



Curriculum News

The year is nearly over and this is where we see the children really beginning to bring together all of their development. Each child has experienced their own learning journey throughout the year, developing skills and abilities that they will build upon and use throughout their entire lives.

This term we have many opportunities to practice lots of the skills that have been developing throughout the year. During orientation visits to new sites children will practice their social skills and dispositions for learning as they go beyond their comfort zones into unfamiliar settings.

It is important to remember that while the transition to school is a fabulous milestone it can also be a period of concern for some children as they move from their familiar surroundings. Moving from a setting with known adults and expectations to unknown adults and expectations can be challenging. This challenge can play on children's minds and present as 'challenging behaviours' or children might become introverted and withdrawn.

Please walk alongside your children throughout this journey. Share their excitement for school and all the possibilities. However please remember that we are actually asking our children to undertake a considerable change and while children are very adaptable they still need our support to ensure they feel secure with their new setting. Try to think back to the first day in a new job or starting with a new sports team. You know it will be ok but initially you might feel a bit vulnerable, excited, unsure, nervous, fragile etc, - our children experience these feeling too. This is a wonderful opportunity to practice how to learn and live with challenging feelings, but for children to be successful with this we as adults need to support their learning.

Some strategies that might help transitions.

- Sharing conversations about how we have felt and overcome new situations.
- Looking around the new setting when no one else is there and having conversations about the different places and where to go if you need help.

- Talking about how sometimes we have to 'put our brave on' to help us when we are unsure.
- Practice trying new things and being persistent (growing our brains) - choose small things that can have high success rates maybe once a fortnight. Revisit how it felt to try something new. Build the sense of pride and resourcefulness. (I can do it!)
- Find out from the school what children can do in the first couple of weeks if they feel unsure in the yard at recess and lunch. Share this knowledge with your child. A word of caution however, once or twice over the holidays is enough. Your child might not seem to have heard but they will have, we don't want to create a concern for the child, we are just sharing information.
- Use any resources that the school might provide to support the transition like a book about school, or pictures of the classroom or teachers etc.
- If you're nervous about starting school please see your child's teacher, or talk to Lorry or talk to the school.
- Most of all view this as an exciting new adventure.

Excursion Days – Botanic Gardens

In week 4 we have 2 days of excursions.

Tuesday 8th November Blue, Orange and Light Green groups will be on the excursion (**Kindy will be closed - there will be no kindy for those who will not be attending the excursion**)

Wednesday 9th November Yellow, Purple and Dark Green groups will be on the excursion (**Kindy will be closed- there will be no kindy for those who will not be attending the excursion**)

Excursion timetable

8:30am	Arrive at Kindy
8:45am	Bus leaves kindy
9:45am	Arrive at Botanic Garden
9:50am	Morning snack & toilet stop (kindy will provide apples, bananas, oranges)
10:15am	Group A to the Little Sprouts Kitchen Garden/ Group B exploring the Botanic Garden

11:30am Lunch in the Botanic Garden (Please pack a simple lunch in a named paper bag, no drink required as kindy will provide water)
12:30pm Group B to the Little Sprouts Kitchen Garden/ Group A exploring the Botanic Garden
1:45pm Bus leaves Botanic Garden
2:45pm Arrive at Kindy
3pm Pick Up Children from Kindy

What to do

Pack lunch in a named paper bag

(We will provide water and a snack for the excursion)

Apply sunscreen in the morning

(We will re-apply during the day)

Dress your child in comfortable shoes for walking, and comfortable clothing that is sun protective ie. no exposed shoulders

We are very excited about our excursion and learning more about gardening, healthy eating and cooking. This excursion will build beautifully on all the learning we have been engaged in this year.

Protective Practices

We will continue to revisit the themes and learning from throughout the year. This term we will again revisit the importance of our bodies being our own. It is a developmentally appropriate time for children to become curious about their own and others bodies. Due to this natural curiosity that often develops at about 5 years of age we like to support children with their understandings. We want children to feel comfortable to ask questions, and understand how to respect both our own and others privacy. This can be as simple as remembering one person in the toilet at a time.

