

Aspley East Kindy News

Welcome to Kindy

Welcome all new and returning families to Aspley East Kindy for this new kindy year. The staff have been delighted to meet so many wonderful new children and families and are genuinely pleased with how well our new groups of children are settling in to their new kindy. The year before your child starts school is one of much growth, change and delightful development. Over the course of the kindy year, you will see your child blossom into an independent learner, who enjoys finding out about who they are as a person, a learner and a friend. We urge you to

treasure this very special year and to enjoy spending time being a part of our wonderful kindergarten.

As a community organisation, Aspley East has been operating since 1966. The kindergarten has a strong presence in the community and we are very proud of our reputation for providing exceptional educational programs. In 2012 the kindergarten was assessed against the new National Quality Standard and achieved a rating of 'Exceeding' the quality standard. You can read about the standards on the notice board at the

front of the centre. We are very proud of our result and hope to continue to work with families in 2018 to create an exceptional kindy experience for our children. Throughout the year there will be many ways that you can enrich your child's experience of kindy and contribute to leaving our kindergarten a little a bit better than when you started. The kindergarten curriculum has a very strong focus on the value of cooperation, collaboration and responsibility; your support and participation is just one way that you can help the children to see this value put into practice.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

AGM	2
Parent Roster	2
Borrowing Library	2
Finishing time	3
Housekeeping	3

Settling In

While we are now well and truly getting into the swing of things with our new groups of children, some children might still find it a little difficult to say goodbye or to face the prospect of being without parents or family for the kindy day.

If your child is experiencing any difficulty separating from you or settling during the day, please stay in touch with your child's teacher who will help you to develop a plan to settle your child in.

For some children, it can take a little while before they feel a sense of belonging in a new environment and for some people, new places can be distressing. One of our primary teaching and learning goals in the first term is to help each child to develop a sense of belonging and identity in their new kindy class. Some things that parents can do to help this process along are:

-Talk about the kindy day at home, reassure your child that you will always

return to collect them.

-Bring along a special photo of your family for your child to keep at kindy.

-Bring a special comfort item or soft toy to hold.

-Remember that it is normal for children to struggle with separation from time to time. You can reassure your child that you know that they will be O.K. and that the teachers are there to look after them and help them.

Annual General Meeting



As a not-for-profit association, Aspley East Kindergarten has been managed by our parents of for over 50 years since the kindergarten's establishment in 1966.

Each year, the association holds an Annual General Meeting in order to report on the business of the kindergarten for the previous year. You will find an invitation to the AGM in your communication file at the kindy this week (the black boxes on top of the kindy lockers).

All parents of the kindergarten

are members of the kindergarten association and are invited to attend the AGM which includes a pre-meeting meet and greet with wine and cheese. The meet and greet is a great opportunity to meet some other families and get to know the kindy staff a little better.

One of the ways that you can become involved in the kindergarten is to nominate for a position on the Management Committee. There are a number of

statutory positions on the committee (President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary) as well as general committee member positions. If you are interested in nominating for a position on the committee and would like some more information about what is involved, you can speak to Marie (Centre Director) or you can come along to the AGM and have a chat to the 2017 committee members who can give you some insight into their experiences.

*"Coming together is a beginning,
Keeping together is progress
Working together is success"*
Henry Ford

Parent Roster

As a community kindergarten we have a strong ethos of community engagement and participation. The educational programs and the environment provided at the kindy have been built over 50 years of parent participation. Our kindy has been shaped by the contributions of many and we hold onto this spirit strongly as we believe in the benefits for everyone in the

community.

The experience of the children is greatly enhanced when children see their parents and families actively engaged in the life of the kindy.

Parent roster is a much loved tradition of the kindy and a wonderful way for you to spend time with your child and see them play and learn with their peers.

In order to allow the children and groups to settle in, parent roster begins in Term 2. At the beginning of Term 2 you will see a sign-up sheet where one parent per day can come along to kindy for the morning.

We look forward to seeing you in the classrooms from Term 2 and hope you enjoy the time with your child and seeing how kindy works.

Parent and Child Borrowing Library

In Term 2 we will be opening the parent and child borrowing library. The kindergarten has a selection of books on a range of parenting topics that you can borrow from the library. Encouraging your child to borrow books from the children's

library is a fantastic way to support your child's developing literacy and read some new books that you might not have at home.

The borrowing library will be located at the front entrance of the kindy (the carpark

entrance). The staff are busy setting up this space as we speak, so keep your eyes out over the next few weeks.

Kindy finishing time and Playground Safety

Please ensure that all people collecting your child from kindergarten are aware that the kindergarten closes at 2:45pm (Mon/Tues/Wed) and 3:45pm (Thurs/Fri).

In order to allow the kindergarten to close on time, please arrive at least 10minutes before closing time. This allows time to speak with the teachers and collect your child's belongings. The teachers prioritise conversations with

parents in the afternoons as this allows us to share important aspects of your child's day with you.

After kindy hours the teachers also have allocated planning and preparation time. Late collections of children take away from this time and mean that teachers need to take work home.

Thank you in advance for helping out with this matter by arriving at kindy a little before closing time each day.

Please also note that the playground is off limits to all kindy children and their siblings outside of the program hours as it is not supervised during these times. The kindergarten children are spoken to about this as a part of their learning about being safe at kindy. Please discuss this with your kindy child and their siblings and keep all children with you during drop off and pick up.



House Keeping

When you drop off your child, it is helpful for their independence if you get your child into the habit of unpacking their own bag and putting their belongings away. Please remember these things each morning:

1. Sign in (at the desk next to the fridge)
 2. Food in the fridge. **No insulated lunch bags in the fridge please.**
 3. Take shoes off and place in the basket located under the sign in desk
 4. Put on a hat and sunscreen if playing outside first
 5. Make contact with the teachers and say goodbye to your child
 6. Check the **black file box** on the lockers for any messages or fee invoices. Remember to check your emails daily for updates to the kindy website.
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