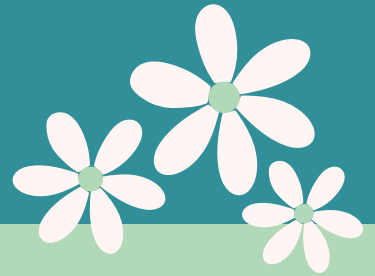




FARM ROAD PRE-SCHOOL

TERM 3 NEWSLETTER 2024



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello and welcome to our Term 3 newsletter,

As the year quickly comes to a close, it's the perfect time to reflect on all the wonderful moments we've shared—our activities, excursions, and the incredible growth of the children. On behalf of the committee, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you to the entire education team at Farm Road Preschool for their dedication and hard work.

We have been fortunate to have had very successful fundraisers this year led by our great fundraising team, with the proceeds going back to support the Preschool. We welcome anyone looking to join any of the committee roles to keep an eye out for the Annual General Meeting in November and come along.

The remaining months of the year are packed with exciting events, including a Working Bee, Open Day, Children's Week, and our Annual General Meeting. Keep an eye out for notices and posts with details—we'd love for you to join us!

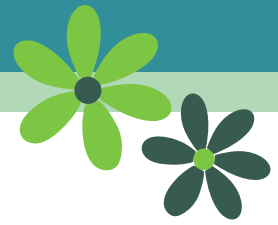
Regards,

Josh Gosling
President Farm Road Preschool

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.



3 YEAR OLD BILBY GROUP

As we look back over the past few weeks, it's incredible to see how much we've accomplished together. Here's a look back at some of the wonderful experiences we've shared.

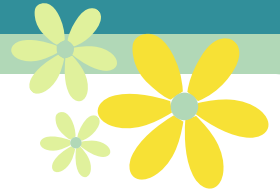


Our term began with a burst of energy during our Olymp-a-thon, inspired by the global spirit of the Olympics. The children eagerly participated in various activities. The children showed off their athletic skills and sportsmanship, cheering each other as they received their medals. It was a fantastic opportunity to promote physical well-being and celebrate the joy of being active together.



Our Body ROAR session taught children about personal safety, empowering them to say no, recognise and respond to their physical reactions in different situations, and identify five trusted people they can turn to for help. These important lessons have helped children make connections to real-life situations, such as understanding when someone might need more space on the playground and the importance of respecting each other's boundaries.

3 YEAR OLD BILBY GROUP CONT...



This term also marked the introduction of our Little Library which was met with great excitement. It has been heartwarming to see the children's eyes light up as they selected books to take home in their personalised library bags, further encouraging a love of reading and literacy.

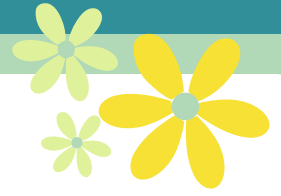
Additionally, our Mystery Readers program began, where several families have joined us to share their favourite books. These storytelling sessions have been a wonderful way to enhance our community connection and further deepen our love for literature.



Mid-term, our focus shifted towards science and inquiry-based learning. Science Week offered a fantastic platform for hands-on experiments, encouraging the children to explore, question, and discover. Their natural curiosity shone through as they engaged with concepts like magnetism, chemical and physical reactions, and plant growth, which led to extended conversations such as, "Where does our food come from?" We learned that milk comes from cows, and we even attempted to make our own ice cream!



3 YEAR OLD BILBY GROUP CONT...



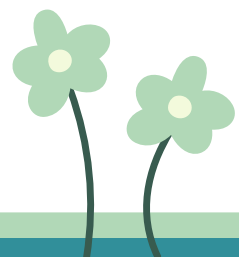
Book Week, with its theme of "Reading is Magic," provided further opportunities for exploration. Dressed in cozy pyjamas, the children enjoyed storytelling sessions that transported them to magical worlds, reinforcing the joy and importance of reading. We added cooking and fine-motor elements to the week by inviting children to make their own toast with a range of spreads, integrating practical life skills.



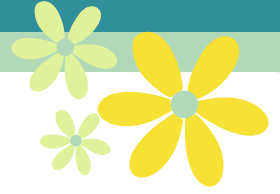
This term our commitment to the children's well-being, both physically and emotionally, continues to be central to our approach. Activities such as clay manipulating and scissor cutting have helped the children strengthen fine motor skills, boosting their confidence as they master new tools and techniques. Emotionally, our participation in The Resilience Project has continued to be valuable as we engage in conversations and activities focused on happiness and gratitude.



Connecting with the wider community and embracing cultural awareness has been another important aspect of our learning this term. Our Rainbow Serpent art project for NAIDOC Week and daily Acknowledgement of Country have helped the children develop a deeper understanding and respect for the land and its traditional custodians, the Bunurong/Boon Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation. Spending time outdoors and reflecting on our environment has strengthened the children's connection to nature and the world around them.

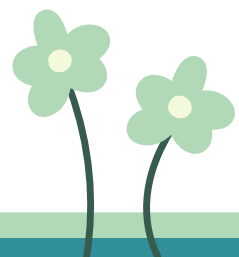


3 YEAR OLD BILBY GROUP CONT...



As we look ahead to the remainder of the term, we are excited for upcoming events such as Photo Day and continued explorations of various topics and interests. We have recently introduced our “photographer of the day” where a child is invited to document their own observations of the learning environment. This term has been filled with meaningful learning experiences, joy, and growth. The children have consistently shown resilience, curiosity, and kindness, making each day in the Bilby Group a truly special one.

Warm regards,
The Bilby Team





Better Health Network

REFER TO A SPEECH PATHOLOGIST

<https://bhn.org.au/services/>



Children from different backgrounds, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds, may use words differently when learning English. This may not be a problem. It is always encouraged to use the language(s) at home that they are comfortable speaking.

Regardless of whether English is a child's first language, ALL children need meaningful language experiences through stories, music, nursery rhymes, play, and LOTS of repetition. If you're unsure about their responses, talk to a speech pathologist.



Source: Speech Pathology Australia
www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au

AT 4 YEARS

UNDERSTANDING

- Answer most questions about daily tasks.
- Understand most wh-questions, including those about a story they have recently heard.
- Understand some numbers.
- Show an awareness that some words start or finish with the same sounds.

SPEAKING

- Use words, such as 'and', 'but' and 'because', to make longer sentences
- Describe recent events, such as morning routines.
- Ask lots of questions use personal pronouns (e.g., he/ she, me/you) and negations (e.g., don't/can't).
- Count to five and name a few colours.



Better Health Network

SPEECH & LANGUAGE

AT 2 YEARS

UNDERSTANDING

- Follow simple two part instructions (e.g., 'give me the ball and the car').
- Respond to simple wh-questions, such as 'what' and 'where'.
- Point to several body parts and pictures in books when named.
- Understand when an object is 'in' and 'on' something.

SPEAKING

- Say more than 50 single words.
- Put two words together (e.g., 'bye teddy', 'no ball').
- Use their tone of voice to ask a question (e.g., 'teddy go?').
- Say 'no' when they do not want something.
- Use most vowel sounds and a variety of consonants (m, n, p, b, k, g, h, w, t, d).
- Start to use 'mine' and 'my'.

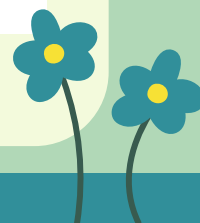
AT 3 YEARS

UNDERSTANDING

- Follow more complex two part instructions (e.g., give me the teddy and throw the ball).
- Understand simple wh-questions, such as 'what', 'where' and 'who'.
- Understand the concepts of 'same' and 'different'.
- Sort items into groups when asked (e.g., toys vs food).
- Recognise some basic colours.

SPEAKING

- Say four to five words in a sentence.
- Use a variety of words for names, actions, locations and descriptions.
- Ask questions using 'what', 'where' and 'who'.
- Talk about something in the past, but may use '-ed' a lot (e.g., 'he goed there').
- Have a conversation, but may not take turns or stay on topic.





FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Dear Farm Road families and team,

This Term, the following policies were reviewed and updated:

Quality Area 1:

- Inclusion and Equity

Quality Area 2:

- Administration of Medication
- Dealing with Infectious Diseases
- Diabetes
- Emergency and Evacuation
- eSafety for children
- Relaxation and Sleep
- Road Safety Education and Safe Road Transport

Quality Area 3:

- Environmental Sustainability

Quality Area 4:

- Determining Responsible Person
- Participation of Volunteers and Students

Quality Area 5:

- Behaviour Support

Quality Area 6:

- Enrolment and Orientation (Free Kinder)

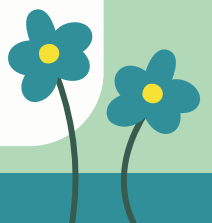
Quality Area 7:

- Fees Free Kindergarten
- Occupational Violence and Aggression
- Staff Grievances and Dispute Resolution
- Staff Recruitment
- Whistle Blower

You can find all of the policies on our website (www.farmroadpreschool.com.au), or in the folder located in the Kinder foyer.

If you have any questions in relation to any of our policies, please do not hesitate to contact Catherine Ingham, Business Manager by emailing - admin.farm.rd.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au.

Kind regards,
Catherine Ingham
Business Manager – Farm Road Pre-school



4 YEAR OLD WALLABY GROUP



The Wallabies have been busier than ever! From completing special cards and gifts for Father's Day and celebrating many birthdays to taking part in special events, there has been countless experiences to keep all the 4-year-olds active, challenged and engaged in learning. It is so rewarding to see how the children have grown and developed since the start of the year.

Following the school holidays and children's interest in movies, the dramatic play space was set up as a cinema and later changed to a French Patisserie to coincide with the Olympics in Paris. The Wallaby Group created an Eiffel Tower using paddle pop sticks and collaborated with the Bilby group on a Rainbow Serpent which is on display in the Kinder room. There has been great interest in water colour painting and art provocations at the easel e.g., Wattle in a vase with yellow and green paint. To practice scissor skills, they cut out spirals for individual Rainbow Serpents, made snowflakes and cut along strips of paper to create 3D art. The children also enjoyed sensory activities including snow and Torres Strait Islander flag and ocean rescue sand trays.

A very BIG thank you to all parents who helped at our Olymp-a-thon fundraiser at the beginning of Term 3. Some of the 4yo children completed over 10 laps! We incorporated the Olympics into the curriculum with ring art and sports drawing at the easel and keeping a tally of medals won by Australian Olympians.

Paulette from KidsROAR visited to deliver a personal safety program at an age- appropriate level following the online parent and carer session. At Farm Road Pre- School we are committed to Child Safety and this program was an excellent way to teach children about early warning signs, protective behaviours and to always tell an adult if they feel unsafe.



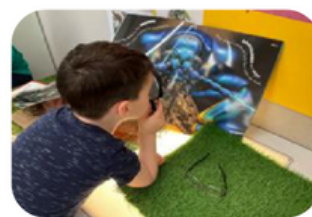
Our numeracy box, Cozy Koala (from The Resilience Project) and Wattle the Wallaby take home experiences will continue until all children have had a turn and library borrowing will finish at the end of October.

The children have been enthusiastically selecting a book to take home and read with their family each week. It has been great to see the children developing their confidence as they stand in front of the group and present what they did with Wattle or Cozy.



4 YEAR OLD WALLABY GROUP CONT...

The Wallaby group planted Murnong (Yam Daisy) seeds and learnt about how Murnong plants were an important source of food for Aboriginal people. The plants have now been sent home in the hope that by planting these in the local community they will continue to grow in the area and Aboriginal culture can carry on for future generations.



Along with our amazing regular volunteers, Graham, Rebecca and Shirley, we have had some interested educators come along to observe and experience our Bush Kinder sessions this term. The children have been exploring the world of bugs and learning about the life cycle of frogs after noticing and listening to frogs croaking at Bush Kinder. Unfortunately, we have had to cancel several Bush Kinder sessions this term due to strong winds so we are really looking forward to some fine weather now that Spring has sprung!



