



# BUNDOORA PRE-SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

### A message from our President...



Dear families,

[www.bundoorapreschool.com.au](http://www.bundoorapreschool.com.au)  
[Facebook.com/BundooraPreschool](https://www.facebook.com/BundooraPreschool)

I wish to congratulate all of our kinder children who will move on to new things in 2019. Like so many of us, the next step opens new doors and ultimately, this can be a very exciting time for you!

I also wish our families a relaxed and enjoyable festive season and holiday. My deepest thanks go to my kinder colleagues and now, my kinder friends. Your camaraderie and support for our kinder and also of me throughout the past six years mean more to me than I can express in words. Like several people, I leave this community as a kinder parent and committee member, but I intend and hope to remain a friend to Bundoora Pre-school.

For parents reading this who still have a number of kinder years in their path ahead, I offer some support and encouragement. We all know of the challenges associated with raising young people and I can acknowledge what both a joyous and hectic time it is in your family life at present. But the learning that goes on in our children from this fantastic little kinder is precious, memorable and long-lasting. The community is fostered by the new members on the pre-school committee each year and I know first-hand that my family have each benefited so greatly from our time well-spent at Bundoora Pre-school, since I stumbled across it in 2012. My kids have grown so much under the support and guidance from the marvellous and extremely hard-working kindergarten teachers and educators of 2018 Cathrine, Dani, Grażynka, Lyn, Melinda, Marijke, Nicole, Ros and Silvana... as well as past educator from 2016-17, Carmal and past kindergarten teacher from 2013-17, Fiona.

To my dear friends on committee in 2018 (Amy, Annie, Connie, Corrie, Ellen, Kat, Kellie, Laura, Leanne, Marnie, Narelle, Natalie and Steve) as well as our administrator Julie and our Nominated Supervisor Ros, I wish to express once again in writing the gratitude that I feel when I think of all of the support that you have also contributed our kindergarten behind the scenes. It takes a special kind of person to work toward something important in your community which is so much bigger than yourself. As well as all of the tasks and duties that you have undertaken - big or small - you have each supported me in my role, very very well. I know that this is what has made my role as committee president possible. I feel quite blessed to have been on this journey along with each of you.

## December 2018

TERM 4

8th Oct — 14 Dec  
2018

Upcoming Events

\* Last kinder session

**Joeys:** Friday 14  
December

**Possums:** Thursday 13  
December

**Koalas:** Friday 14  
December

\*End of year concert  
and party

**Joeys:** Monday 17  
December

**Possums:** Tuesday 18  
December

**Koalas:** Wednesday 19  
December

\*Clean up day

Thursday 20 December

For families continuing with us in 2019, I hope that you are able to continue to provide your support to our new committee for 2019. A list of our incoming committee members is included in this newsletter. Corrie, as our incoming president, I wish you all the success and the rewards from undertaking a busy but fulfilling role.

So with thanks, I sincerely wish our community a happy time this summer and thank you for your efforts to support Bundoora Pre-school in whatever way that you can and do.

Best regards,

**Jaci De Fazio**  
Committee President

## Bundoora Preschool Committee Members 2019

<b>President:</b>	Corrie Quigley (P)
<b>Vice President:</b>	Stacey Collins (K)
<b>Secretary:</b>	Amy Armstrong (J)
<b>Assistant Secretary:</b>	Melissa Favata (K)
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Gaya Tharmendra (P)
<b>Assistant Treasurer:</b>	Hannah Landreth (P)
<b>Maintenance Rep:</b>	Steve Surdoski (-) and Riley Wills (J)
<b>BCCKN Rep:</b>	Rachel Harnetty (P)
<b>Grants Officer:</b>	Alana Quigley (P)
<b>Group Rep Possums:</b>	Shana-Sandra Collins (P) and Shelley Dawson (P)
<b>Group Reps Koalas:</b>	Narelle Conway (K) and Rebekka Kennedy-Lambert (K)
<b>Group Rep Joeys:</b>	Dayna Rixon (J) and Megan Wills (J)
<b>Fundraising Committee:</b>	Amy Armstrong (J), Narelle Conway (K), Stacey Collins (K) Alison Potter (J), Megan Nikoleris (K) and Nicole Ithier (K)

## A message from Mrs Ros Doutré

To my dear friends of the Bundoora Pre School community,

I would like to thank you all for your kind wishes and congratulations for my upcoming retirement.

