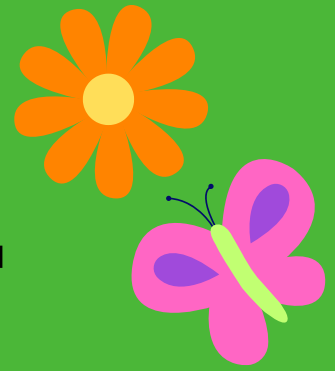




FARM ROAD PRE-SCHOOL

TERM 3 NEWSLETTER 2025



FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a remarkable Term 3 we've had at Farm Road Pre-school! I want to extend my sincere thanks to our entire community—your energy, commitment, and generosity have made it a truly successful term.

A big thank you to our fundraising team and generous community donating their time, we saw strong engagement at our information sessions. A big thank you to the 24 parents/caregivers who attended the KidsROAR Parent Information Session on Wednesday, September 17th. We remain committed to supporting children's learning about personal safety, and safety will continue to be our highest priority.

To wrap up the term, we attended the End of Term Disco on Friday, September 19, 2025—a fun finale that continued our fundraising efforts.

Our fundraising momentum is strong. We're thrilled to see the ongoing success of the Victorian Container Scheme, which has raised over \$100 so far—a sustainable way to contribute! Don't forget that you can also purchase Farm Road uniforms through EDUThreads, with a portion of profits benefiting the kinder.

Our next Working Bee is coming up on Saturday 18th October from 9am to 12pm and we'd love as many parents as possible to join in! It's a great way to connect with others and help keep our kindergarten looking beautiful. Looking forward to seeing our new and existing families for our Children's week Open Day on Saturday the 25th from 10 - 2pm. Activities include

- Petting Zoo
- Face Painter
- Entertainer
- Sausage Sizzle

Compliance and Policy

Please note below the important Compliance Update regarding the use of personal electronic devices and the mandatory adoption of the National Model Code. Several of our policies have been updated to reflect our commitment to child safety.

I hope everyone had a safe and restorative holiday break. We were so happy to see our Wallaby Group back on Monday, October 6th, and our Bilby Group on Wednesday, October 8th, ready for a fun-filled final term of the year!

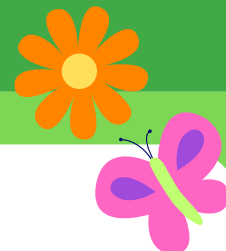
Christian Fox

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY



Farm Road Pre-School respectfully acknowledge the Bunurong / Boon Wurrung people, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work, learn and play, and pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.





FUNDRAISING UPDATE

By far the highlight of the term is the enormous effort that went into this years Bunnings Sausage Sizzle. Thankyou to everyone who donated, volunteered, and braved the weather on the day to smash out a few sausages. It took an absolute village to ensure the day went smoothly and having everyone pull together to chip in highlights how wonderful our Farm Road community is. The day simply wouldn't have been a success with out the help of our parents, friends, and grandparents.

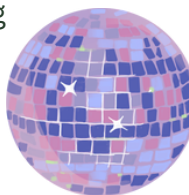
We raised just shy of \$4000 . These funds will be put towards a new shade sail for our playground which we anticipate will be up just in time for summer.



End of Term Disco - Friday 19th September 2025

Lots of fun was had at the End of Term Disco. Limbo, glow sticks, icypoles and dancing to the children's favourite song 'Golden' by KPop Demon Hunters.

Thank you to the fundraising team for organising such a fun end to Term 3 for the children!.



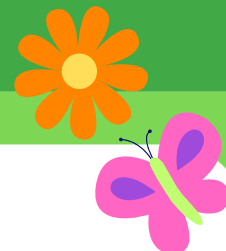
Coming up : Picture Plates

Who remembers those durable, highquality melamine Picture plates?

Farm Road will be giving all families the opportunity to transform your childs unique artwork into a plate that will last a lifetime. Children love eating off their own plate and as the years go by and they have their own families, the Pictureplates will bring back wonderful memories of that happy childhood. The templates will be sent home across the school holidays to be compelted and will be due back the first week of Term 4 (Wednesday 8th of October).

Plates will be \$30 each with a portion of the funds going towards Farm Road.





FUNDRAISING UPDATE CONTINUED...

Victorian Fundraising Scheme

Thankyou to all of those who continue to donate those cans! We've raised over \$100 via these scheme and we love to see a full bin out the front of the kinder!