The Wallaby group participated in Book Week by dressing up as their favourite book characters. Some brought along their favourite books to share with others. As the theme this year was 'Reading is Magic', we read the stories *The Magic Hat* and *Possum Magic*.

The children completed an activity drawing a picture of what they would like to turn into if a magic hat landed on their head. Narelle dressed up as *In My Heart* (which is one of The Resilience Project focus books) and read it to the group. Here are some of the fabulous costumes:



4 YEAR OLD WALLABY GROUP CONT...

We also celebrated Science Week on the 12th of August with a *Super Science Day* where the children had the opportunity to dress up as scientists and develop their curiosity as they tried exciting experiments. We invited parents to participate and a couple who came along spoke briefly about their experience working as scientists in medicinal chemistry before supporting the children's learning at science activities and the volcano experiment in the sand pit.

There were numerous activities throughout the week including; gum leaf helicopters, celery colour changing, magnets, learning about the First Scientists, studying the human body, paleontology and making bush soap.

We love having parents come along to Stay and Play or to share their special skills with us. We invite parents to add your name to the roster for Term 4 and share your child's kindergarten experience with them before it comes to an end. We request one parent helper at all of our Bush Kinder sessions.

As an extension of our curriculum the Wallaby group will be attending an excursion to Chesterfield Farm on Monday 21st October from 9:30am – 2:00pm. If you have a Working with Children Check and would like to accompany us, please add your name to the volunteer list in the foyer. More information will follow when permission forms are sent home.



Early Childhood Educators' Day was on Wednesday 4th September. This day was an opportunity to celebrate and thank educators for supporting the children's learning and development and giving them the best start in their education journey.



4 YEAR OLD WALLABY GROUP CONT...



Over the past few weeks we have had Ali, a Pre-Service Teacher, completing her first placement with us. Ali has planned some great learning opportunities for the children with a focus on literacy and numeracy. They have been enjoying retelling the story of The Three Billy Goats Gruff and sequencing the story to make books. This will be one of the stories performed when we have The Flying Bookworm Theatre Company come for an incursion on September 16th. We are looking forward to having Jake who completed a teaching placement with us last year, return at the beginning of Term 4.

Throughout what will be our final term together, we will be extending and challenging the children with their literacy and numeracy skills, promoting independence and following instructions to assist them with school readiness skills.



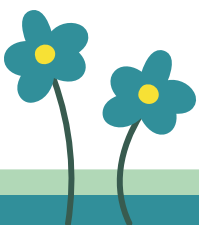
Thanks to School Readiness Funding we received this year, we have been able to implement The Resilience Project, educate the children about protective behaviours through Kids ROAR as well as have Allied Health Professionals from The Better Health Network visit to upskill staff. Many children attending our programs benefit from seeing Occupational Therapists, Psychologists and Speech Pathologists.

Please find attached information to use as a guide for when to seek support from a Speech Pathologist.

We are looking forward to our annual Kinder Disco on the last day of Term 3 - 20th September from 4pm-5pm. Get your dancing shoes on and come along to have some fun while supporting the fundraising efforts of Farm Road Pre-School! Funds raised this year will go towards purchasing new resources, improving the outdoor play space and updating shelving.

With an increase in illnesses during recent months, I would like to remind parents again to please keep your child home if they have cold/flu like symptoms including coughs and constant runny nose.

Please check all your child's belongings are clearly labelled and ensure they always have spare clothes in their bag. We could use more spare clothes at kinder if you happen to be spring cleaning and have any neutral-coloured size 4-5 clothing to donate.



4 YEAR OLD WALLABY GROUP CONT...



The children have been expanding their imaginations, problem- solving, exploring mathematical and science concepts and creating together using loose parts in the block construction area. Loose parts are versatile and deepen and extend play with endless possibilities. If you have any of the following items that we could add to the block space, they would be most appreciated; PVC pipes, cardboard tubes or rings, tiles, corks, wood chips, rocks/stones, plastic cups, artificial flowers/leaves, fabric squares, marbles or buttons. We currently also need donations of empty clean food boxes (please do not send boxes that have contained nut or egg products).

