



TERM 4, 20<sup>th</sup> October 2008

Mother Earth Mother Earth  
You've taken seed and given birth  
Sister Rain your tears to fall  
giving life to one and all  
Brother Wind breathe and blow  
whisper what we need to know  
Father Sun Father Sun  
We welcome you for Summers come.

Diary Dates

## Diary Dates

- Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Oct: First day for Term 4. Welcome back!
- Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Oct: Board Meeting at school 4:00-6:00pm. All welcome.
- Tues 21<sup>st</sup> Oct: Choir practise is cancelled until further notice as Hetty's husband is seriously ill. Our thoughts and love are with them both.
- Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct: 'Class FX' Café. Surprise menu for tuckshop this week!
- Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct: Dr Lakshmi parent talk 7:00-9:00pm. All welcome. Payment by donation.
- Thur 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct: Dr Lakshmi parent talk 4:00-6:00pm. Child care available. All welcome. Payment by donation
- Sun 26<sup>th</sup> Oct: Class 2/3 parents and friends come to school to prepare and spread biodynamic mixture on the new school gardens from 4:00-5:30pm.
- Tues 28<sup>th</sup> Oct: Class Fx parent meeting after school 3:30-4:30pm. Child care available.
- Wed 29<sup>th</sup> Oct: Parent Group Meeting 9am at school. Discussing class structure. All welcome!
- Sat 1<sup>st</sup> Nov: Kindy Orientation day 9:30-11:30am. Please bring a piece of fruit to share. Also, please let everyone know about this opportunity to come and look at our beautiful kindy.
- Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Nov: Full Moon Community Dinner at school from 3pm onwards. All welcome!
- 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> Nov: Week long Class Fx class camp to Nymboida Canoe Centre.

A lovely warm welcome back to you all and I hope that your holidays were safe and enjoyable. The teachers were all grateful for the chance to unwind and recuperate after the particularly busy time it was last term.

Cristina and Peter attended a very interesting conference on Autism run by a wonderful speech and language therapist with a background in Steiner schools, Barbara Baldwin.

Marga returned to us safe and sound from her emergency dash to Germany, with the good news that her father had recovered his strength.

Simone and Cristina attended a first-aid course, and all the teachers attended the workshop on child development - physiology and education, run by the lovely and intriguing Lakshmi. This really was a great way to get ready for the new term and we are looking forward to hearing her talks on Wednesday evening, Thursday afternoon and the full day workshop on Saturday.

This term, work will begin on developing the new school garden. A gardening group is being formed to help coordinate and plan the layout. With the large, fenced garden area there is great potential to create a very rich and productive educational horticultural facility within the school. Anyone with a love of gardening and an interest in sharing this with children is invited to join the group. Gardeners from outside the school community would also be welcome. Please register your interest at the office if you would like to be involved. A first activity is already planned, and Class 3 will be coming to school on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Oct to stir and spread the Biodynamic Preparation 500. All are welcome to come along to participate and learn about this incredible system of organic agriculture.

The teachers would like to send a big thank you to all the parents who came and helped with the clean-up on Friday. The school looks sparkling once more. Your help is so greatly appreciated. Did you remember to sign your hours in the book so that you will be credited for the work levy??

Please check the calendar of events. Also remember to check that your child has a wide-brimmed hat and shoes. Shirts that cover the shoulders are also important with these hot days, so no singlet tops please.

Have a great first week back.

Warm regards Peter for the College of Teachers

Greetings,

Welcome back for our last term of the year (sniff, sniff!). Thankyou to the families who helped with set up on Friday, filling the kindy with love and cleanliness.

As of this term, all the children are required to wear a wide brimmed hat for outside play. Caps are not suitable. There are great hats for sale at the office for \$10.

We welcome a new friend, Sebastian to the kindergarten, and we welcome back Jay from his adventure filled travels overseas.

This week we will be potting up some petunias for our kindy entrance and learning a new morning circle and rhymes. The children will be making spring felt butterflies for their craft activity. The return of the warmer weather allows work with beeswax modelling, which the children love. It is such a beautiful; light filled medium to work with and great for fine motor skills and dexterity.