My retirement function was absolutely delightful and I feel so overwhelmed by the thoughtfulness, consideration and respect that I have been shown. I'd like to thank you for your kind words, card, emails and generous gifts. The flowers I received have adorned my house for more than two weeks and have reminded me so fondly of the day. I will seek to thank you each and all in the coming weeks.

I'd like to thank all those who contributed to the afternoon: food, decorations, set up and all the little extras that made it such a special time for me. It was a result of much collaboration and the outcome was amazing. I would especially like to thank my beautiful colleagues Dani, Melinda, Cathrine, Lyn, Silvana, Marijke and Grazynka. In amongst all the responsibilities at kinder and at home at this time of the year you have found time to organize and plan such a wonderful event. A special thank you to Dani Andros for the beautiful cake. My apologies that it wasn't shared on the day but I can assure you it was delicious!



I was especially touched by the choice of colours on the day. Rainbow balloons.... rainbow flowers.. and a beautiful painted rainbow. The rainbow song is a special song which reminds us to appreciate the beauty around us using all our senses. It always brings joy and peace to my heart. It was a beautiful surprise to see the kinder decorated in this manner.



A special thank you to the Possum children for creating a magnificent garden on the kinder wall. Once again the thoughtfulness behind the choice is most appreciated. It has been a goal of mine throughout my teaching to develop the children's awareness and appreciation of the natural environment... the flowers, the bugs and the beautiful tree painted by the Koalas was so special. Thank you.

I am so appreciative of my retirement gift from the kinder community. The painting of the gumtree will always remind me of the kinder environment and the precious times I have been able to share our beautiful trees with the many children that I have blessed to teach. To Jodie thank you for your talent and your choice. I love it!

For all those who courageously spoke I'm truly humbled by your words. To Jaci, Lyn, Julie, Marijke, Dani and Jesse, I wish to acknowledge that what you have said will always remain with me and continue to remind me of my teaching journey; all that has happened and all the relationships along the way which have supported my growth as an educator.

For those who know me you will realise I always have a lot to say. So please forgive me as I write for the last time...

As I said on the day my decision to retire has been difficult for me to reflect on and to speak about. I am going to miss so many things that have been intrinsic to each day of my working life: the tiny office and cluttered storeroom that have been my second home for so long, the gardening and the vegetable patch and the joy of sharing it with the children, the blank blue walls that come alive with the children's creativity, the army of ants that love to explore both the outdoor and the indoor environments and which are protected so well by the children. I will miss the beautiful gum trees filled with the sound of magpies warbling and parrots squawking, making our environment so cosy and sheltered. I will miss singing Caterpillar Caterpillar and dancing to Koorie Dreamtime. I will miss the fire station excursion and the chance to hold a snake around my neck when Wild Action visits. I will miss the scarves flying in the wind.

I will miss the end of year party and watching the children perform with confidence. I will miss writing my Christmas letters to the children while sitting under the trees at Pt Leo.

I will miss the faces of the parents, carers and grandparents - the uncertainty as they say goodbye to their child for the first time, the pride when achievements are celebrated, no matter how big they might be, and the joy that fills their hearts when their child seeks them out with enthusiasm at pick up time. I will miss the shared conversations and all the emotions that come along with these conversations.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank so many people. Too many to name individually.

I have encountered so many people outside of our kinder community who have been an integral part of each year: from local and state government representatives and employees, tradespeople and Maternal Health nurses to all the early intervention professionals who have provided the children, their families and me with so much support. So many respectful links which in turn link to others. I thank all of these people for the support and for teaching me so much about all sorts of things. I will miss these connections and hope that they will always remain intact within the service.

Thank you to the amazing kinder families who make up this wonderful community. Family involvement has been something I have encouraged and valued. I truly appreciate your support. I often taken time to stand back and observe relationships develop between families and it is so often these relationships that last and become valued friendships for many years. The kinder year is a perfect beginning for families as well as children. Thank you all for trusting your children to me. They have given me so much in return. It has been an honour and a privilege to have been a part of your family.

To all Committee members past and present who have given their time and commitment to ensuring our kinder is so special and successful I am truly grateful. I hope that you can look back on your years of involvement and know that it is because of all your amazing effort that Bundoora Pre school is a well-respected and well-loved Early Childhood service. Your support and loyalty has ensured I have been able to fulfil my dream to teach without constraint. This is something which is rare to find in many services. You have respected the values and the philosophy we have established and most importantly have always kept the staff needs in mind. Thank you to you all for the special place you hold in my 25 years.

To my amazing colleagues, present and over the years. You have each understood my uncompromising values of team work and consideration, and the value I place on each of us being intentional in our roles. You have worked so hard to give so much to the children and I am so proud to have worked alongside each of you. You have each supported me to be the best educator I can be. You have provided me with programming support, professional advice, acknowledgement and a shoulder to lean on when I am emotionally challenged. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for making each day an exciting and often unknown surprise. You have done this with respect, friendship and love and this has meant more to me than you could ever know. Thank you for the coffee and the cake. Thank you for the merriment and the shared banter. I wish you all the continued comfort and warmth that comes from true collegial friendship and I take with me just enough of that comfort and warmth to fill my heart and remind me of just how lucky I have been.



Finally, I would like to thank my family. For each of the 25 years I have taught at here, the support you have given me, despite my own procrastinations and doubts, has been overwhelming. Thank you for helping me set up the outdoor environment before heading off to school all those years ago and for sharing family time with kinder responsibilities. Thank you for allowing me to be the teacher I have always wanted to be. It is because of this that I can look forward to retirement, happy in the knowledge that I can be truly content with my wonderful years of early childhood teaching. I look forward to spending time with all of my family, playing with my Grandchildren and sharing their joy of life. ....and I look forward with great anticipation to filling the pages in the open book that lays before me.

Thank you everyone. I look forward to perhaps meeting you by chance in my retirement and I wish you all dreams come true as you continue to travel your special pathway.

With much love and gratitude,

**Ros Doutre**

## JOEY Group News

Dear Joey Families,

It has been a truly wonderful year! We have enjoyed getting to know your children and building beautiful relationships with them and watching them learn and grow. They have strengthened in their independence and confidence and have learnt to show respect for one another. They really are each beautiful and unique little people. They have brought us much joy, wonder, laughter and happiness. Sometimes it's not easy trying to make sense of their world as a 3 and 4-year-old so we hope we have been able to guide and help them in our Joeys group. We are very excited for them as they prepare for 4-year-old kinder and all the challenges and fun the 15 hours will bring them as opposed to our 5 hours a week this year! We look forward to popping in the Koala and Possum group to say hello.

We would like to wish Ros all the very best for her retirement and welcome her to join us in the Joeys groups throughout the year. It has been such a wonderful experience for us both to have worked with Ros and have learnt valuable skills. She will be greatly missed on so many levels! As Ros leaves, we welcome Anne. We wish her a smooth transition and know she will enjoy working within our Bundoora Preschool community.

We wish you all a very happy Christmas and a wonderful summer and holiday time. We hope you all stay safe and we look forward to seeing you all next year. Make sure you come up and say hi!!

**We will really miss our Joeys group of 2018!!** Wishing you all love and happiness from **Dani and Grazyinka**

## Koala Group News

Dear Koala families,

I can't believe the year has gone by so fast. It seems like such a short time ago I was welcoming your children into the Koala group, getting to know them and encouraging the birth of new friendships. Now I stand back during the class and observe how much they have grown and developed since then. The friendships have emerged and changed over the course of the year and their social skills have really developed. It has been a real pleasure to work with the enthusiasm of these children who have loved the songs we have sung, all the different experiments we have done and learning about such a wide variety of things. The joy they find in life and each other is really uplifting.