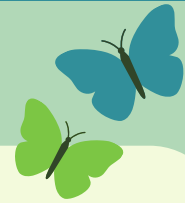
We will be celebrating the last day of Term 3 at Bush Kinder with a SPORTS COLOURS & CRAZY HAIR DAY. Children can dress up in clothes from their favourite sport or in the colours of the AFL team they follow.

We hope you have a safe and enjoyable break with your families and look forward to a busy and fun-filled Term 4!

Thank you,

Debbie, Cherie, Narelle, Robyn and Tanya





IMPORTANT DATES

TERM 3

Monday 16th September

The Flying Bookworm
Incursion

Friday 20th September

End of Term 3 – Sports
Colours & Crazy Hair Day at
Bush Kinder

Kinder Disco from 4pm –
5pm

TERM 4

Monday 7th October

Term 4 starts

Saturday 12th October

Working Bee

Saturday 19th October

Children's Week Open Day

Monday 21st October

Chesterfield Farm excursion

Tuesday 5th November

Melbourne Cup Day

Friday 22nd November

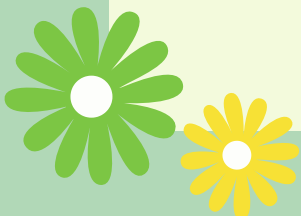
Last Bush Kinder session /
Family picnic

Tuesday 10th December

Last After Care session

Tuesday 17th December

Wallaby Group concert
from 12:30pm – 1:30pm





SCHOOL SAVING BONUS

Information for government school parents and carers

About the School Saving Bonus

The Victorian Government is making life that little bit easier for families by providing a one-off \$400 School Saving Bonus.

This support will help cover the cost of school uniforms, textbooks, and school activities like camps, excursions and sports.

The School Saving Bonus is in addition to existing and continuing means-tested supports for Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) and the Affordable School Uniforms Program.

The School Saving Bonus will be provided to schools and families in Term 4, 2024.

Who receives the School Saving Bonus

The School Saving Bonus is available for parents and carers of all Victorian government school students from Prep to Year 12 in 2025, except for full-fee international students, home schooled students, TAFE students and students attending kindergarten in 2025.

Actions for parents and carers

Parents and carers of children who meet the School Saving Bonus eligibility above are required to do the following by Friday 18 October 2024:

- Complete enrolment

If your child, or children are changing government school for Term 1 2025, or starting Prep or Year 7 in 2025, please complete enrolment. For more information, read about [Enrolling in School](#).

- Check your contact information

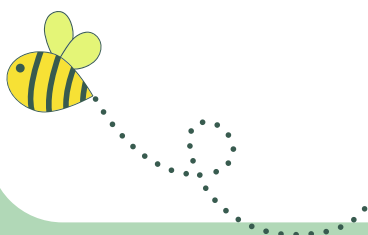
Ensure your contact information is up to date with your school. You can check this information by contacting your school directly.

Accessing the \$400 School Saving Bonus

You do not need to apply for the School Saving Bonus.

The Department of Education will email you in November 2024 with your \$400 School Saving Bonus. You will be able to access it via an online system.

You can decide how to best use the School Saving Bonus for your family's needs. You can choose how to allocate the \$400 in the online system.





SCHOOL SAVING BONUS CONT...

The bonus can be used towards 2025 school costs, which may include:

- camps, trips, excursions and incursions
- swimming and sporting programs
- outdoor education programs
- graduations
- school uniforms
- textbooks.

The bonus can be used at your school's approved textbook or uniform suppliers either in-store or online, or through State Schools' Relief. The list of suppliers may include a school uniform or bookshop. Any amount that you choose to allocate to textbooks and uniforms will be valid until 30 June 2025. It will then transfer to your child's school account for future activities.

