



THE BUZZ

HOLLAND PARK KINDERGARTEN'S OFFICAL NEWSLETTER

Director's Report

Term four is always fun and exciting with lots of things happening, while also trying to slow down and enjoy the last few months of Kindy. As Educators we acknowledge the importance of children having quality time to enjoy playing and the company of friends around them.

We are planning experiences for the children's last term of Kindy for 2024 and End of Year events. The children have been involved in the planning and have lots of ideas of what they would like to do. It is lovely to see them taking ownership of their learning. We have seen them engaged and embedded in their games as they extend their ideas and include others.

Being outside each morning helps us to transition from home to our day at Kindy. We can spot little groups of friends around the playground enjoying endless activities such as drawing, sensory activities, creating canals in the creek, playing games on the grass and cooking in the mudpit. During our outside times we have included challenges from earlier in the year. But now we are stronger, braver and more confident. Recently, it was great to see how proud the children were when they climbed the tree and rung the bell!!

Inside our co-operative play continues with a focus on smaller games, table top activities and fine motor development. Flowers have been amazing "loose parts" that hag floral artworks that we have photographed. Our jacaranda tree is providing us with beautiful flowers that have been an inspiration for our artworks. Both groups have enjoyed reading the story "Jacaranda Magic".

IMPORTANT DATES

End of Year Concert

Kookaburras: Tues 3rd Dec
3:30pm

Geckos: Thurs 5th Dec 5:15pm

Last day of Kindy

Kookaburras: Tues 10th Dec

Geckos: Thurs 12th Dec





The Kookaburras have worked with Benita on a group art project. They have also been using their imaginations and extending on their ideas of being Leopards. As a group they have been investigating the wildlife of Brisbane and identifying creatures they find at Kindy. The Kookaburras also celebrated a culturally significant event for their children and enjoyed learning about Diwali.

The Geckos turned home corner into a pet shop and created lots of little baskets to carry their pets in. We enjoyed reading Pocket Dogs and other pet related stories. During outside time we have had a few hunts (for objects and numbers) we enjoyed doing these either independently or with a group of friends. Dancing is always something the Geckos love to do and recently we had a few friends get married. Luckily we were all invited and got to dance at the wedding.

We have ventured through the fence to play with the children from Mott Park Kindy. It was lovely to see our children spotting friends they already knew and making new friends. Since the visit there is often a group of friends on either side of the fence talking to each other.

REMINDER TO PARENTS
TO ENSURE THEY ARE
SIGNING THEIR CHILDREN
IN AND OUT EACH DAY
USING THE IPADS.



GRANDPARENTS' MORNING

A huge thank you to all the Grandparents and VIPs who came to kindy for the morning. This is definitely something that the kindy children will remember for a long time as they were so proud to show off their kindy and their friends. It was lovely to watch families interact, play and enjoy spending time together. One grandparent was even convinced to climb our tree!!



