



Term Two begins: *How wonderful to see all the smiling and enthusiastic faces of our friends in Weelam group again. We have been sharing our holiday stories as very quickly the children explored the new room layout, engaged in the experiences and went exploring their learning spaces with others. This term we have many exciting learning experiences planned both within the centre and out in our community. We will keep you up to date through our newsletters (emailed), notices (in your child's locker) and text messages. Please let us know of any changes to your details, numbers and email addresses so you don't miss these.*

Very Special Welcomes: We are very excited to extend a big welcome to the two new members of our Weelam group community. As the term two began Daisy was very proud to introduce her new brother to us and then the very next day Frankie arrived at Bush camp with a big smile announcing her new sister had just been born. Congratulations to both Daisy's and Frankie's families on the arrival of their new babies.

End of Term One experiences and Celebrations: As we came to end our first term together we shared many special moments and experiences with each other both the centre and Bushcamp. There were parties, group projects and times shared with our families. Please see your child's folder for our reflections from Harmony Day. A huge thank you to all the families who joined us for lunch and helped us to create our Harmony day story. The children are continuing to sing the songs Priscilla, Gamilaroi/Yularoi yinarr (woman) and early childhood Indigenous Education Consultant shared with us through her stories, language and experiences. First Peoples knowledge and ways of caring for each other, this Land and it's creatures support us to develop our sense of belonging each day as we learn more and connect with First Peoples knowledge.



Bush camp moments: *We are noticing the changes in the environment and the weather*



**we are becoming great cubby builders * we sung Happy Birthday and shared cakes *Built a nest for Bundjil*

****Thank you to everyone who joined us for our evening at Bush camp and tea on the beach to celebrate the end of term one. How wonderful it was to see the delight of the children as they shared this space with their families and showed them just some of the ways we explore and learn at Bush Camp and the beach.*



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The importance of Relationships: *with each other, the Land and it's creatures.*

Within our programs relationships are important. We intentionally teach and support the children to understand and show care for, kindness towards and how they can be respectful as we engage with each other. These skills support us to be positive friends and great team members. Honouring First Peoples perspectives within our program teach us that the relationships we have with each other also include relationships that develop care and respect for the Land and its creatures. We are learning to care for and take responsibility for the environment and the creatures within all relationships. Our focus this term will centre around the stories of Waang, the black raven and how Waang symbolizes the need to care for our waterways. Last term we began picking up the rubbish we find as we walked along the beach and begin to learn about the impact rubbish has on our environment and the creatures that live in and around water. Last term the children extended their learning as they participated in the *Whale out water excursion*. This excursion allowed the children to experience the huge size of a whale, to listen to whale sounds, learn about their migration and ways they eat. This included further learning about the impact plastics and rubbish have on sea creatures when they are dumped in and around our environments and end up in the sea. This session was presented by Dolphin Institute, Hastings. We thank them for sharing their pictures, knowledge, bones and whale with us. Walking up to school and back was fun for all of us too.



The whale was so big it filled the school hall, we watched it go up, up, up. We saw videos of sea creatures.



When the whale was high enough we all went inside. We supported each other to be a bit brave, to be curious and trust in each other as we all entered the whale- a very unfamiliar space. Once inside the children were able to experience the size and length of a whale. On the sides of whale we saw how big whales bones are. The whale out of water excursion was a very unique experience for us all to share together and learn from. The children have been recalling these experiences and sharing their knowledge in many ways within our conversations and stories.



Bundjil Nest project: Waang project. Please see the additional information attached to this newsletter about our exciting group project. Throughout the term we will continue to focus on how we can further care for the waterways and the creatures through a joint art project and by taking responsibility to keep our waterways clean. We need lots of plastic to recycle and make the Waangs as part of the art project. We encourage all families to assist us with this task. See the list of plastics we need to collect.



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Learning and Living with nature

Meeting Theo: Mrs Karen came to visit us with Theo in Weelam group



Many thanks to Mrs. Karen for joining us for group time and for telling us about why Theo comes to Kinder. Mrs. Karen introduced us officially to Theo, the Seeing Eye pup who she is caring for at present. We learnt about the important job Theo will be trained for in the future to assist people who are vision impaired and how he will help them to be safe when they move around. Mrs. Karen showed us Theo's coat and told us that when he was wearing this coat that we could not talk or touch him, this means he is working. Theo will stay with Mrs. Karen until he is old enough to go to his school and be trained as a Seeing Eye dog. Once Mrs. Karen took off Theo's coat the children took turns to pat him and introduce themselves. We look forward to Theo visiting us again and watching him grow.

P.M.P. Our PMP sessions will continue fortnightly throughout Term Two. Many thanks to the parents who have assisted so far and helped to make this program possible, please join us this term when you can. See your child's folder for more information about what PMP program is and how we believe PMP supports each child's development.



Our next sessions in May will be

- Thurs. 2nd May
- then Thurs. 16th
- and Thurs. 30th May

Time: 9am to 10:30am, Come join us, PMP is a great opportunity to get to know all the children.



Student Teacher: Elyse our student Teacher has now joined us fulltime and will progressively build on her knowledge and strengths to become an early childhood teacher. It is an important part of our program to support future teachers to develop their skills and experience to teach. We have now all welcomed Elyse into the program and she has now begun teaching within small groups. At the end of her six week placement Elyse will have one week (under my guidance) planning, preparing and being the teacher within the group.

The Magic Milk experiment: We watched and wondered what might happen next!!



Do you know what happened and why?

In this experiment we put drops of colour onto a plate of milk. With dish washing detergent on our sticks we carefully put the stick into the middle of the colour dot. We watched as the colours moved and started to mix, create new colours and rainbows.

We only used out of date milk for this experiment. All food used for science and art experiences within our group is no longer suitable for human consumption.



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Our Blue Folders:

Please send your child's Folder back so we can continue to add more stories and photographs.



Come and Help and Play Roster: Thank you to all parents who have come to join us already. The next roster is available. We encourage each family to add their name and join us for a session to support the children and the team within the session. The children are setting themselves new challenges and love to share their play experiences and friends with their families.



Interview times: *Would you like to catch up for a chat about preschool, school or something you may be concern about? I am very happy to make a time with you before or after a session. Please see me to make a time that works for both of us.*

Dates for your diaries:

Wednesday 8th May: **Bundjil Nest Project: Day of Learning at Bundjil's Nest**

this will be an extended session 9am (drop off) to 2pm (pick up).

Please see the excursion form (that will be placed in your child's locker) for more information and permission form for you to sign and return.

Thursday 16th May: **Mothers / Grandmothers / Aunty afternoon tea:**

Please save the date and join us for Afternoon tea



Thursday 16th May

1pm to 2pm



Your invitations will follow soon, please pass them onto a family member who can join us.

Reconciliation Walk, Hastings: Sunday 2nd June

Please save the date and bring your family along to this community event in Hastings organized by Willum Warrain, Hastings. More information to follow closer to this event...

Remember you are always welcome to look at our learning diary to see more about our reflections and stories. Please let us know if you would like to share your talents and interests with us. We welcome learning new musical, art, cultural, cooking and outdoor skills. If you have any questions about the program and this newsletter please don't hesitate to ask me. Kind regards, Ann and the teaching team.



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