

Mansfield Kindergarten

May 2021

Comedy night a huge success!

A night filled with laughter, entertainment and friends...

Mansfield Kinder is community run and not-for-profit. This means that all our extra funds go back into the kindergarten, and your children! Throughout the year, we go on excursions, have educational and musical incursions and purchase new materials and supplies. None of this would be possible without our fund-raising efforts. So, a HUGE shout-out to all our volunteers who organised a very entertaining evening and to all those parents and friends who came along. The evening wouldn't have been possible without our sponsors –

Our Silver sponsors were:

BM Built, Foster Legal and Foodworks Mansfield

and our Platinum sponsors were:

Alliance Group and Mal, Ryan and Glen

If you have a particular excursion, activity or incursion you would like the kindergarten to organise, please feel free to email us office@mansfieldkindergarten.com.au and we'll do our best to incorporate it into our programs.



Our outdoor program provides opportunities for children to develop their fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, gross motor skills, negotiation skills, turn-taking and sharing. Activities offered are open-ended in some cases and structured in others. Children are allowed to choose where they play and for how long. A timer is provided to the children which they regulate, to allow for specific lengths of time in one place. (Taking turns and sharing). The program always offers imaginery play areas, sand and water play, climbing and running opportunities.



Blue- Blue Group in the past few weeks have been playing hospitals and learning about the human body. We have a doctor and two nurses from Central General Practice coming this Thursday (20th) to talk to us about getting needles and about what makes our bodies work. We have also been learning about consent, asking our friends before we touch or hug them and giving them personal space when they need it. We understand we need to respect one another's bodies and boundaries.

The children are also excited about all the construction going on next door and have enjoyed watching the progress of the building from the treehouse. As a result we are seeing a lot of construction happening in their play, from cubbies and trenches to a gorgeous fairy house.

Green - For the last two weeks Green group has started their Wednesdays with a cooking or baking activity. We wanted the children to work from scratch with ingredients that either came from our backyard at Kinder, from one of our children's or the teachers' gardens. Cooking from scratch helps children to understand where food comes from and the process that goes into making it. It provided the opportunity to talk about nutrition and healthy eating and the importance of eating some foods regularly or as a special treat. Importantly, when children are involved in making and preparing their own food, they are more likely to want to try it. Cooking can therefore be a good opportunity to introduce children to new foods. This week we made delicious mint dip with crackers.

Red- Last week we ventured out on our first excursion to the library. We were entertained with astronaut stories and games and practiced our road rules there and back! Continuing our theme of dinosaurs, we have introduced a large felt mat with dinosaurs and vegetation to use imaginatively in play. We also have dinosaur puzzles which the children enjoy completing (these are great for cognitive development, fine motor skills and teamwork). The formation of fossils has been our discussion topic. Red Group is also concentrating on developing our scissor skills - an important skill for school and a handy life-skill!

AKC- In after kinder care we have been following the children's interest in dinosaurs. We have been making our own fossils out of salt dough over the last two weeks which most children have now painted and taken home.

3-year-old's- At little kinder we've really been enjoying these cold but sunny Autumn mornings... using the little wheelbarrows and rakes to tend to the garden, strengthening our gross motor skills and practicing our turn taking skills while talking about the ever changing colours of the leaves before they fall. Climbing from the large frame and crossing the bridge to the tree house has been the greatest fun with children encountering each other and then needing to negotiate the play space, has children looking after their own wellbeing as well as each other's ... we're so proud of these little people !!! Inside group time we are learning colours and numbers with particular attention to number 4, as well as the antics of our Australian animals to go with our camping theme.

Helping children manage risks...

We all have our own idea of what is 'risky' – this understanding is influenced by our own childhood, culture and the environment we grew up in. Growing up in the city has risks just as growing up on a farm does. Adults have to be around to help children make good choices and also build into them a sense of being prepared, being a bit adventurous and challenging themselves, and knowing that sometimes they will get it wrong – just like we do – and that is okay!

Early Childhood Australia, 2019



OUR SPONSORS ON THE COMEDY NIGHT!



Mansfield Fresh Food Drive

Fruit and vegetables are essential for supporting healthy growth and development as they provide us with many different vitamins & minerals.

Ideally we should be aiming for at least 5 serves of vegetables, and 2 serves of fruit each day (from 4+ yrs).



The Mansfield Fresh Food Drive provides local families (with primary school aged children) free, locally grown produce to assist in meeting the recommended number of daily serves. See details below.

COLLECTION DETAILS:

DAYS: 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month.

TIME: between 09:30-11:30am (or until stocks last).

LOCATION: St John's Church Hall, located at 43
Hihett Street, Mansfield.

BYO bags.

For more info contact Lucy on 5775 8800 or
lucy.marks@mdh.org.au

Important Dates

- Tuesday 18th May – Committee meeting 7.30 at kinder or via ZOOM – all welcome.
- Tuesday 25th – Dental visit for Green and Red Groups
- Thursday 27th – Dental visit for Blue group
- Thursday 27th and Friday 28th Lauriston students at kinder
- Monday 31st – Barry Peters performs for Blue Group and Monday's 3-year-old group at Ailsa Street – NO EARTH KINDER THIS DAY
- Tuesday 1st June – Barry Peters performs for Green and Red groups.
- Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd – Lauriston students at kinder
- Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th – Lauriston students at kinder
- Tuesday 15th – Excursion to the Zoo for Red and Green groups
- Tuesday 15th – Committee meeting and Lauriston students at kinder
- Friday 18th – Excursion to Zoo for Blue group
- Monday 21st – Friday 25th – Work experience students from Mansfield secondary College attend kinder
- Friday 25th June – Last day of Term 2.
- Monday 12th July – Curriculum Day - NO KINDER
- Tuesday 13th July – first day of Term 3.