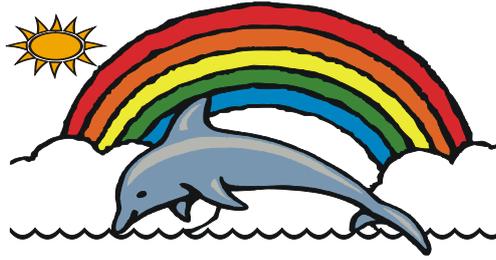


# Berkeley Vale Pre-school Kindergarten Inc

“Your Community Pre-school”

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April 2021 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Families,

Welcome to our first newsletter for Term 2 and apologies for the delay. We would like to thank all our families for a positive start to our pre-school year and educators are feeling somewhat refreshed following our two-week break..

## **Assessment & Rating visit**

We have not yet been notified of our Assessment & Rating visit. However, the team of educators spent significant time throughout the recent holiday break preparing for this visit. We will keep our families informed of this date and encourage you to engage with this Assessment & Rating Officer and share with them your views of our service.

Attached to this newsletter is a link to an article which may assist your understanding of the National Quality Framework, the 7 Quality Areas we will be rated against and how early childhood services work to meet these associated standards.

<https://www.startingblocks.gov.au/other-resources/factsheets/understanding-the-national-quality-standard-for-early-childhood-education-and-care-services/>

- **Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> May – Mother’s Day picnic & concert – 12:30pm start**
- **Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> May – Mother’s Day picnic concert – 12:30pm start**
- **Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> May – Committee Meeting – 8pm – all parents are welcome**

## **Risk of Anaphylaxis**

A few children are enrolled at our service across the week who live with the risk of Anaphylaxis. We have been made aware that one of the enrolled children has an air born risk to peanuts. This means their risk of anaphylaxis is beyond consuming peanuts but if someone has consumed peanut butter or related food items at breakfast, and has not brushed their teeth, washed their hands and mouth, and then comes to pre-school, this child is at an increased risk. Therefore,

parents are asked to ensure that children have completed their breakfast prior to coming to pre-school and that morning routine hygiene practices have been done if peanut-based products have been consumed.

### **2022 School Enrolments**

For parents who have children that will start school in 2022, now is the time to enrol them at your local school. Many schools have already commenced this process and any parents who require a Berkeley Vale Public School enrolment pack, they can obtain one from the pre-school's office. Online enrolment for Kindergarten 2022 is often also available via school websites.

### **Berkeley Vale Pre-school Facebook page**

Many parents have yet to join our pre-school's private Facebook page. This is a way that you can be kept up to date with various events. Please search for the group "Berkeley Vale Pre-school Kindergarten", answer the joining / membership questions and you will be approved.

### **The use of iPads / Smart phones and young children**

There is no doubt that young children are growing up in a digital society. However, parents have a responsibility to ensure they are well informed about how ongoing access to an iPad or Smart phone impacts their development. We encourage parents to take a read of the attached link as it makes for interesting reading.

<https://www.raisesmartkid.com/all-ages/1-articles/smartphone-and-tablet-screen-time-good-or-bad-for-kids>

### **Collecting Loose Parts**

We are attempting to build our supplies of "loose parts" that we often stored at home in

cupboards or garages that are no longer being used. We have attached a visual image of the types of resources that we would love to receive at pre-school as their use are endless and allow children to explore and create with them.

### **GETTING TO KNOW US**

This month we are getting to know Gemma Burke who works in the Rainbow Room every Thursday and Friday, and currently replaces Colleen every Monday in the Dolphin Room.

#### **Tell us a little about yourself...**

I live with my husband and 3 kids. I have worked in both primary school and early childhood settings over the years and I love watching children grow and learn through play.

#### **What do you do when you are not at pre-school?**

We love to get to the beach and surround ourselves with nature. Swimming is one of our favourite past times as well as soccer and dancing.

#### **What is your favourite meal?**

I enjoy all cultural foods such as Japanese, Chinese, and Italian. My favourite of all is Sushi.

#### **Favourite pre-school moment?**

I love watching children sing for their parents and watch the joy on their faces when their parents arrive.



# We are collecting *Loose Parts*

Loose parts are items that can be used in a multitude of ways with no pre-designed outcome. Children can build with them, manipulate them, count them, line them up, join them together, and transport them. They create opportunities for creativity, critical thinking, problem-solving, mathematical concepts and so much more.

Please help us widen our selection by checking at home or asking family and friends. We could really use the following items:

