I can’t believe it is Week 7 already! The term is flying. We hope your term is going well too and that you’re settling into Winter in Lameroo.

**Playing Outdoors** – Last Wednesday, Ali, Annita and June attended a Workshop in Murray Bridge about ‘Creative Outdoor Environments’. It was a really thought provoking session. It was obvious from the presentation, that early childhood environments for play should be places for exploration of nature, creativity, fun, getting dirty and experimenting with a variety of resources. We firmly believe in this approach at the Lameroo Kindergarten and continue to promote it but this session also provided us with further valuable ideas for play experiences in the outdoors. I couldn’t help thinking that it’s how many of us grew up at home! It’s great to see such a common sense approach returning to all early childhood sites, being now part of the National Quality Standards all around Australia.

**Matt Reid** visited us in Week 5 to remind the children about the importance of timely, effective and regular hand washing to prevent infection. He was able to cleverly show them the germs on their hands with the use of an ultraviolet light. The children then noticed the difference after they had washed their hands. We have used Matt’s visit since to keep the hand washing message in the children’s minds. We thank Matt very much for sharing his time and expertise with the children.

With the occurrence of so many coughs and colds around at the moment, we ask you to help us remind the children to not only wash their hands at home but also to cover their mouth with their arm when they cough or sneeze. (We say ‘arm’ rather than ‘hand’ as the hand can spread germs.) Thankyou.

**Curriculum - ‘Dinosaurs’**

In the last 2 weeks, we’ve shared learning about Dinosaurs. We have

- Talked about types of Dinosaurs, what they ate and how they used to live.
- Said Dinosaur names
- Sang songs and said rhymes about Dinosaurs
- Made ‘Dinosaur Eggs’ to eat!
- Compared the skeleton of a Dinosaur with our own and thought about bones and their importance to our bodies.
- Made Dinosaurs out of a variety of different resources.
- Made Dinosaur wings like those of a Pteranodon.

We enjoyed a visit from Mrs. Zerk’s Reception class last Friday when they came to share some Dinosaur activities with us. We have also shared some play time in the Primary School yard with the School children. These visits are a valuable part of our School Transition process.
**CURRICULUM** Continued:

In the last 4 Weeks, we’ll focus on our Kindergarten yard, ‘Life in the Outdoors’ including learning about the importance of trees, plants and animals and looking after the environment. It should be fun. We look forward to sharing our learning with you. If you have anything about the Outdoors that you would like to bring along and share, we’d love you to visit. It might be a frog you have found or caterpillar or butterfly or some flowers. We’d love you to bring the outdoors inside to us!

Our Programme for the last 4 weeks of term is attached.

**Transition Begins**

This week (Week 7) and in Weeks 8 and 9, School Transition visits will start for the Kindergarten children and Paula Zerk and Linda Borgmeyer’s class. Alexia Botha and Thomas Wooldridge are due to start their visits which will increase in duration finishing with a full day at school in Week 9. Unfortunately, due to Thomas being as yet unwell, Alexia will be attending by herself. We wish Thomas a speedy recovery now that he is at home and look forward to his being able to visit us at Kindy and at school.

**5 Minute Jobs**

At the end of each busy day at Kindergarten, there is much cleaning up and putting away to do. Each Term, Annita compiles a ROSTER and we ask our Parents to come to Kindergarten 5 minutes early at the end of the day to complete what we call some ‘5 Minute jobs’. These jobs might include some washing up, floor sweeping or bench wiping. All jobs are designed to only take about 5 minutes of your time. We hope that you can keep helping us with these jobs as your help is really valued. Please can you check the roster and mark the date on your calendar of your turn? Thankyou.

**NEW BUILDING EXTENSION AT THE LAMEROO KINDERGARTEN**

Many of you are aware that the Federal Government, through COGS is funding a new building extension at the eastern end of the Kindergarten which will provide a new ‘Sleep room’, office space and storage area for COGS and a shared learning space for the Kindergarten children and staff. We look forward to the completion of this project, part of which has begun with the asbestos removal of the eastern wall, verandah framework, blinds and pavers. THESE ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR SALE.

We are holding a ‘SILENT AUCTION’ of the following items if you are interested in buying them. Just put your bid into an envelope with your name on it and give it to Annita Noll. The ITEMS ARE:

- Some 22cmx22cm pavers to cover an area 5.36 metres x 7.60 metres
- A Verandah framework with ‘Track Blinds’
- An Electrolux Vacuum cleaner in good working condition (3 Years old) - (Take at own risk) - It was bought for Kindergarten use but no longer needed.
- One computer workstation (Grey melamine finish)

You are very welcome to come and have a look at the items.
**PIE DRIVE**
We have had a fantastic response to our 'Pie Drive' this year; there was a large number of orders as was shown by all the pie orders being assembled last Friday at Kindy. Thankyou to everyone who has supported it. The money raised (over $400) will go towards our Bike Track work at Kindergarten.

**A BIG THANKYOU** goes to Tracey Dowd who has organised this fundraiser and allowed it to run so smoothly. Tracey has done a great job. We would also like to thank Katrina Altus and Michelle and Matt Reid for their time and effort in sorting all the orders last Friday. A terrific effort from everyone.

**SIGNING IN AND OUT at Kindy**
Please can you make sure that you sign your child in and out each day that they attend Kindy? The 'Attendance Register' is kept on the front cupboard next to the kitchen. If your child travels by BUS, Ali will sign the register. Thanks.

**Afternoon Snacks**
We have started having an ‘Afternoon Snack Time’ at Kindy noticing that the children are quite hungry again by then. It also allows them to finish off any left over food from their lunch boxes.

**TALKING TIME is each Friday. Week 8’s Topic is on Friday, 15 June and is: ‘A drawing I have done’**

**Important Dates to remember:**

Week 7: June 12 - Transition sessions start

Week 9: Governing Council Meeting June 19, at 7.30pm

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**Week 10: June 29 – LAST DAY OF KINDERGARTEN TERM and Kindergarten will dismiss at 2.20PM in line with the School. (PLEASE MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR)**

* Term 3 Starts on Tuesday, 17th July.*

Have a great week! All the best. Please feel free to talk to Ali or any of the staff if you have questions, queries or some great news to share.

Ali, Annita, Lisa, June and Denise.