Children from the Parent Toddler Program are enjoying our outdoor environment.

**Term 3 2015**

**Important dates:**
- **Friday 18th September**
  - End of Term
- **Saturday 19th September**
  - Maintenance day
- **Wednesday 7th October**
  - School resumes
- **Thursday 10th December**
  - Concert and end of term

**Report from the Chair**

Dear Parents,

As we conclude another term, it is worthwhile keeping you all updated on various aspects of the school.

Firstly, I trust that the transition to combined classes has worked out well, particularly for the PM families. From a personal point of view, it has been nice to see Talia make new friends from the AM class and the experience has been really positive for her and I hope that this a view shared more broadly. We also thank the wonderful staff for their flexibility in adopting these changes.

The Parent Toddler Program has also been a success with the Wednesday class progressing well with consistent numbers. The program has allowed us to showcase aspects of the school to new parents as well as offer a welcome transition to 3 year olds into the system.

In addition to the above changes, the upcoming Montessori Home Environment (offering extended hours) will be another addition to the school program. This will help provide some families with a service to better suit their situation and various commitments.

The school council continues to meet regularly with the current focus being on continuing to promote and market the school effectively. As a result, we are steadily experiencing new enrolments into the school and this augurs well for the future.
Chair Report contd.

Further marketing will include website improvements, continued use of social media and finding ways to promote the unique aspects of the school. One of the most effective forms of marketing for us however is word of mouth and so we encourage each of you to tell your friends, neighbors and others about the benefits of coming to our school.

Plans are well underway for the Family Day on 21\textsuperscript{st} November 2015 so hopefully the date is locked away in your calendars. A number of parents have been putting much time and effort into the preparation for this fun occasion so it is one that should definitely not be missed.

Regards,

Brad Chan
Chairperson (Talia’s Dad and Marissa’s in Term 4)

HR Report

What a wonderful term we had in celebrating staff birthdays!
Miss Louise celebrated her birthday on 29 June followed by Miss Amanda whose birthday was on 25 July. And lastly on 7 August we celebrated Miss Renae’s birthday. During the last two weeks of the term Miss Angela Underwood spent some time with us as part of her Montessori Practical.

With Miss Amanda’s daughter being on the mend we are looking forward to having her back at school in term 4.

Guest Day
The three-year-old children have been busy learning about Australian bush animals and their habitats. They have enjoyed doing craft activities, relating to the bush animals and have had the opportunity to develop their fine motor skills by cutting, folding and gluing. The four year olds are learning all about frogs, which includes the life cycle, naming parts of a frog and making craft.

They also planted gladioli bulbs, watercress gardens and sunflowers. They made grass people by putting grass seeds and wood shavings in a stocking, creating a nose and pasting eyes to make a grass head. The grass heads have raised a lot of interest from the younger children.

As part of their history program they are learning about the beginning of writing— the writing timeline and have practiced drawing pictures on clay tablets, writing with a quill and with charcoal.

The Kindergarten children went on an excursion to the Royal Botanic Gardens on Monday the 14th September. They took part in the workshop, “Alexander’s Outing”, based on the book. They had the opportunity to learn about measurement, estimating volume and measuring the circumference of a tree. We walked under the cherry blossoms, which were in bloom and saw exotic flowers in full bloom everywhere. It was an enjoyable day.

All the children enjoy the different art activities made available to them each week. They develop their creativity experimenting with the different materials, developing their own style. Our art activities are geared to suit the different age groups. They develop and improve their cutting, colouring and general fine motor skills. They get the opportunity to express their own ideas through the artwork. Art activities, projects and cooking activities are incorporated into our three-hour program.

The children were busy making Father’s day gifts and cards last week. We hope all of the Dads enjoyed their Father’s day gifts.

We wish to take this opportunity to wish everybody a happy and safe holiday from all the staff.
Parent Information Evenings

This term our parent information evening focused on Math’s in the 3 to 6 classroom.

Parents had the opportunity to learn how children acquire number knowledge from using the concrete Montessori materials. They discovered how children move from using the concrete math’s materials to the abstract concepts of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

It was great to see a new parent attend along with parents of the 3 and 4 year olds.

We finished with a delightful supper organized by the AM class coordinator Regina.

Fundraising

This years Fundraiser event will be a low key family day held at the preschool on Saturday the 21st of November 2-6pm. It will be a great day to come together as a community to appreciate our children, the environment and the teachers who inspire our children's day to day learning. To keep our costs down the school council decided a BBQ would be ideal with BYO (Bring Your Own) salads, drinks, deserts and picnic rug! We will be calling on everyone to help out with small tasks. We will also be inviting new families to join us, whose children will be starting in 2016. Please introduce yourselves and make them feel welcome. More detailed information will be forthcoming early next term.

Along with the auction of the children's artwork, we will be holding a raffle to help with our fundraising efforts. Two major prizes have been organised along with a dinner voucher. Each ticket will be priced at $5 and each family is expected to sell 100 raffle tickets as we are targeting to raise $10,000 in total. There will be opportunities to sell to the general public outside the Cox’s Road shops next term.

We hope everyone has a really fantastic holiday and see you next term.

Cheers Caroline Parent Liaison and Fei Fundraising Coordinator