing there?" "I can see some machines." To ensure children's safety, we had active supervision in the outdoor area and reminded children to be careful of the fences.

As for the "grass time" outdoors, children were interested in matching cards with words starting with letter B, reading storybooks with the teacher and practicing their data collection and analysis skills by selecting and deciding the most popular way to go to the preschool. They also enjoyed sharing their emotions and explaining the reasons behind them at the end of each session.

In the following weeks of this month, we will keep supporting children's social-emotional skills such as conflict resolution, peer relationships and self-regulation. We will be also working on their science, numeracy and literacy development based on observations and children's interests. To strengthen our partnerships with families, we will send out fortnightly reflections and seek feedback from them.

We hope the children will have a great time together in this term and things can be back to normal soon.

Julie

OUR PLAYGROUND UPGRADE IS UNDERWAY AND ALL SYSTEMS GO!

Our playground upgrade works were delayed by a hold up on a previous job and have been hampered a little by variable weather in recent days. But the team from Aarons Outdoors is working hard to get everything complete as soon as possible so the children can enjoy their new play spaces.

We can also announce that we will be getting some extra work done! Our grant budget allowed a contingency amount in case of variations on the quoted works. This has not eventuated, so we will be putting these funds toward additional playground works including cleaning and maintenance for our shade sails, installation of a water pump, a top-up and new cover for the sandpit, a speedboat for the playground, more plants and landscaping works and some games and accessories for our play equipment. We are very excited to see it come together!

No more retaining wall means more space to play!



The kids love the big yellow digger



Excavation underway for the dry creek bed



SHOP AND SUPPORT EASTMONT



Bendigo Bank Wantirna Mall donates to the kinder when you open an account or take out insurance.



Bakers Delight Brentford Square donates 5% of any purchase to the Kinder through their Dough Raisers program.



Bright Star Kids donates 20% of your purchase price if you select Eastmont PreSchool Vermont at checkout.



Scholastic Book Club donates back 20% of any purchase for the Kinder to purchase new books and educational aids.

YOUR 2020 KINDER COMMITTEE

President - Cassie
president@eastmont.org.au

Vice President - Melissa
vicepresident@eastmont.org.au

Treasurer - Melanie
treasurer@eastmont.org.au

Secretary - Natalie
secretary@eastmont.org.au

Minutes Secretary - VACANT
minutessecretary@eastmont.org.au

Enrolments (3yo) - Fiona
enrolment3yo@eastmont.org.au

Enrolments (4yo) - Kim
enrolment4yo@eastmont.org.au

Fundraising - Megan
fundraising@eastmont.org.au

Social - Aisling
social@eastmont.org.au

Grants/Policy/OH&S - Ivana
grantspolicyohs@eastmont.org.au

Projects/Maintenance - Will
projects@eastmont.org.au

Communications - Amanda
communications@eastmont.org.au

Administration - Lynette
admin@eastmont.org.au

Director - Sonya
eastmont.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

CONTACT US

- 📍 32 Frank Street, Vermont
- ✉ eastmont.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au
- ☎ (03) 9874 4044
- 🌐 eastmont.org.au