Transition to School

The nature walks this term will also include walks through the Hewett School campus to support our conversations and understandings of school. We know a number of children will not be attending Hewett Primary School, the purpose is to support children's concept of school, and so going and looking at a school even if it is not your school will help build this concept. It will also support children to discuss differences between their schools.

During the walks in week 7 we will also be able to have a look though some classrooms as the school children will at swimming lessons.

Please let us know if anything has changed for your child regarding schooling. If you are unsure which school we have your child recorded as attending please speak to staff.

Term 3 Reports

Thankyou for the valuable feedback from the Term 3 reports. We used this feedback to guide the development of the Term 4 reports. These reports will be ready for families in week 7 of this term.

If you haven't already returned your child's term 3 report please do so soon.

Pupil Free Day/Twilight BBQ

Reminder we are having our Pupil Free Day on **Thursday 24th November**

There will be **NO Kindy** on this day. The Twilight BBQ will be held from **5:30pm-7:30pm**

After the Pupil Free Day we will be having the Twilight BBQ to celebrate the end of the year. Families and extended families are welcome to come and join us. Order forms have been placed in pigeon holes. Please complete and return by the 11th of November to support catering for the evening.

Thank you to all those who have donated to our raffle and Bake Sale. The raffle will be drawn at the BBQ. Donations of baked goods can be dropped into kindy on the day of the BBQ as staff will be at kindy undertaking training.

Farewell to Kindy

In the last week of kindy we will be saying farewell to most of our children as they move onto school. We like to celebrate this achievement with families.

There will be celebrations on Tuesday and Thursday of week 9.

Blue, Orange and Light green groups will be celebrating on Tuesday 13th December

Yellow Purple and Dark Green groups will be celebrating Thursday 15th December

More information will be coming out next week about these events.

Staff News

Bethany is our Community Development Coordinator for 3 days per week this term.

We welcome Brad our new OT - he will be with us on Wednesdays and every second Friday.

Farewell to Megan our previous OT who has taken up a new position at another school. Many thanks on behalf of all our staff, parents and children.



A Friendly Reminder

Clearly marked labels: If you would like your children's items returned if lost it is vital that their items are clearly labelled with their name. Last term we had a large number of unlabelled items that were left at kindy which we were unable to return to their owners. Please check the Lost Property box in the foyer regularly. Any items left unclaimed at the end of term will be donated to charity

Spare Clothes: Please remember to bring a spare set of clothes for your child. Messy play is an

important part of our curriculum, and given the warmer weather there will be more water play.

Snakes Alive: We are into the time of the year where snakes like to make appearances around school and kindy. Please be alert when walking around the campus.

Water Bottles: Please ensure your child has their named drink bottle every day. Children having their own water bottles are important for several reasons, including limiting the spread of germs, having water for the nature walks, tracking water intake for healthy bodies and preparing for school when children need to have their own water bottles.

Allergies: We would like to remind families that we have children with the following allergies: **Legumes (Pea family), Nuts, Sesame and Eggs**

Please alert staff if your child has any of these items so we can manage the risk to other children.

Illness: Reminder, if children are unwell it is recommended that they have a 24 hour period free of symptoms before returning to kindy.

Elsie Ey Playgroup

The Elsie Ey Playgroup is on during school term from Week 2 until Week 9 in Term 4, on

Thursdays 9.30-11.00

For parents/grandparents/carers and children aged 0-5 years.

We meet at the Hewett Primary grounds in the secured play-ground area.

- Gold coin donation
- Fruit platter supplied for children
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Our playgroup is currently supported by Trudy who has a Diploma Qualification in Early Childhood Education

Enquires phone **85221900**

There will be no Playgroup session on 24th November due to the kindy Pupil Free Day.