

IMPORTANT DATES

MARCH	
Tue 08	Yellow Group Coffee Morning
Wed 09	Committee Meeting 8pm @ SPK ALL WELCOME
Fri 18	Tea Towels Final Orders due
Sat 19	Working Bee 8-10am @ SPK
Wed 23	Last Day of Term 1 Blue Group
Thu 24	Last Day of Term 1 Yellow Group, Last Day to Apply for 4 year old deferral into 2017

Reminders

- **Pick up policy:** Please remember we require both written authorisation on enrolment forms and for you to inform staff verbally if children are to be picked up by someone other than parent.
- SPK is a **nut free zone** (incl. Nutella and peanut butter).
- Please remember to apply **suncream** and bring **hats** for the children in Term 1.
- Please remember to check **your child's pockets** (next to the sign-in desk on the verandah) for communications from kinder, committee or other parents.

2016 TERM DATES

Term 1	27 Jan – 24 Mar
Term 2	11 Apr – 24 June
Term 3	11 July – 16 Sep
Term 4	03 Oct – 20 Dec

Message from our Teachers

Documentation of Learning

In 2016 we are trying a new approach for documenting your children's learning over the course of the year, to replace the individual portfolios used in previous years.

The educator team will be sending by an email a summary of Reflections on the class's learning every fortnight. This will give parents a chance to read what their kids are up to during their time at kinder at a time most convenient to them. The Reflections will also be on display on the sign in desk. Parents are welcomed and encouraged to contribute or give feedback in the book.

We will be offering parent/teacher meetings during the year, so that parents have the opportunity to have a formal discussion with their child's teacher about how their child is progressing during the year.

We will also be collaging individual art folio and photos of children throughout the year. We will provide these to families (along with a catalog of the Reflections and any individual child summaries) on disc or stick at the end of the year.

Family Albums

Yellow and Blue groups are each starting a scrapbook/album of family photos. Your child will soon bring the album home so that you can together choose and add photos that give a full picture of your lives together as a family. Please feel free to use 2 pages of the album and add text and anything you like to make your "family pages". (We hope that this can be done in a couple of nights so we can get around to all the families in not too long a period of time! :))

In the past these albums have been done and the children love to look through them together and see each class member with their family. It is a useful and enjoyable means of integrating family and kinder life where the children can feel recognised and respected for who they are both personally and culturally. It also helps to develop a sense of their belonging in community thus also serving their emotional and social wellbeing.





Safety at the Front Gate

Please be aware when opening and closing the front gate to only let your own children out of the kinder and make sure the gate "clicks" closed.

We know children can run in and out without warning, so a reminder for all parents to be vigilant.

Remember that before children are dropped off (signed in) and after they are picked up (signed out), they are the responsibility of parents/guardians.

Recycle Corner

Do you have any wooden crates that you don't need? The kinder is looking for some wooden crates for storing loose parts to play with in the front and backyards.

Please speak to Karen if you have some that you are happy to give to SPK

Working Bee

Our first working bee is coming up on Saturday 19th March from 8-10am. We will have a range of projects and tasks on the morning to suit all types! For those families who can't make it that morning you are also welcome to come to kinder at any time that is convenient to you to do a project or task, or there will be a range of projects and tasks that can be taken home. We hope that as many families as possible can participate!

There are many ideas for little to no cost projects that can be done in the kinder gardens to beautify and maximise learning opportunities through play for children. Karen has a Pinterest Board with many ideas for projects that can be done with little or no cost.. For anyone with a passion and some time to spare, take a look through the board and if there is anything you feel inspired to help create, please speak with Karen and Jarrad, our Maintenance Officer, to work out the logistics. Here is the link to Karen's Pinterest Board:

www.pinterest.com/kariboo27/outdoor-play-and-playscape-ideas/

Tinkering!

Do you have any old small electrical appliances that the children can do some TINKERING with at kinder? They love to take things apart with screwdrivers so any old computers, old fashioned phone, CD players, toasters etc etc that you have could be useful to us here at kinder? NOT TVs though due to the glass. We cut off the electrical cords so they can't be plugged in. Please email Karen at karen.booth@bestchance.net.au to let me know if there is anything you can bring before bringing it so we don't get too many things.

Needed: Sewing Help!

We are looking for one or two people to sew 22 small cushions for the children to use in class for sitting and lying down on during the day at various times. Both groups of children will use them Karen has all the materials and pattern. If you can sew at all, you can do it! Very easy and fun sewing project! Please talk to Karen if you can help.

Thanks so much!
Karen, Hilary, Lyn and Anne.

Message from the Committee of Management

Welcome To Anne Vulin

A warm welcome to Anne who recently joined us as our morning co-educator for Yellow Group. Anne is a Kew local and previously supported the occasional care program at Kew Neighbourhood Learning Centre. We are thrilled to have Anne as part of our educator team.

We are close to recruiting a morning co-educator for Blue Group. We thank families for their patience while we find someone who is a great fit for our kinder.

Pizza Night

Thank-you to families for coming along to the Pizza Night last Friday night. We had a great turn-out on a lovely evening in our beautiful back garden. Hopefully everyone got a chance to chat to a family they'd not met before and get to know our wonderful team of educators.

The kids certainly seemed to be having fun! A special thanks to Luisa DeLuca for organising the pizza and drinks and to the families who helped with setting up and packing up. A big thanks also to our educators for making the time to join us.

Tea Towel Fundraising

Our first Fundraising activity for the year is a Tea towel Fundraiser. These are mostly done for families to have a nice keepsake for the time their child has spent at kinder. They also make a great little present for Grandmothers on Mother's day!

