OUR THANKS
To Pete for organizing another successful working bee. Thank you to all who attended: Kat & Pete Kilpatrick, Greg Maitland (Lily’s Grandad), Bec Buntain, James Campbell, Justin Hatch and Geoff Laing.
We were able to place rocks left over from front gardens around our flower garden next to the sandpit, rake forward our softfall, top dress the new grass, used high pressure cleaners to clean the mats, children’s beds, decks and shadesails, spring cleaned the kitchen, weeded and mulched gardens and trimmed trees and shrubs and cleared drains.
To Kerryn Humphreys, Michelle Dwyer and Deb Chapman for helping to set up, dismantle and man our information stall at the recent Teddy Bears Picnic held at Pine Rivers Park.
To Kaitlyn’s Grandma for craft items.
To Baty Family for Alphabet & Animal Floor Puzzles

CCB RECEIPTS for Term 3 will not be available until Term 4 because we have to change from having a centre based CRN to a Nominated Supervisor number.

A Note about Grandparents Day 2013
We have decided to invite Grandparents only to this special day. Due to overwhelming attendances in the past, we would appreciate it if only Grandparents could attend. However if you have an ailing grandparent that requires your assistance, you are welcome to accompany them and provide support for them. Also if there is no Grandparent available, please feel free to ask a special friend to attend in their place. Of course, if you have no one who can attend for your child, a parent is most welcome to attend. Parents, please abide by these requests as they are for the benefit and wellbeing of the children and it is unfair to all the other families who abide by our requests. Parents you can assist us on this special day, by providing a plate of healthy morning tea (eg fruit platter, cheese and crackers, sandwiches, pikelets, muffins) for everyone to share and sending along a chair for them to sit on for the concert. We will also need flowers from your garden on the day before so that the children can decorate the room.

BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE at LAWNTON
We still require volunteers to help on the day, if you can help please write your name on the information board. Please see the information board about donations of money and goods for the Lawnton Bunnings Sausage Sizzle to be held on Saturday 14th September. Your assistance is most appreciated.

TOY CATALOGUE ORDERS
Please remember to get your orders in for all the Educational Experience, Chalk and Parent Direct Toy Catalogues by Friday, 11th October, the first week back after the holidays.

ACU Student
Danielle Grasmeder, a 2nd Year Student from the Australian Catholic University, has been for her orientation visit and will be working with us for 4 weeks from the 7th October to the 1st November. Please complete her permission form and return to your teacher.

DATES TO NOTE:
Beginning of the week Group:
Wednesday 11th September Photo Day
Saturday 14th September Bunnings Sausage Sizzle
Tuesday 17th September Grandparents Day (8.45am to 10.30am)

Monday 7th October Last day Term 3
Tuesday 8th October First Day Term 4
Wednesday 23rd October Excursion to Strathpine West State Primary School to visit Prep Classrooms, Library

Tuesday 12th November Librarian Visit

End of week Group:
Friday 13th September Photo Day
Saturday 14th September Bunnings Sausage Sizzle
Friday 20th September Grandparents Day (8.45am to 10.30am)

Monday 7th October Last day Term 3
Thursday 10th October First Day Term 4
Friday 25th October Excursion to Strathpine West State Primary School to visit Prep Classrooms, Library

Friday 15th November Librarian Visit
DIRECTOR’S REPORT
September 2013

ENROLMENT: We have the same 22 children enrolled in the beginning of the week group. Enrolments for 2014 are almost complete.

PROGRAM: Thank you to Mrs Ryan for allowing us to use her new Toadstool and red and white dot placemats. They have encouraged the children to spend time making fairies and to decorate the fairies new home. The children have many opportunities in their games to use early mathematical thinking. Counting out how many glass beads they will need to complete their pattern, working out how to alter a pattern and create a new pattern, discussing symmetry as they match their fairies wings. (QKLG: Communicating: - Children explore and engage with numeracy in personally meaningful ways as they develop confidence and interest in counting and exploring patterns and relationships)

The children have been eager participants since the introduction of our carpentry bench. We discussed with the children the benefits of carpentry and what we would need to do to keep us safe. We started mainly hammering nails through objects into a single piece of wood but now are able to make constructions that include hammering pieces of wood together. Does anyone have any soft (untreated) timber that we could use at our carpentry bench as we use a lot of timber when the children are involved in making their projects? (QKLG: Active Learning: - Teachers promote the children’s interest in and understandings about everyday tools)

Why do we encourage the children to be active each day in our outdoor environment? (QKLG: Wellbeing: - Children explore ways to promote physical wellbeing)

At a Let’s Get Physical presentation by Queensland Health we were given the following information

**Why should young children be physically active?**
- Improve strength, flexibility and posture
- Builds healthy bones and posture
- Develops fine and gross motor skills
- Reduces depression and stress, helps relaxation
- Enhances concentration and memory
- Helps to maintain a healthy weight
- Through play, children learn lifelong skills (communication, social skills, decision-making, problem solving etc)

**How active should children be?**
- Preschoolers (3-5years) should be physically active every day for at least 3 hours, spread throughout the day.
- For children 2 to 5 years of age, sitting and watching television and the use of electronic media (DVDs, computer and other electronic games) should be limited to less than 1 hour per day.
- Infants, toddlers and pre-schoolers should not be sedentary, restrained or kept inactive for more than 1 hour at a time, with the exception of sleeping.

