

## Program News May 27<sup>th</sup> 2019

Our kindergarten program aims to encourage children to become independent learners who are able to develop various dispositions for learning such as curiosity, cooperation, confidence, creativity, enthusiasm, persistence and imagination. We also want children to develop a strong sense of identity while feeling connected to their kindergarten group socially.

Much of the planning time over the past couple of weeks has been spent creating learning spaces which have resources available for children to extend their own play and begin to learn to play alongside/with others sharing ideas.



Educators have made a conscious decision to provide outdoor experiences which support and reflect our changing weather. During summer we had many water play activities and have now begun to introduce more active activities suitable for colder days. This planning cycle will see children begin playing in the digging patch. Planning involved the decision to refill the dirt patch area with a large amount of soil.

We wanted children to be involved in the process to encourage ownership of the area. I arranged for a truck to deliver a pile of dirt to the kinder playground so as children could be involved with moving it to the digging patch site. This was a wonderful learning experience for developing physical wellbeing as children manipulated tools, dug, carried and balanced wheelbarrows. There were also opportunities for developing negotiating skills through sharing, deciding who was shovelling, who was pushing, tipping etc. There was a real sense of achievement with being able to dig and move a soft material and in seeing the huge pile slowly becoming smaller and smaller.



The children have really enjoyed the story of The Gingerbread Man. Through exploration of the story the children were able to **Engage with a range of texts and get meaning from these texts.**

We read the story, retold it using puppets, dramatized the story, made paper gingerbread men, used playdough to make gingerbread people and baked gingerbread cookies.



We have been on our first outing having a picnic lunch in the park. Over coming weeks, we will begin our community walks in conjunction with the road safety program. Today Emily, from Wheelers Hill library acme to read to us.



You may notice some new equipment which we have been able to purchase using fundraising money from the 2018 Bunnings BBQ. We have purchased a double set of road tracks which are used on the floor and joined lick a puzzle ( a road version of a train set), new vehicles, new puzzles, construction sets, outdoor traffic signs/lights. Please continue to support this years BBQ by helping on the roster, your contribution will ensure we continue to eb able to purchase new equipment. Our big wish list is to have a bike path installed right around the edge of the playground so as children can have a great area for bike riding and learning about road safety.