School Transition

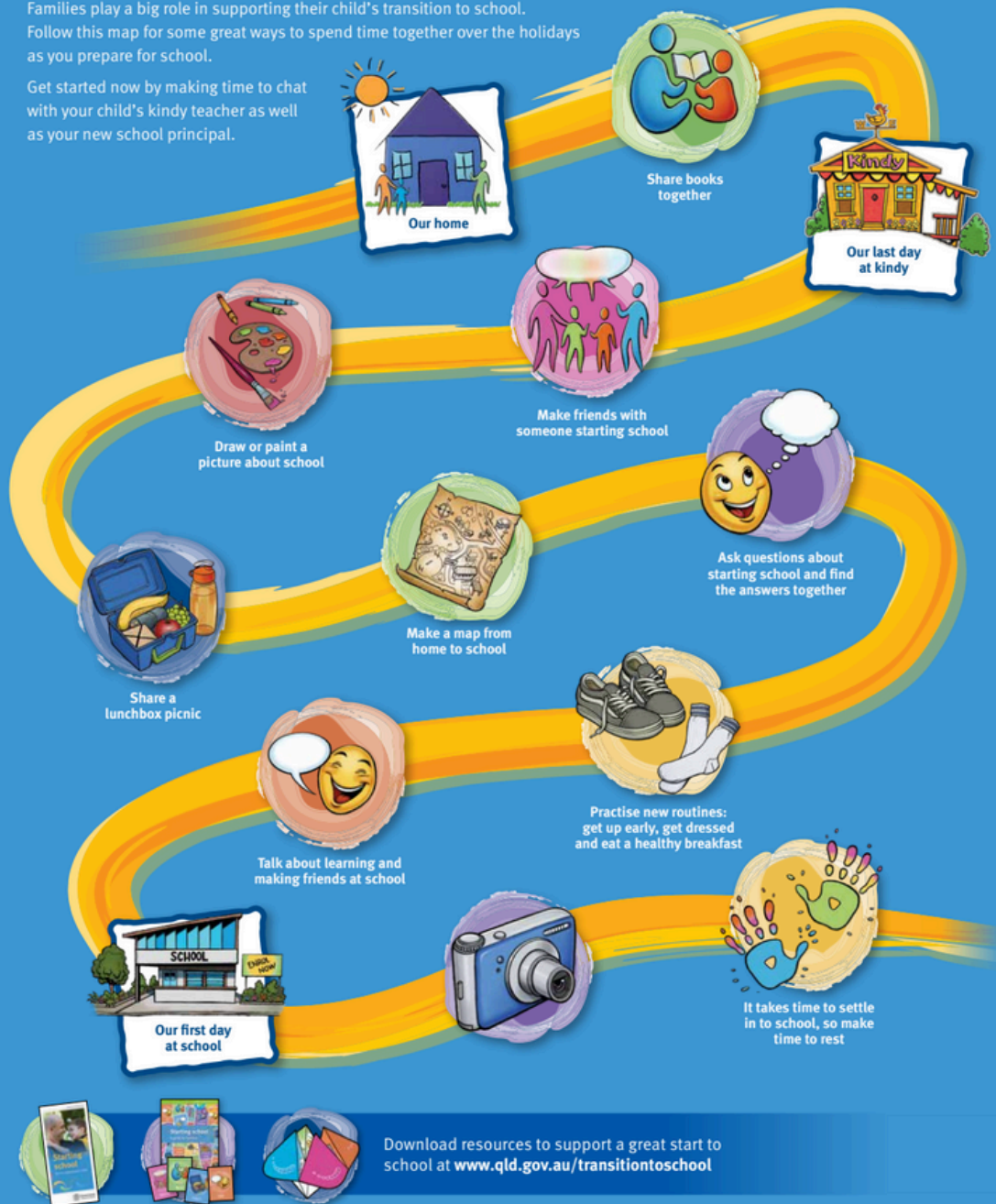
We have started to talk about transition to school with the children and their families. We are mindful that children are at all different stages of how they are feeling about moving onto Prep. We also acknowledge that there are children returning to kindy next year. But most importantly we want the children to enjoy the next few months at kindy.

Transition statements: Educators are currently working on these. Parents have been asked to write a few sentences (600 characters) to add to their child's statement. If families could email these ASAP that would be appreciated.

Starting school: What can families do together?

Families play a big role in supporting their child's transition to school. Follow this map for some great ways to spend time together over the holidays as you prepare for school.

Get started now by making time to chat with your child's kindy teacher as well as your new school principal.





Sun safety: has been a focus as we move towards the warmer months of the year. We have embedded this within our program and shared information with families. As per policy, all children and staff need to be wearing sunsafe clothing and applying suncream. We also ensure children are inside between 11-2:30 each day.

Rest time: at this time of year we still offer children the opportunity to rest their bodies and calm themselves as we value this as an important skill for children to develop. We acknowledge that most children need this time just to relax and are encouraged to be calm while reading or listening books, drawing, using sensory tools, practicing yoga and deep breathing.

Sensory art: as part of the sensory grant we received we have engaged the expertise of a local mosaic artist who will be coming to work with the children to create a piece of art. The aim is that children will join in the process to create a tactile symbol between home and kindy.



PARENT SURVEY

- 1 Educational program and practice
- 2 Children's health and safety
- 3 Physical environment
- 4 Staffing arrangements
- 5 Relationships with children
- 6 Collaborative partnerships with families and communities
- 7 Governance and leadership

As we approach the final weeks of 2024 we are asking all families to reflect and help us to improve our practises. At HPK we value families' input and feedback to help us on our journey of continuous quality improvement. The survey questions are based on Quality Area 6 of the National Quality Standards, which focuses on supportive, respectful relationships with families that are fundamental to achieving quality outcomes for children. Community partnerships that are based on active communication, consultation and collaboration also contribute to children's inclusion, learning and wellbeing. Please keep a look out in the next few days for a link to a short survey monkey. Thank you in advance for your feedback.