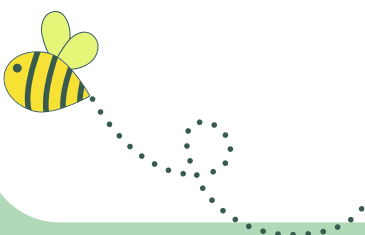
Funds will roll over for use in future years if it is not all spent in 2025.

Families with more than one eligible child

Families who have more than one child at the same school can combine their School Saving Bonus payments to use on one child, or for a specific activity. So, for example, a family with 3 children who are all government school students would receive support to the value of \$1,200 and choose how they spend those funds. The School Saving Bonus cannot be combined across different schools.

More information

To learn more about the School Saving Bonus visit vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus. Translated information will also be available on the School Saving Bonus website in the next few weeks.





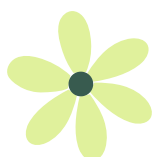
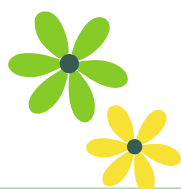
FUNDRAISING

17th August Bunnings Sausage Sizzle



Thanks to all the parents and friends of Farm Road who volunteered, donated and showed up on the day to buy a snag! The contribution from everyone meant that we were able to raise over \$4000 in donations! These donations go straight to improving the facilities at Farm Road and have a direct effect on the education and learning of our little ones.

A few snaps from the day:



FARM RD PRESCHOOL
PRESENTS

it's time to
Disco



CLICK THE QR CODE TO RSVP!
RSVP BY 13TH SEPTEMBER



DISCO RUNS
4PM - 5PM
20-SEP 2024

SIBLINGS
WELCOME!

STUDENTS: \$10
SIBLINGS: \$5

REFRESHMENTS
& GLOWSTICKS
INCLUDED!

BRING YOUR
OWN WATER
BOTTLE

PARENT TO
STAY PLEASE

20 SEPTEMBER 2024 | AT FARM RD PRESCHOOL

FUNDRAISING CONT...



School Uniform



Did you know Farm Road offers a kinder uniform and a portion of the profits go straight to Farm Road PS?!?!?

- Make mornings easy with kinder clothes
- Free returns and exchanges
- Same business day shipping when you order before 2pm
- Check the flyers below for size guides, pricing and online ordering!

Uniform is not compulsory.

How it works:

- 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.

A sizing guide can be found [here](#).

For ordering, click [here](#).





eduTHREADS

EASY ORDERING . SUPER FAST DELIVERY . FAST AND EASY EXCHANGE



T-Shirt



Bomber Jacket



Long Sleeve Tee

Scan me to see
colour options!



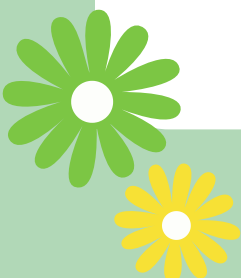
Want to try it on?

See your office or uniform facilitator to
test and try on any item.

If you order the wrong size we offer **fast and easy**
exchanges so you have the right fit.

JUMP ONLINE

WWW.EDUTHREADS.COM.AU





FUNDRAISING CONT...

Victorian Fundraising Scheme!



Farm Road PS are registered to receive donations for the Victorian Container Scheme. Why is this important? The Victorian Container Scheme has been set up by the state government to allow individuals, families and eligible organisations to receive a 10c return for every container donated.

Not only does this open a new avenue for Farm Road PS to receive funds but in collaboration with the Farm Road Curriculum, this is an important tool to assist in teaching your children about sustainable practices, recycling and giving back.

It's as easy as 1,2,3:

1. Collect eligible drink containers
2. Find your closest refund point
3. Donate at your refund point

All collateral can be found using the Victorian Container Scheme website found below.

When donating, you can find Farm Road PS on the list of eligible partners, use the barcode on the CVS app or find us listed on the <https://cdsvic.org.au/donating> website.

We also have a drop off bin at the pre-school (find the big blue bin) that I'll empty for families low on time, but want to contribute!

Eligible containers below:

