



CROYDON NORTH KINDERGARTEN INC.

THIRD TERM NEWSLETTER—2014

PRESIDENT REPORT



Well here we are, halfway through the year and into Term 3. While the weather has been incredibly cold and wet, the children are still able to get outside and play thanks to our recently built pergola. Please remember to pack a warm jacket and maybe a hat and boots for your children so they can still play outdoors even when it's wet. Outdoor play is an important part of the curriculum and for the development of the kids.

We had our Open Day in May of this year, and it was a huge success. The families who came to visit the kinder seemed impressed by the facilities. A huge thanks to the educators and families who helped make it such a successful morning. We also had our first kinder photo session and the prints for those are now ready to be collected.

Our Facebook page and website are now completely up and running and attracting a lot of attention. Both pages are a great way to keep up to date with what's going on at the kinder and if you haven't visited both sites already, I encourage you to do so.

A reminder than enrolments for 2015 were due to MIKA by June 30. You can still put in an application however obviously there can be no guarantees made for applications made after the closing date. At this stage our 3 year old group is full and we are close to full for our 4 year old groups.

Many of you may be aware that there is still some question around federal government funding for 4 year old kinder beyond 2014. At this stage, even organisations such as Maroondah Council, Best Chance (who manage the kinder) and Early Learning Australia are uncertain about what exactly is happening. The clearest information I am able to provide at this stage is that there is still a lot of negotiating between the state government (who fund 10 hours of the current 4 year old program) and the federal government (who currently fund the remaining 5 hours). At this stage all signs are pointing to a continuation of funding for 2015; the federal government in principle agreed to an extension of the current agreement which was due to expire in November of this year. There is however unlikely to be federal funding beyond the end of 2015 which is a great loss to early education in Victoria. If you would like to read further information about this situation, you can visit Early Learning Australia at <https://ela.org.au>. Both ELAA and Best Chance are encouraging families to write to their local federal and state members to highlight the importance of ongoing funding at 15 hours per week for children in 4 year old kinder. Reduction in funding may mean for many kinders that programs fall back to 10 hour per week, simply because fees would be too high to continue funding at the current level. If you have any questions about this, I am happy to try and answer them or do what I can to help find the information.

Croydon North Kindergarten Inc.
90 Bonnie View Road
Croydon North, VIC 3136
Phone/Fax: 03 9726 9246
croydon.north.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

(don't forget to put "Green/Red/Blue Group" or teacher name in the subject line of your email)



www.croydonnorthkinder.vic.edu.au

Visit us on [Facebook](#)



CROYDON NORTH KINDERGARTEN INC.

THIRD TERM NEWSLETTER—2014

PRESIDENT REPORT....continued

And don't forget the biggest social event on the kinder calendar happens in just 3 weeks' time - the trivia night! There are still tables available; please don't feel you need to come up with a table of 10 if you would like to attend but can't get an entire table together. The social and fundraising committee will work hard to seat you with others to make a complete table. We are also still in need of donations for raffles and prizes. If you have anything you can donate or know of anyone who has a business who can offer something for donation, it would be greatly appreciated. It should be a great, fun night and I look forward to seeing you all there.

Have a great term 3, and I hope now that the kids have settled into kinder that everyone is enjoying their time with us.

Regards
Nicole McCabe, President



Croydon North Kindergarten Inc.
90 Bonnie View Road
Croydon North, VIC 3136
Phone/Fax: 03 9726 9246
croydon.north.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

(don't forget to put "Green/Red/Blue Group" or teacher name in the subject line of your email)



www.croydonnorthkinder.vic.edu.au

Visit us on [Facebook](#)



CROYDON NORTH KINDERGARTEN INC.

THIRD TERM NEWSLETTER—2014

3 YEAR OLD TEACHERS REPORT



Hello everyone,

What a wonderful time we have had during term 2 . The children have all settled so well into the routine of kinder and it shows just how much they have matured since the start of the year as everyone returned on Monday full of smiles and with lots of stories to share (and there were no tears too which was wonderful).

At the end of last term we had our first incursion with "Stacks" the Didgie man and the children loved it!! At first the children were a little worried about the noise that the didgeridoo would make but Stacks was quick to put their minds at ease, showing just how versatile the didgeridoo could be by making a wide variety of loud and soft sounds. We learnt lots of interesting facts about how didgeridoos are made and the children all loved having a turn of their very own didgeridoo! We also had a turn at trying to repeat some basic rhythms and made lots of different animal sounds and even got to dance like some Australia animals to some didgeridoo music. The children were extremely engaged and interested in Stack's presentation with lots of children wanting to ask questions and contribute and it's amazing how much the children's concentration spans have developed since the beginning of the year.