Our kindergarten orientation morning for families interested in enrolling next year is on Saturday the 1<sup>st</sup> of November from 9:30 am - 11:30. Children are welcome to join us at kindergarten the year they are turning five. Please spread the word to any prospective families in the community. We just love, love, love the opportunity to welcome and embrace new children. Families attending are asked to bring a couple of pieces of fruit for shared morning tea.

Birthday blessings to Tjala and Jed. It's so lovely to be back amongst these gorgeous children.

Love Simone, Robyn, Sonja and Alenya

Welcome back to our summer term and a warm welcome back to Lara and Alkira. I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday.

As it warms up I would like every child to have their own water bottle at school.

Our first main lesson block will be about the 12 senses. We will be experiencing the twelve senses through a serial story about agriculture and of course practical work in the school garden. There is nothing quite like experiencing all those senses through their interconnection. We will have some garden guardians to support our work.

The class will have the opportunity to do the biodynamic preparation 500. The preparation has to be stirred into a vortex and then spread immediately around the garden and school grounds. As this is a specific science the days that the spring preparation can be applied are from Sunday until Tuesday next week. Sonja can come next Sunday 26th. We will begin at 4pm. All family and friends are welcome to join us for the afternoon.

We will be going out on collection outings to collect cow and horse manures for compost. We will create a sturdy garden bed for summer seedlings. The children have a collection of seeds in the classroom, which we have collected at different times. We will be able to look at which ones are appropriate to plant in the garden bed or not and of course check if it is the right time of the month and year.

The children had a holiday project to build a small house out of natural materials the house is not due until the end of next week. The houses will then be displayed in the classroom until the end of term. I will be doing an art /craft lesson in Peter's class one day per week while Peter does some music with my class. As the weather warms up we have the opportunity to go swimming in the creek near Tanè's house. I will let you know via a note home. I will 'phone individual parents to arrange extra support on outings. Mr McCabe from Baysail is looking at the tide heights for a good opportunity to go sailing on the ocean at Ballina. I am yet to hear back from him. We will be having regular reading at school and homework this term. Homework seems to only work when there is parental support so please check bags. If you have been wondering about a class play then wonder no more! We will be performing a play this term! I look forward to a busy and happy term with the class.

Regards Simone

#### CLASS Fx News

The big news is the class camp, which is fast approaching: 10 - 14<sup>th</sup> October, (Week 4.) I paid a visit to Nymboida Canoe Centre over the holidays and met the very nice instructors, Rob and Kelly. The children have some very fun and energetic activities planned for them: canoeing, white-water kayaking, abseiling and orienteering amongst others. The children will need to get some training in so that they can keep up! There are a lot of details to discuss about the camp and a camp newsletter will come out tomorrow or Wednesday. We will also have a parent meeting on Tuesday after school next week to sort out the last bits of organization. Child care will be available. Tuck shop will run this Wednesday as normal to build up our funds a bit more. A raffle is also on the horizon.

Our new main lesson is on Music and Acoustics. The children will follow the adventures of a young boy, Logo, as he explores the world of sound, gaining understanding of the basic principles and learning to read and write music as he goes. This lesson will be an imaginative introduction to musical notation and should see some rather interesting musical instruments being constructed.

Looking forward to catching up with you all.

Regards  
Peter Calkin

Warm regards Peter Calkin

Dr Lakshmi has begun her visit with us with the workshop last Saturday. Everyone has said how lovely she is and how well she speaks about children and their journey through childhood with us as parents, carers and teachers. There are further opportunities to hear her speak on Wednesday evening, Thursday afternoon (childcare available for this one) and another workshop this Saturday. Payment for these sessions is by donation. She is also available for individual consultations which can be arranged by calling Cristina at school. Hearing one of her talks will not be something you regret!

The next Parent Group meeting will be in the second week of next term on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October at 9am. On the agenda is likely to be a discussion about the use of the funds raised at the Open Day/Spring Fair and also discussions about class structures. Come along and be part of the discussions and have a say!

Warm regards Helen/Amanda for the Parent Group

It's form filling time again! Would you please return the attached "Enrolment for 2009" form to the office as soon as you can. It has been updated a little to make it clear which parts need to be filled in again and which can be left if no information has changed. Hopefully this will make it a bit less of a chore for you all!

Warm regards Helen/Amanda for the Parent Group