A sample of the Tea Towels is on display at the kinder sign-in desk. An Order Form is attached to this newsletter and in your pockets at Kinder. Final orders are due before 18th March 2016.

2016 Calendar

We have compiled a kinder calendar for 2016 highlighting all upcoming events across the educational program, kinder events and fundraising. We hope this is helpful for families in keeping on top of our busy kinder program! If there are any additions of activities or changes to dates for Terms 3 and 4 we will circulate an updated calendar during Term 2.

Corporate Giving

Do any of you work for corporations who have a community giving program in place?

Many companies offer grants to non-profit community groups, and kindergartens that employee families attend are often eligible for such grants. Some companies may offer to match employee donations to community groups instead.

Some examples: IBM Community Grants, Telstra Kids Fund (Opens August 2016), BHP Billiton Matched Giving Program, NAB Workplace Giving...

If you would like to nominate Studley Park Kindergarten to be a part of your workplace's giving program, please get in touch with Belinda Barker our Grants officer and she can speak to you about the kind of funding our kindergarten requires and if needed, help you with writing the grant application.

2017 Enrolments

A reminder to all families with children in Yellow Group, and families with younger siblings that will start three year old kindergarten next year, that you need to apply for a place in our 2017 programs through the Boroondara Kindergartens Central Enrolments Scheme. Enrolments for 2017 are now open and will close on Friday June 24th. Please apply by online submission via the Boroondara Council website: <http://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/residents/families-children/kindergartens>.

Also a reminder to any parents contemplating deferring their child's place in our 2016 program to 2017 that the last day to apply for a deferral of your child's 2016 place to 2017 is Thursday 24th March for 4 year old places and Friday 29th April for 3 year old places. If you are thinking about deferral please contact Karen or Hilary as appropriate to start a discussion on this.

2016 Committee of Management

Email: spk.committee@studleyparkkindergarten.vic.edu.au

Committee Roles		
President (Bestchance Liaison)	Emily Dunt	Blue Group Parent
Vice President (Enrolments)	Pippa Harding	Blue Group Parent
Treasurer	Yosh Suri	Yellow Group Parent
Secretary	Evelyn Chin	Yellow & Blue Group Parent
Accounts & Fees Officer	Megan Toose	Blue Group Parent
Maintenance Officer	Jarrad Jeffs	Yellow Group Parent
Events Officer	Luisa De Luca	Blue Group Parent
Fundraising Officer	Kate Cannard	Yellow Group Parent
Grants Officer	Belinda Barker	Blue Group Parent
Non Committee Roles		
Website & Newsletter Editor	Zoe Kilby	Blue Group Parent
Yellow Group Representative	Tanya Lintzeris	Yellow Group Parent
Blue Group Representative	Emily Layland	Blue Group Parent
Sub-Committee Members		
Events & Fundraising	Danielle Leo	Blue Group Parent
Events & Fundraising	Gareth Lochaden	Yellow Group Parent
Events & Fundraising	Kelly Story	Blue Group Parent
Events & Fundraising	Jessica Marchio	Blue Group Parent



Kindergarten Central Enrolment Scheme

We've made it easier to enrol your child at one of Boroondara's 26 kindergartens.

We work in collaboration with kindergarten committees to develop a consistent process for families.

Applications can be made online at www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/BKCES

Application for both three and four year old kindergarten can be made once your child has turned two. Once an online application has been completed, families will receive an automatic response acknowledging receipt of the application and payment.

BKCES hardcopy information kits and application forms are also available from BKCES Member Kindergartens, Maternal and Child Health Centres, Libraries, Council Offices and can be downloaded from our webpage.

Enrolment enquiries should be directed to the BKCES Central Enrolment Officer on **9278 4444** or email bkces@boroondara.vic.gov.au

Information Kit and Online Application

Supporting families enrolling at participating kindergartens
www.boroondara.vic.gov.au





TEA TOWEL FUNDRAISER

Dear Parent / Carer / Friend,

As part of our fundraising efforts for this term, Studley Park Kindergarten is running a group tea towel project to help raise funds for the kinder to use for the Children.

The limited edition tea towel design will be made up of self-portraits drawn by all our children. The pictures and names will be arranged all together as a commemorative design for the whole group, then screen printed onto premium quality white cotton tea towels (50x70cm).

We chose the tea towels because everyone loves them. The children are thrilled to see their own artwork in print; they make a lasting memento to remember classmates, are amazing as gifts for parents, relatives and special friends or just use them to dry the dishes!

Make sure you don't miss out. There is a sample tea towel hanging up.

It is \$20 for one limited edition tea towel or save on a few, 2 for \$35, 3 for \$50, 4 for \$60, 5 for \$70, 6 for \$80. Don't forget to order a few extras for family members and your keepsake box. Tea towels can be ordered by completing the form below and returning with payment to the RED BOX in an envelope clearly marked "TEA TOWEL ORDER".

Thank you for your continued support.

Final orders are due before → **Friday 18th March** (for Delivery early Term 2)

If you have any queries please contact, Kate Cannard (yellow group, William)
Email: katembass@gmail.com, or mobile: 0409 965 336



TEA TOWEL ORDER FORM

Student Name: _____ Yellow / Blue

Contact Name and Phone Number: _____

Number of Tea Towels Ordered: 1 2 3 4 5 or more → _____

Please enclose payment with your order: TOTAL enclosed \$ _____

- Cash (in Red Fees box inside Kinder door)
- Cheque (made payable to Studley Park Kindergarten)
- Direct Transfer (BSB 636000, Acc. 140364092, Ref, Child's name)