We were also busy last term working on our mosaic tiles with our families and it was a great success and we would like to thank all our mums and dads for coming in to help! The mosaic tiles look fantastic and we wouldn't have been able to complete them without the help of our wonderful families . Now we just have to get them all grouted and they will be ready to go.

On Wednesday we were very excited to have an incursion with the fire brigade. One of our lovely dads who is a firefighter organised for a truck and 4 firefighters to come and speak to the children. They learnt about some basic fire safety and about calling triple 0 and we will continue to focus on people who help us for the next few weeks . We will be having a police officer come and visit on Wednesday the 30th of July and she will talk to the children about how the police help us and help the children to become familiar and unafraid of the police . We will also be asking our lovely families if they would like to come and talk to the children about their vocations, as very body does something that helps others. We would also like to say a huge thank you to the Bellinger family for their help this term.

The children are all becoming very social at this point in the year and it is great to see everyone working together and cooperating with each other during their play, naturally there are a few teething issues when new friendships are being formed and we will be working lots during this term on expressing our emotions and talking about how we feel with our friends.

As the weather is becoming cooler we ask that all families bring a warm coat and beanie for the children to wear during out door play, as we will endeavour to have some outdoor play each session. We are ready for another function packed term and hope that you are all well rested after the holidays!



Take Care
Casey, Cindy and Meghan

Croydon North Kindergarten Inc.

90 Bonnie View Road

Croydon North, VIC 3136

Phone/Fax: 03 9726 9246

croydon.north.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

(don't forget to put "Green/Red/Blue Group" or teacher name in the subject line of your email)



www.croydonnorthkinder.vic.edu.au

Visit us on [Facebook](#)



CROYDON NORTH KINDERGARTEN INC.

THIRD TERM NEWSLETTER—2014

4 YEAR OLD TEACHERS REPORT



Welcome back to the second half of the year!

As you would have noticed, the room has been rearranged a little to give the children a different perspective on the resources that we have in the kindergarten and to add a little variety to the sessions!

Last term finished with a pyjama day for both the groups which was a really fun way of providing a link between the home and the kindergarten environment. The children all bought their teddy or special stuffed toy - who joined in on the program after being introduced to the group. We are giving the children more and more opportunities to gain their self confidence by speaking in front of the whole group on different occasions. Expressing ideas and re-telling experiences and stories are things that help the children to develop a broad range of communication skills.

Mid term reports have gone out to the families with a summary of their child's development in relation to the five areas - Identity, Communication, Wellbeing, Learning and Community. There was also an explanation of how we use the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VELDF) and a chance to provide the kindergarten with some feedback.

Last term we made our kindergarten available to a number of students who were either doing work experience or training to be a teacher. We supported Croydon Community School, Luther College and Norwood with work experience students and had two training teachers. All the schools were very grateful for allowing their students into our kindergarten. This term we will continue to support people training in the field.

Third term holds a lot of new experiences and fun for the groups as the staff have planned a number of incursions.

These include a visit from a fire truck, thanks to one of the Green group Dads, the much loved raising rabbits (where we raise and care for newborns rabbits for 4 weeks in the kinder), welcoming the much loved Digiman to Green and Red Groups as part of a focus on Indigenous Australia, welcoming the local Croydon Librarians during National Book Week (which will include a dress up day) and a celebration of our Dads (or special friend/Grandfather) with the Wobbly-Machine man, Norm who will be doing an evening handyman tool workshop with Dads and their kinder child in September. We have found this to be a very effective way to include Dads into the program using carpentry tools and recycled materials to make wooden toys with their child.

We are looking forward to making this winter term bright and exciting for the children!

Lara, Susan, Casey,
Alana and Jenni



Croydon North Kindergarten Inc.

90 Bonnie View Road

Croydon North, VIC 3136

Phone/Fax: 03 9726 9246

croydon.north.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

(don't forget to put "Green/Red/Blue Group" or teacher name in the subject line of your email)



www.croydonnorthkinder.vic.edu.au

Visit us on [Facebook](#)



CROYDON NORTH KINDERGARTEN INC.

THIRD TERM NEWSLETTER—2014

Important Dates

There are some great events and fundraising coming up for this term.

