Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It's great to see the weather warming up, we look forward to getting outside and enjoying the spring air. We are enjoying gardening in the secret garden. Thank you to Jocelyn Thomas, who has been helping us grow vegetables. We have snow peas, strawberries and herbs growing. I hope you got a chance look at the children's art work at the show display.

The learning program will take a new direction over the next few weeks. Last week we learnt about extending Oral Language skills through children's books. We have chosen a Book Week Book, 'Noni the Pony' written by Alison Lester. We will also be looking at 'Mr McGee and the Biting Flee' by Pamela Allen, which we will the focus of next weeks Patch Theatre Performance. We will work through some important literacy skills such as sequencing, vocabulary, grammar, recounting, questioning, explaining inferences, phonological awareness and following instructions. We will do this through a number of fun activities.

We are getting very close to renewing the bike track in the outdoor learning environment. We have been looking at ways to extend the soft fall area, to meet National Quality Standards that will be introduced in 2012. We now have a plan and are starting to get information and quotes from contractors.

You would have received an invitation to the New Kindy 10 year Anniversary. This will be on September 8th. The kindy will be open for the community to visit from 10 am to 2 pm. If you have any memorabilia from the past years, Loretta is collecting items to make a display. We will be preparing sandwiches for a light luncheon. We are asking families to make a monetary donation for bread and sandwich fillings and/or a plate of sweets. Also we would like helpers to prepare the sandwiches on the morning. I have attached an envelope to the newsletter, can you please return it with your donation? Thank you.

The Director's position will be advertised this week. The position will be from January 2012 to January 2017. Applicants will have 3 weeks to submit their Application. Then a panel of 4, including a Governing Council Representative, will make a recommendation.

Fundraising this term:
Each year we design and order kindy mugs, with the names of all the full time children enrolled in the kindy program. There is a sample mug on display on the kitchen bench, and an order form handed out last week. Please return order forms and payment to secure your mugs, by Today August 23rd. The mugs are a great momento of your child's time at Kindy.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Kelly Farm Catering last Friday. Ramsey Brothers kindly gave the kindy a donation of $1000 to go towards our fundraising.

We also have chocolates continuing this term. If you are able to sell a box of chocolates on behalf of the kindy please see Lauren Kerin.

Don't Forget
The kindy is available for hire for children's parties, family events, or anything else the facilities may suit. There are also Pony Rides available. The cost is being donated back to the kindy, thanks to Kathryn. See Beck for more information.
Community information is put on the information board above the kindy children’s lockers. You will find a copy of the School Newsletter, community events and workshops run by other services.

Please send some spare clothes in your child’s bag, and make sure all clothing and items are labelled, including shoes.

Making Meaning

Last Thursday staff attended a workshop about children’s literacy development in the early years. Our learning was centred on extending children’s literacy skills with books. These are some of the things staff wanted to share with you:

- Planning centred on a book builds children’s language and knowledge using different procedures. Lots of good activities come from one book, for example small groups doing barrier games to make them follow and give instructions.

- A reader should be interactive with a book and not assume the listener understands. By reading and discussing books repetitively children learn and find new things.

- When explaining new words use toys and objects in different ways to assist understanding. For example the word ‘squashed’, show lots of toys animals squashing into a car, some playdough squashed by two hands, a pillow squashing into a box.

- Teach new concepts/words and then revisit them over the next week or two.

- Books can be categorised to learn different skills such as rhyming, sequencing, and questioning.

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**FUTURE DIARY DATES**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Tuesday Aug 23rd</td>
<td>Room 2 Visiting to meet the School Starters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Tuesday Aug 30th</td>
<td>Kindy Excursion to Pirie seeing the show Mr McGee and the Biting Flee and visiting the Road Safety Centre. Occasional Care as normal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Thursday Sept 1st</td>
<td>CAFHS Nurse Visiting.</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Monday Sept 5th</td>
<td>Governing Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Thursday Sept 8th</td>
<td>10th Anniversary Celebrations</td>
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Thank you,

Beck, Loretta, Deb, Jodie, Krysia and Angi