We have a number of resources at our centre that you can borrow including

*Get Up and Grow*
*Active kids are healthy kids.* pamphlets by Australian Govt
*Structured Active Play Program- A program for early childhood settings in the City of Greater Geelong*
*Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Traditional Indigenous Games for Early Years* by Qld Govt
or for further information see [www.healthyactive.gov.au](http://www.healthyactive.gov.au)
We hope the Dads liked their Father’s Day presents. Thank you to Mrs Trute’s daughter, Lorelle for her assistance, using her card making equipment to assist the children with making their cards. The children were all eager to make something special and the drawings in their portfolios were all done with love and care. (QKLG:Identity: - children are building pride and confidence in who they are, their family and culture.)

We have been learning lots of new bear songs and reading stories about bears in preparation for the Moreton Bay Regional Council’s Teddy Bear Picnic at Pine Rivers Park on Wednesday 4th September. Our information stall was kept busy and we hope all who attended enjoyed their morning with their bears.

We are hoping that Grandparents Day will be an exciting event and we have already started leaning some new songs for the morning. Of course our program will certainly centre on Grandparents in the next few weeks, with the children listening to stories and rhymes about Grandparents. We have already made some gifts for our visitors and will do some flower arranging and cooking in preparation for the big day. We have read the book *Potato People* by Pamela Allen and have enjoyed making our own potato people. (QKLG: Connectedness)

The benefits of singing songs and learning nursery rhymes for our Grandparents Day include

- Develop and extend vocabulary,
- Rhyme – understanding rhyme in our spoken language helps children learn to read,
- Rhythm – helps children to remember words and develop auditory memory skills,
- Phonemic awareness hearing and understanding that words are made up of individual sounds and other word patterns,
- Learn how to participate in group learning experiences,
- Fine motor skills and coordination – encourages actions and movement,
- Children are building a confident self-identity as they gain confidence in their abilities and achievements.

(QKLG: Active Learning, Communicating, Connectedness, Wellbeing, Identity)

The children are also excited about the visit from Alison our photographer from Ivy Photography, this Wednesday. After the holidays, group photos will be displayed on the noticeboard near sign on, for you to view before ordering. You will also receive a photo envelope (with the photo of your child on the front selected by the photographer). You can swap from the photographer’s choice to the photo that you want for your child’s individual photos and return with your money to your teacher.

**Excursion to Strathpine West State School**

We will be visiting Strathpine West State Primary School and will be able to view their Library, Prep classrooms, eating, drinking and play areas.

The **beginning of the week group** will attend this excursion on **Wednesday, 23 October** and the **end of the week group** will attend on **Friday, 25 October**. We will walk from the kindergarten at **9.30 am** and walk back to kindergarten at **11.00 am**. This undertaking will benefit the children by helping to prepare them for the transition from kindergarten to prep. A few of the children will be attending this school next year and even though some will be attending other schools in 2013, we believe this exercise will still be of value in preparing them for the change of environment. (QKLG: Connectedness)

*A Risk Assessment* will be available at the front counter along with a list of accompanying adults.
GENERAL: Parent Roster  A reminder that the end of the year is fast approaching and we do cross off the last few weeks of Term 4 for parent rosters as we are busy on Christmas and end of year surprises. So if you have been planning to spend the day or part of a day with your child at kindergarten - time is running out. The children love having family members come and contribute to our days so please add your name to the calendar on the front counter – just bring your own morning tea, lunch and a hat.

Grandparent Day  Just a reminder to assist Grandparents (or another special friend if Grandparents are unable to come) to set aside a morning to come to Kindergarten- we will be having our Grandparents Day on Tuesday 17th September (FROM 8.45AM TO 10.30AM). Parents can you assist with the following.....

Could each child please bring 1 or 2 flowers or some foliage along on Monday 16th September (DAY BEFORE GRANDPARENTS DAY) so that we can do some flower arranging for Grandparent’s Day (we will not have time to arrange flowers on the day)

A small plate of food would be greatly appreciated, on Grandparents day, Tuesday 17th September but please do not ask our visitors to provide anything.

The children will not need individual morning tea as we will set aside some special food for them. (Children with special dietary requirements will need to speak to your child’s teacher for special instructions)

You may also like to bring some folding chairs on the day as we only have 20 of the plastic outdoor ones.

Workplace Health and Safety Regulations state “No tea or coffee near children”, so please advice our visitors to have a cuppa before they leave home, we however will serve a nice fruit punch.

Quality Improvement Plan
You may be aware that we are continually improving our kindergarten and we document this in our Quality Improvement Plan. Our most recent improvement is recycling the timber benchtop which was formerly used as the sign in bench to make a bench seat at the entrance to the kindergarten for parents and children to sit on while waiting to enter the kindergarten. The Quality Improvement Plan is available for viewing in our reception area and is kept on the bookshelves accessible to parents. Please feel free to peruse this document and provide your input.

Many thanks
Kay and Leone