Mark them in your calendars, and remember that more information will be available in your child's pocket closer to the dates.

FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

So far to date, with the fundraisers we have had throughout the year, we have made a total of \$1435.45 after costs which is a brilliant effort! So for this, we thank each and every one of you who has helped! Thank you for also supporting the kinder book club. With the credits from your purchases, the kinder has already been able to get over 20 new books!

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES (update)

The social activities outside kindergarten hours have not been very successful. We will try for another dinner one evening after the trivia night, so please keep your eyes peeled for more info on this.

TERM 3

Saturday 9th August - Trivia Night

It's great to see so many people coming but we still do have a few spaces available. You don't need to book a whole table in order to come, you can jump on other tables which aren't full. One thing is for sure though, we are going to have a fantastic night. This will be a great opportunity to have some 'adult' time while still doing the best thing by our children...fundraising for their Kindergarten.

Donations from local businesses have been coming in over the past week and we are overwhelmed with the generosity of the local community. We still do need your help though! Even if you aren't able to come along, you can still help make the event successful by making donations towards our scratchie tree raffle. Our tree is looking like its stuck in the middle of autumn, so we need scratchies or cash (to purchase scratchies). These can be placed in the fundraising box in the foyer.

Other Fundraisers this year include:

Still to come later in the year is our toy catalogue fundraiser, Market Event, Mattel visit, Calendars and our Christmas Raffle as well as the Christmas Party.

TERM 4

Sunday 26th October from 11:00am - Croydon North Kindergarten Market

If you, or anyone you know might be interested in having a stall get in quick. Stalls are \$25.00. Speak to Victoria Arthur on 0400 731 746

Date TBC

Break up party at Ace Space

Croydon North Kindergarten Inc.

90 Bonnie View Road

Croydon North, VIC 3136

Phone/Fax: 03 9726 9246

croydon.north.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

(don't forget to put "Green/Red/Blue Group" or teacher name in the subject line of your email)



www.croydonnorthkinder.vic.edu.au

Visit us on [Facebook](#)



CROYDON NORTH KINDERGARTEN INC.

THIRD TERM NEWSLETTER—2014



Nude Food

Croydon North Kindergarten has been recently updating our 'sustainability and environment policy' and is looking for ways to promote it in the kindergarten.

One of the ways is to encourage 'nude food' in our children's lunch boxes.

What is Nude Food?

Nude Food is food without excess packaging. This reduces the amount of 'stuff' that needs to go in bins to be sent to landfill. Durable, reusable containers are a great way to bring food, as they may last from pre-school through to high school and beyond, providing long term cost savings and environmental benefits. It also encourages better food and drink choices, as many healthy food options come with their own packaging.

TIPS FOR PARENTS FOR PACKING NUDE FOOD LUNCHES

Help children to make nutritious, waste-less lunches and let them make their own lunches. Try packing lunches the night before and storing them in the fridge overnight.

Discuss with your child what they like to eat and how much. Bin audits in schools across SA show large quantities of unopened pre-packaged foods, including single-serve yogurts, cheese sticks, sandwiches, uneaten apples/fruit and many near full fruit boxes being thrown away. This costs your family money as well as creating waste.

Cut up fruit and vegetables and pack them in reusable containers so that children can eat some and save the rest for later. For example, it's hard to take some bites from a big apple at recess and save the rest for lunchtime. It's easier to eat a wedge or two and then reseal the container. A rubber band around a sliced apple will prevent browning.

Encourage your children to bring home uneaten food to eat after school. Appreciate that play time is also important, so discuss with children how much they can reasonably eat in one day. Often children throw uneaten food away because they don't want to upset the person who packed the lunch. If you're not sure how much they can eat at school, start small, eg a piece of fruit and a sandwich, and build it up if they are asking for more.

If your children have chips, savoury biscuits, or other snacks try buying a larger bulk pack (rather than the more expensive so called 'convenience' packs with lots of packaging) and have your children put the same quantity into a reusable labelled container that they bring home each day.

For more information and resources on Nude Food, please visit <http://www.wow.sa.gov.au/nude-food.html>

Croydon North Kindergarten Inc.

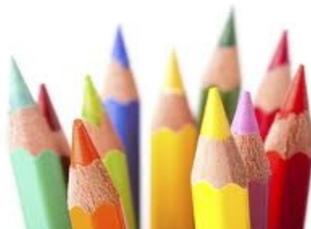
90 Bonnie View Road

Croydon North, VIC 3136

Phone/Fax: 03 9726 9246

croydon.north.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

(don't forget to put "Green/Red/Blue Group" or teacher name in the subject line of your email)



www.croydonnorthkinder.vic.edu.au

Visit us on [Facebook](#)



CROYDON NORTH KINDERGARTEN INC.

THIRD TERM NEWSLETTER—2014

Feel free to print and cut out the below and keep on your fridge as a reference

Wipe out Waste 

Pack waste free food!

Did you know that up to 50% of items in school/preschool bins come from food and drink packaging is brought from home?



Pack

- Snacks in reusable containers
- Drinks in a reusable bottle
- Reusable utensils when needed
- A reusable lunchbox or backpack



Avoid

- Lunches packed in plastic bags, cling film or foil
- Disposable drink boxes, cans, cartons and bottles
- Disposable forks and spoons
- Pre-packaged lunches or single serve items





Wipe out Waste 

Pack waste free food!

Did you know that up to 50% of items in school/preschool bins come from food and drink packaging is brought from home?



Pack

- Snacks in reusable containers
- Drinks in a reusable bottle
- Reusable utensils when needed
- A reusable lunchbox or backpack



Avoid

- Lunches packed in plastic bags, cling film or foil
- Disposable drink boxes, cans, cartons and bottles
- Disposable forks and spoons
- Pre-packaged lunches or single serve items





Wipe out Waste 

Pack waste free food!

Did you know that up to 50% of items in school/preschool bins come from food and drink packaging is brought from home?



Pack

- Snacks in reusable containers
- Drinks in a reusable bottle
- Reusable utensils when needed
- A reusable lunchbox or backpack



Avoid

- Lunches packed in plastic bags, cling film or foil
- Disposable drink boxes, cans, cartons and bottles
- Disposable forks and spoons
- Pre-packaged lunches or single serve items





Wipe out Waste 

We can reduce waste by packing Nude Food.

Pack

- ✓ Snacks in reusable containers
- ✓ Drinks in a reusable bottle
- ✓ Reusable utensils when needed
- ✓ A reusable lunchbox or backpack



Avoid

- ✗ Food packed in plastic bags, cling film or foil
- ✗ Single-use drink boxes, cans, cartons and bottles
- ✗ Single-use forks and spoons
- ✗ Pre-packaged or single serve food items

Our family will pack Nude Food on _____



For more Nude Food ideas go to www.wow.sa.gov.au





CROYDON NORTH KINDERGARTEN INC.

THIRD TERM NEWSLETTER—2014



HOW CAN YOU HELP THIS MONTH?

- Bringing in your empty boxes and containers
- Bringing in your cleaned and dried 2L milk cartons with lids

Cooler Weather Alert - Don't forget to ensure that your child brings an outdoor coat/jacket to wear during the session. We will continue to offer the children the choice of indoor/outdoor play as our large undercover area allows us to - so a coat to ensure your child's warmth is essential.



REMINDER

As Winter brings along various colds, coughs and bugs, we do appreciate leaving your children at home while they are unwell. Being sick lowers a child's resilience, resulting in easily upset and fragile children—along with spreading the germs from the sickness on to well children and staff.

Thank you for your cooperation in this important issue.

Your 2014 Committee Members

President: Nicole McCabe
Vice President: Rebecca Launer
Secretary: Melody Donald
Treasurer: Miranda Radtke
Enrolments: Sunny Mellor
Fees Liason: Alexia Foy
Coordinator Social & Publicity: Louise Ingram
Red rep S&P: Victoria Arthur
Green rep S&P: Michelle Notley

Blue rep S&P: Miranda Radtke
Self Assessment: Emma McCann
Maintenance Officers: Craig Notley & Simon Radtke
Purchasing Officer: Angela Massarotti
Uniform Officer: Kati Wilkins
Mail Officer: Loretta Higgins
Sewing Officer: Rosie Kelly
Newsletter & Book Club: Diana Churchward
Website editor: Emma McCann and Alana Koch

TERM DATES

Term 1: January 28th — April 4th
Term 2: April 22nd — June 27th
Term 3: July 14th — September 19th
Term 4: October 6th — December 19th

Croydon North Kindergarten Inc.
90 Bonnie View Road
Croydon North, VIC 3136
Phone/Fax: 03 9726 9246
croydon.north.kin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

(don't forget to put "Green/Red/Blue Group" or teacher name in the subject line of your email)



www.croydonnorthkinder.vic.edu.au

Visit us on [Facebook](#)