I would like to say a big thank you to Connie for being our group rep this year, to Annie for all her wonderful work on the newsletters and to Joelle for being part of the fundraising team. I would also like to thank those families who were able to help out with Kinder Duty, as this is such a valuable addition to the program and enables us to do more throughout a session with your children.

I would also like to thank all the Koala families for choosing Bundoora Preschool, it has been such a pleasure teaching your children. To all the families whose youngest child is going off to school next year I would like to wish you all the best in this next stage of your child's education and say a really fond farewell. For those of you with younger children still to attend Bundoora Preschool, I also wish you well, and look forward to seeing you again in the future!

Good luck and best wishes from **Marijke, Grazyinka and Silvana**



## POSSUM Group News

Hi to all Possum families.

We have shared a very busy month. Drama Toolbox, bike day, party day practices and gift preparations, barbecue, school orientations and so much more. It has been a time of learning in so many aspects of their lives. For many it has been a topsy turvy time and the demands on their resilience have sometimes been a challenge. I look forward to our last week being relaxed and fun.



This is my final Possum story. I would like to thank many people specifically. I am so pleased to say that at this pre school we have enjoyed the tremendous support of so many and this year has been no exception.

To our amazing Committee thank you all for ensuring we keep our kinder for our community so that we can make decisions about what we feel is best for your children and the families that attend. Thank you for ensuring that the decisions that have been made have considered the wellbeing and professionalism of the educators. Thank you all for your respective roles and the dedication and hard work you have committed.

This year there are many committee members moving on as they finish their children's kinder journey, some after many years of volunteering. We are so sad to see you go and hope you will continue to feel part of our community and come back for a visit. It has been such an honour to have been a part of your child's education. The relationships that we each as educators have established with you over the years has been a big part of our enjoyment and well being. More than you could possibly realise.

To all of our Group Reps Connie, Corrie, Harry, Narelle and especially the Possum Group reps, Katerine and Marnie your support has been wonderful and your friendship so important. Thank you for all the little things that have been done and for your efficiency with the rosters which have been a huge support to the staff.

To Marnie also a huge thank you for being so integral in putting our kinder out there in the community and seeking grants to support specific projects. The success of these has meant we have been able to add to the program for the children.

To Narelle, Joelle, Shelley, Paige, Natalie, Amy and Ellen your support with fundraising has been so successful once again. The result of collaboration and many hours of hard work. The funds raised are essential to our successful program.

To Laura a huge thank you for so many things. Your professional advice and support has been a great help and has broadened our perspective of so many things. Your attendance at the BCCKN meetings has enabled us to keep informed about what is happening in the Council and in the local kindergartens. It has also ensured that we have a consistent connection with Council.

To Steve we are so grateful for your determination to ensure the kinder is well maintained and you have been a great advocate for us with Council. The kinder is ready to embark on several wonderful projects and I look forward to popping in to see the outcomes.. each of which will provide great potential for excitement and learning for the children.

To Annie your newsletters have been informative, timely and very professional. It is so important to involve the community in what is happening and this is the one of the main avenues for this. Thank you.

To Amy thank you for all your assistance with taking minutes and all the other support you have given in so many ways, including fundraising. You are a stalwart in our community and I wish your years ahead at Bundoora Pre School to be fun and memorable.

Kellie you have been a marvel and we are so appreciative of the fact that you have continued to support us as the Treasurer despite only signing up for the interim position. You have been a wealth of knowledge and have continued to work so hard behind the scenes. Thank you for your financial advice and a special thank you for supporting the staff through Kinderbooks. Visiting kinder to complete your role despite not having a kinder child is so much appreciated. I am sure the community will welcome you back with open arms when Henry begins his kinder journey. To Leanne. Thank you for being so patient and efficient all at the same time. You have supported fee collection so effectively. You have successfully ensured the kinder remains viable and have been diplomatic and respectful about it.