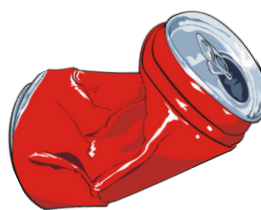
The Victorian Container Scheme has been setup by the state government to allow individuals, families and eligible organisations to receive 10c for every container, beer bottle, and can donated. Not only does this open up another channel for Farm Road to raise funds, but we also get the opportunity to teach our children about sustainable practices, giving back and recycling.

So how do I donate?

Step 1 - Collect Eligible Drink Containers

Step 2 - Locate your closest Refund Point

Step 3 - Donate your refund to Farm Road Preschool



When donating, Farm Road PS is on the list of eligible partners.

EDU Threads

Make mornings easy with a Farm Road Preschool uniform. Whilst these are **not compulsory**, we've partnered with EDUThreads to offer a kinder uniform – with a portion of the profits to go straight to Farm Road.

For the 4yo group, why not purchase a Farm Road T-shirt for your vchild to keep as a momento for farm Roaf?

How can I get my hands on a uniform?

- Uniforms are available here: <https://eduthreads.com.au/collections/farm-road-pre-school>
- Orders can be placed by families at any time before midnight on the above day. A free delivery option may be available for you to select at check-out.
- Each order will be pre-packed and labeled - this will include name and order reference to assist with distribution. Families will receive a notification when their order is completed and a reminder of the date for collection.



T-SHIRT
\$16.50 AUD

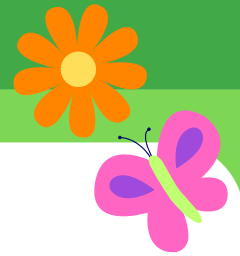


BOMBER JACKET - ZIP
\$38.50 AUD



Long Sleeve Tee
\$21.00 AUD





COMPLIANCE UPDATE

Compliance Update - Use of Personal Electronic Devices at Farm Road Pre-school

On 15 August 2025, the Victorian Government released a statement announcing that the National Model Code and Guidelines ("Taking images or videos of children while providing early childhood education and care") would become mandatory from 26 September 2025.

The National Model Code and Guidelines aim to support early childhood services to implement child safe practices regarding the use of electronic devices for taking images or videos of children while providing education and care.

The restrictions on the use of personal electronic devices will extend to everyone participating in our program - staff, parents, allied health professionals, practicum placement students, volunteers - and to all service activities. For example: "stay and play" sessions and service events (end of year concerts).

You can read more about the National Model Code here:

[National Model Code for - taking and storing of images/videos of children in early childhood services](#)

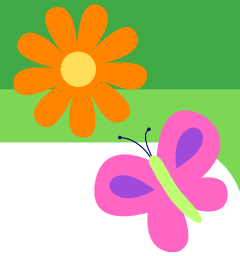
In accordance with the new regulations, the following policies have been updated:

- Fees (Free Kindergarten)
- Tobacco, e-Cigarettes, Vapes, Alcohol and Other Drugs
- Child Safe Environment and Wellbeing
- eSafety for Children
- Privacy and Confidentiality
- Staffing
- Safe Use of Digital Technology and Online Environments (formerly Information Communication and Technologies)
- Code of Conduct

Copies of the updated policies can be found on our website and in the Kinder foyer.

Farm Road Pre-school remains committed to the safety of all children participating in our program.





3 YEAR OLD BILBY GROUP

What a busy, joyful, and adventure-filled term we've had in the 3yo Bilby Group! It's hard to believe Term 3 has already wrapped up. Here's a little peek into the highlights of our learning and play.

Our Little Library began this term and has been such a hit! The children have loved borrowing books to share at home. This will continue into Term 4, so keep those library bags ready. We have also welcomed some fabulous Mystery Readers each Thursday, further encouraging a love of literacy!



We introduced mindfulness colouring during rest times. This has given children a calm and creative way to wind down with a focus on strengthening fine motor skills and encouraging tummy time to improve core strength.

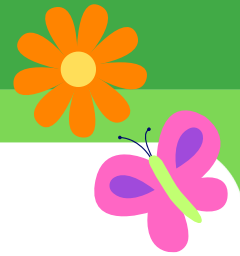


From brushing teeth to eating the colours of the rainbow, we explored dental health, nutrition, and body wellbeing. The children have been engaging with our "I ate a rainbow" learning, teaching the importance of eating a variety of foods.

We also learned about body safety with our "Boss of My Body" focus. Teaching children the importance of asking permission before hugs, learning that what's under our underwear is private, and identifying our safe people.

This term we began exploring veterinary care and caring for animals, which sparked lots of pretend play. We also tuned into seasonal changes on Country, noticing nesting birds, changing weather, and signs of Pareip season.





3 YEAR OLD BILBY GROUP CONTINUED...

A big highlight was our visit from Reptile Encounters for a “Feathers, Fur and Scales” learning session. The children were fascinated meeting and learning about animals up close, from soft and furry creatures to scaly reptiles! This sparked wonderful discussions about respecting and caring for living things.



This sense of wonder continued into Science Week, which was an explosion of curiosity! The children delighted in hands-on experiments, exploring cause and effect, mixing, predicting, and discovering the magic of “why.”



We snuggled up in pyjamas for Book Week and even made some yummy toast together, a cozy celebration of stories, friendship, and imagination.

This term we worked on being “Super Friends” sharing, taking turns, helping each other, and learning that “I can have lots of friends!” We asked ourselves; “How can I be a Super Friend?” and we saw lots of kindness blossom. Through all of this, the children have been:

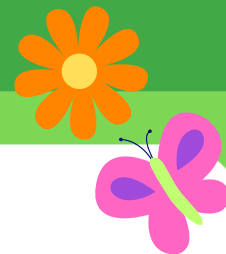
- Expressing feelings and making choices
- Sharing play and helping friends
- Encouraging healthy habits, good core strength, and increased body awareness
- Learning about science, experiments and problem-solving
- Expanding communication through stories, songs, Little Library, and Book Week fun
- Respecting Country by extending our acknowledgement and seasonal awareness

As we move onto Term 4, we’ll keep building on these skills, continuing our Little Library sharing, and diving deeper into play, discovery, and friendship. Your encouragement at home helps extend these experiences, and together we are building a strong foundation for lifelong learning.

Thank you, Bilby families for your ongoing support and for sharing your wonderful children with us. We can’t wait to see what the final term of the year brings!



With warmth,
Bec, Narelle, Robyn, Catherine, Kate and Chloe



4 YEAR OLD WALLABY GROUP

What a busy and rewarding Term 3! It has gone by in a flash and the children have grown so much in confidence, independence and social skills. It's a delight to see their friendships flourish and their excitement to be together each day. This term, the Wallaby Group has enjoyed a variety of experiences and events, including:

- Dental Visit
- Science Week
- Book Week
- Reptile Encounters
- Creating special Father's Day gifts (we hope all dads had a wonderful day!)

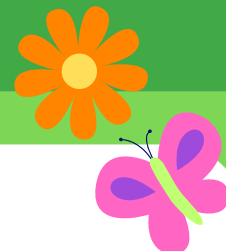


We also welcomed Chloe, a pre-service student teacher completing her final placement before becoming a qualified Early Childhood Teacher. Chloe will return in early Term 4 to complete her last few days with us.

Throughout Term 3, we have been focusing on teaching the children about personal safety and supporting them to develop a strong sense of agency. By encouraging children to make decisions about matters that affect them in their day-to-day routines, we help them build confidence and independence.

The children have been developing literacy and numeracy skills through activities such as writing their names, identifying letters, numbers and patterns, library borrowing and mark-making. We have continued exploring techniques of artists at the easel such as, Mondrian.





4 YEAR OLD WALLABY GROUP continued...

Early in the term, we provided lots of hands-on experiences during Science Week including paleontology, geology, first scientists' interest table and experiments.



Outdoors, we grew Murnong, installed four more barrels for our vegetable garden and planted trees for National Tree Day thanks to Kingston Council. Obstacle courses, sandpit play, and collaborative games have supported social, physical and creative development.

Please remember your child's school transition sessions in Term 4. These sessions help children become familiar with what to expect, the school environment – classrooms, playgrounds, library spaces and more.

Several kindergarten policies have been updated this term and are available in the foyer folder and on our website. Thanks to our policy officer, Rob, and Catherine for their help. A heartfelt thank you to all families for your support this term, particularly those who volunteered at Bush Kinder and to all parents who helped at the Bunnings BBQ - over \$4,000 was raised!



Please consider adding your name to our Stay and Play roster for Term 4 and join us at our amazing nature-based program.

To finish off the term, the Wallaby Group had a fun-filled week planned, including Crazy Hair Day and Footy Colours Day.

In Term 4, our focus will shift toward preparing children for school, supporting them to start Prep/Foundation with the skills, confidence, and support they need to learn and be socially and emotionally ready. Debbie will be writing Transition Learning and Development Statements (TLDS) which families will be asked to contribute to. This helps Foundation teachers understand each child's learning and developmental profile prior to starting school.

We are excited for all the learning, fun and experiences Term 4 will bring!

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday break.



Warm regards,
The Wallaby Team



4 YEAR OLD WALLABY GROUP CONTINUED...

Getting Ready for School – How You Can Help at Home

Starting school is an exciting milestone. Here are some simple ways you can help your child feel confident and prepared:

- Encourage independence – let your child practice dressing themselves, putting on shoes, opening lunchboxes and drink bottles, and managing their belongings.
- Build everyday routines – practice packing a school bag, using the toilet independently, and following simple instructions.
- Support social skills – provide opportunities for sharing, taking turns, playing cooperatively, and solving small problems with friends.
- Foster language and learning – read together daily, talk about what you see and do, ask questions, and encourage your child to listen and share their ideas.
- Focus on health and wellbeing – ensure your child has regular sleep, healthy meals and health and dental checkups. Vision and hearing checks before school are recommended.
- Create familiarity – visit the school, talk about what to expect, and help your child feel excited about meeting new teachers and friends.
- By practicing these skills in everyday life, children build the confidence and independence they need to enjoy a positive start to school. Please refer to the attached tips poster.



SUNSMART

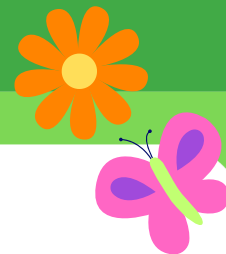
As part of our Sun Protection Policy, all children are required to apply sunscreen and wear a hat when outdoors for the remainder of the year. See Sun Smart information included in this newsletter.



KidsROAR Parent Info Session

Thank you to the 24 parents/caregivers who attended the KidsROAR Parent Information Session on Wednesday 17th September. We apologise for any confusion regarding another kindergarten that has booked a children's session in early October. Farm Road Pre-school will not be running a children's session, however we remain committed to supporting children's learning about personal safety, and safety will continue to be our highest priority.





IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 6th October

First Day of Term 4 (Wallaby Group)

Wednesday 8th October

First Day of Term 4 (Bilby Group)

Saturday 18th October

Working bee:

We request parents help with light gardening, painting, and maintenance between 9am & 12pm

Wednesday 22nd October

Holly's Backyard Bees Incursion (Bilby group)

Saturday 25th October

Children's Week Open Day

Monday 27th October

Holly's Backyard Bees Incursion (Wallaby group)

Tuesday 4th November

Melbourne Cup Day Public Holiday (Kindergarten Closed)

Monday 10th November

Museum of Play and Art (MoPA) - (Wallaby group)

Friday 14th November

Bush Kinder Family Picnic - (Wallaby group)

Tuesday 18th November

AGM

Friday 21st November

Last Bush Kinder Session (Wallaby Group)

Monday 15th December

Party Day (Wallaby Group)

Tuesday 16th December

Wallaby Group Last Day: Concert and Graduation

Monday 17th December

Bilby Group Last Day





We are SunSmart - a note for families

Too much of the sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer.

UV damage accumulated during childhood and adolescence is associated with an increased risk of skin cancer later in life. Skin cancer is the most common cancer in Australia. It is also one of the most preventable cancers.

You can't see or feel the sun's UV. Whatever the weather, if the UV levels are three or more, it's important to *Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek and Slide*!

Sun protection times

Don't just wait for hot and sunny days to use sun protection. Check the sun protection times each day so your family can be protected when they need to be. Daily local sun protection times and weather details are available from the SunSmart widget on our website, in the weather section of the newspaper, on the SunSmart website at sunsmart.com.au and as a free SunSmart app. Sun protection times can also be found at the Bureau of Meteorology website and live UV levels are available from ARPANSA.



SunSmart membership

Our service is a registered member of Cancer Council Victoria's SunSmart Program. We aim to protect children and staff from too much UV.

Sun protection and skin cancer prevention is a shared responsibility. Please help support our SunSmart membership and sun protection efforts by ensuring your child follows the SunSmart measures encouraged by educators at the service and when at home.

During the daily local sun protection times (usually

from mid-August to the end of April), **use these 5 SunSmart steps –even if it's cool and cloudy.**

1. **SLIP** on covering clothing

Dress your child in clothing that covers as much skin as possible (e.g. elbow length tops with a higher neckline or collar and longer style shorts or skirts). Densely woven fabrics are best.



2. **SLOP** on SPF 30 (or higher) broad-

spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen

Apply a generous amount of sunscreen at the start of the day and provide permission for sunscreen to be reapplied to your child before they go outdoors. This should be applied every two hours. From 3 years of age, under supervision, please help your child apply their own sunscreen so they can start to learn independent skills.

