BOOK WEEK
In week 5 we celebrated Book week with fancy dress each day, a visit by Carmel from Millicent Library who shared two stories and we joined children from childcare to visit the Millicent Library to participate in craft activities. Thank you to Paula Tunkin and Allison Jennings who joined us on the bus trip to the library.

READ-A-THON
Just a reminder to record the books you shared with your child during the read-a-thon on the bookworm display. If you are yet to return your record sheet, sponsorship forms and any donations, please do so by the end of this week so badges can be presented to all children who have read 14 books.

WORKING BEE
Please mark Sunday 29th September on your calendar. We have a list of jobs to improve our outside area. If you cannot make that date but would like to help please see Nikki to offer support.

FATHER’S DAY TWILIGHT KINDY
We had over 15 children and their Dads join us for twilight Kindy to celebrate Father’s Day. Activities included woodwork, a worm hunt, reading by torchlight, mini scarecrow making and a variety of fun tabletop activities. The evening concluded with a sausage sizzle and soup made by the children and then a bedtime story called “My Dad thinks he’s funny”. A special thank you to Yolana and Susan for the creative Dad biscuits.

PARENT PARTICIPATION
A special thank you to Jess Fitzgerald and Paula Tunkin who have come in early and shared a favourite story with the children. All children benefit greatly when collaborative partnerships with families are developed and maintained.

GOVERNING COUNCIL
The next meeting is on Friday 20th September at 9:00am.

SIGNS
Recently the children have noticed some safety issues which they have expressed concern about. Together we brainstormed ways to remind each other of expectations and creating signs was selected. This has proven to be a powerful tool where the child who notices the issue makes a sign and then explains to the group what it means.

So far, we have signs made by the children to remind others not to touch light switches, no balls near the swings, no eating the vegetables – let them grow, no spinning in the egg chair and to use only one piece of hand towel to dry your hands.

A visual reminder is a powerful tool in changing behaviours especially when their peers are reinforcing the agreed expectations.

REGARDS
Nikki, Tracey, and Sue

Diary

20/9 Governing Council meeting at 9am
26/9 Graduation for children starting school in Term 4 at 10:00
26/9 Last day of Term 3
29/9 Working Bee

Healthy Eating

Snack time and lunch time are part of the everyday learning program at McArthur Park Kindergarten. To support this we ask families to send nutritious snacks to kindergarten with their children. Please refrain from sending lollies to kindy, save these as a treat at home.

Nutritious food means that snacks will be
• low in added sugar
• low in salt and fat
• not over processed and have nutritional value for the child.

Reminder

Hats and sunblock are an expectation in Term 4. For the remainder of this term, if the weather is above 24 degrees please send a hat to protect skin from sun damage.

Care, Respect, Optimism, Learning, Discovery
Learning Outcomes

**Children have a strong sense of identity**
Thankyou to all who recently attended our twilight kindy session. The children on the night were certainly thrilled to have family participate in a variety of play based activities with them. Children thrive when families and educators work together in supporting young children learning.

**Children are connected to and contribute to their world.**
Spring has finally sprung and so have a variety of insects such as ladybirds and bees.
To develop children’s respect and appreciation of the role of insects we have observed them at work, used books to research, discussed cross pollination and natural pest control ie insects that eat other insects. On discovering a ladybird on one of our vegetable seedlings we now hear—"Leave it alone it’s working. By the way, have you met David the scarecrow? He is also at work—a rather large pest controller.

**Children are confident and involved learners**
We have noticed lots of children engaged in cooking activities in the sandpit as well as inside at the playdough table creating an array of delicious muffins, gingerbread men and cookies. We have also seen many a café set up with milkshakes and light lunches to sell. To further extend the cooking interest we involved the children in the preparation of the vegetable soup served during our twilight session. This week we will be making fruity milkshakes with the use of a milkshake maker and fruit preserved by Nikki and Sue.

**Children have a strong sense of well being**
For the past few weeks we have been providing children with strategies in dealing with the emotion of anger. We introduced a feelings chart (located on the office door) and visual cards worn by teachers as a way of identifying and letting others know how we are feeling when a conflict arises. This has helped with children in understanding how actions or words can have an impact on how we feel thus developing their sense of empathy.
With the recent warmer days children are eager to set up obstacle courses in the morning. We will be having more health hustles outside for our fun and fitness time.

**Children are effective communicators**
Bookweek this year was action packed with a variety of activities organized for kindy, home and the local Millicent library. We had the focus story of “Jack and the Beanstalk” and heard a few of this year’s award winning books read by Carmel and Ellie’s nanna. Our read-a-thon fundraiser also kicked off with Bookweek with many children now turned into “Bookworms” with family support.