To Ellen... so many roles and so much support. You have been instrumental in the growth and success of our pre school over so many years. We cannot thank you enough for all of the hours and all of the emails and discussions; for all of the funds raised; for all of the happy enrolled children and their families and for all of the staff consultation and support. You have been so efficient in each of your roles and have never wavered in your support of our kinder.

To our President Jaci it is so difficult to put into words all that you have been to this kinder. Your loyalty and your professionalism have also never wavered as each new challenge confronts you. Your strength and your determination to seek input from external organizations and to advocate for our service has been extraordinary. You have ensured the Committee work collaboratively and have led with diplomacy. You have been so supportive of the staff and have always considered what is best for the children and have kept staff wellbeing a priority. You have been instrumental in our success and the kinder will be ever grateful for your hard work. Thank you.

To each of our wonderful Committee we have valued you as parents and employers and as friends and we will miss your faces around the kinder. We hope you will visit if you have the chance and I really hope you will always keep a positive place for your kinder experience in your hearts.

To Julie an enormous thank you for keeping all of our administration requirements on track and for ensuring that the staff have been well informed and consulted and given ample opportunity to have their say. You have been without doubt an essential part of our professional lives and we are eternally grateful for everything. Thank you for all your years of service to our kinder. I hope that you take with you a lot of joy and special memories and we wish you luck as you return to teaching.

To Marijke, Grazynka and Dani thank you once again for a year of support, exceeding teaching and dedication to supporting children to reach their potential for learning. Thank you for the support and friendship that you bring to my life. My respect and gratitude can never be put into words.

To my amazing Possum team: Cathrine, Melinda, Silvana, Lyn and to Nicole. How special is to come to a work environment everyday knowing that I am surrounded by colleagues who understand what it means to be an educator and who intentionally seek to teach the children lifelong skills and dispositions. We have collaborated as a team to ensure this happens every day and at every moment. Thank you from the children and their families and thank you from me. You are all professional in your roles but are so welcoming to others and especially to each other. It has been such a blessing to come to work each day. No matter how I feel when I enter the kinder I will always know that I will be greeted with a smile and a caring and supportive face. I am truly going to miss that collegial experience. Thank you for your loyalty and for your true friendship. Thank you for making my final year of teaching such a joy. I hope your holiday time will bring you a chance to relax and recuperate and enjoy the family time that you may have given up to fulfil your role and I wish you adventure and excitement as you greet the 2019 kinder year with Anne.

To the Possum parents, carers and grandparents. Thank you for all your assistance throughout the year. Thank you for sharing your family with us. It has been a privilege and something which we each hold dear. Your children have been an absolute delight and have made each day a new adventure with boundless potential. We hope your kinder years are something special to look back on with fondness.

There is so much to share and so much to congratulate the children for. It has been a year of amazing learning. The children have been a very social group. They commenced the year chatting to each other and they have finished the year in the same manner. Their conversations with each other are diverse and so interesting. They share their ideas, their feelings, their rights and their empathy.

I am so proud of their capacity to surmount challenges and their capacity to persist and follow through. They have each developed a wonderful sense of confidence and independence. I hope that they will always remember how special and unique they are and how with practice and determination they can achieve whatever they set their minds to. I hope they will always appreciate how amazing our land is and find joy and excitement in discovering its secrets. I hope they will always seek to respect and care for the land and its creatures to sustain it for the future happiness of others. I hope that each day will bring them something to talk about with others and I hope that they will always be surrounded by people who will listen with intent and interest. I hope they will continue to seek to learn and be taught by those who encourage their imagination, their creativity and their story. Most of all I hope that each day they will laugh and find their buckets overflowing with the kindness and respect of others and that they too will seek to do the same for others. Thank you Possums for making my final year of teaching such a special one. I will remember all of my years at Bundoora Pre School and the children and families but I will especially remember my last Possum group and the smiles, the tears, the laughter, the discoveries and the sparkling eyes.

It has been a joy to come to work every day and hear the stories so eagerly shared that put a smile on my face and warmth in my heart. Have a beautiful family time over the festive season and holiday time and a big wish for an amazing year in 2019 and beyond.

Lots of love,

**Mrs Doutre xxx**