3. **SLAP** on a hat that protects the face, neck

and ears

Choose a wide-brimmed, legionnaire or bucket hat. Peak caps and visors do not offer enough UV protection. Hats that can be adjusted at the crown or can be tied at the front to help secure it on a child's head are best. If the hat is secured with a long strap and toggle, ensure it has a safety snap, place the strap at the back of their head or trim the length so it doesn't become a choking hazard. Please help your child remember to bring and wear their approved **sun hat**. Please keep this at service so they will always be ready for outdoor activities and play during the day. For the walk to and from the service and weekends, please have an extra **home hat** to help keep children protected at home.

4. **SEEK** shade

Choose shady spots for play whenever possible.

5. **SLIDE** on wrap-around AS1067 sunglasses

When appropriate and practical, help protect the eyes with sunglasses.

Need information in another language?

Call 13 1450 and ask to be connected to Cancer Council Victoria in your language



Parent Post Session Information Pack

What is Protective Behaviours?

KidsROAR delivers personal safety programs based on Protective Behaviours themes, that aim to promote resilience in children, young people and adults using empowerment strategies and awareness of 'safe' behaviours.

The Protective Behaviours program is world-wide and was originally developed as a child abuse prevention program. Today, Protective Behaviours has a much broader application, not just focusing on abuse prevention but addressing empowerment, communication, self-esteem, resilience, social skills and other life skills. By teaching these concepts, Protective Behaviours helps to prevent abuse, reduce violence and promote positive health and wellbeing.

Current Statistics

- 🐾 1 in 5 children experience sexual abuse before their 18th birthday (Pereda et al 2009)
- 🐾 The most vulnerable age for children to be exposed to sexual assault is between the ages of 3 – 8 years (Browne & Lynch, 1994)
- 🐾 In over 90% of cases, the offender is known to the victim (ABS, 2006)

When should children learn Protective Behaviours?

Protecting children from harm is a shared responsibility for the family, the community and professionals. You can start teaching children as soon as they can talk about their bodies and personal boundaries.

Our KidsROAR programs commence from 3 years of age. The Protective Behaviours program empowers children with the right to feel safe and provides them with strategies to respond to situations where they may be feeling unsafe. The Protective Behaviours message is delivered in a clear, simple and non-confronting way, using fun, engaging and age-appropriate activities.

The Children will learn to ROAR

After taking part in the interactive KidsROAR Protective Behaviours Program children will have developed skills and strategies to help protect their own personal safety. We teach children to be persistent and assertive whilst developing a greater understanding of how important it is that they can ROAR.

- 🐾 Recognise – safe/unsafe secrets, warning signs and safe/unsafe situations
- 🐾 Own – their body and understand it belongs to them
- 🐾 Assert – confidence to implement the “No, Go, Tell” strategy
- 🐾 Report – to their identified trusted adults and persist in telling them how they feel

Hold my hand and keep me safe

It takes many years for young children to be able to make safe decisions independently whenever cars and other vehicles are about – near roads, footpaths, car parks, driveways, bicycle tracks, unfenced yards, homes and farms.

The best way to protect children near vehicles is to always hold their hands.



When you are out and about with children, remember to:

- hold their hands to keep them safe
- be consistent – “If we don’t hold hands, we don’t go out!”
- help children to hold onto a pram, your bag or clothing if your hand is not available. If possible, put your hand over the child’s hand for added security
- give lots of positive feedback and encouragement when children hold your hand
- be a safe role model and talk with the children in your care about all the things you do to keep safe
- listen carefully to what children say to check their understanding of the road safety messages. Children may be able to say the words but this doesn’t mean they understand them or can put them into practice.



Hold their hands until they are at least 8 years old. Closely and actively supervise children up to at least the age of 10 years.

Watching children is not enough!

Injuries to young children often happen:

- when a child is walking with an adult, but not holding hands
- when a child is close to home, playing in a quiet street or driveway that is considered safe from traffic
- when a supervising adult is unaware a child has slipped away
- when a child is playing in an unfenced play area
- when a relative or family friend is driving off or returning home.

Boys are twice as likely to be killed or injured as pedestrians than girls.



Adults are responsible for the safety of young children in and near traffic.

Proudly funded by



kidsandtraffic.mq.edu.au

KIDS and TRAFFIC

Early Childhood Road Safety Education Program
In partnership with Transport for NSW and Macquarie University

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