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| February Newsletter |
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C & K Hoey St Community Kindergarten

# Upcoming Events

## February 27

***Monday* 27 Feb** is a ***PUPIL FREE DAY*** at kindy. Which means that Miss Bec and myself will be catching up on a few things without children in attendance.

**February 28th (Group A)**

Easter Raffle tickets are sent home.

**March 2nd (Group B)**

Easter Raffle tickets are sent home

**March 1st (Both groups)**

Parent Meet & Greet ~ 3.30pm at kindy

## March 24

All sold and unsold raffle tickets and money to be returned to kindy

**March 27th**

Cookie dough order forms go home (A Group)

**March 29th**

Teddy Bears Picnic (A group)

**March 30th**

Cookie dough order forms go home (B Group)

**March 31st**

Teddy Bears Picnic (B Group)

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| Important Announcement Have you found us on face book yet?  *C & K Hoey St Kindergarten Parent Group*  *This is a closed group, if you’d like to join please see Beth at kindy.*  That cheeky elf on the shelf is hiding, can you find him? |

19 Hoey St Sarina

[hoeyst@candk.asn.au](mailto:hoeyst@candk.asn.au) T: 07 4943 0686

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| *We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our kindergarten is placed. We pay respect to all Elders past, present and future.*  Welcome |
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## Welcome

## A little late but better than never. I would like to sincerely welcome you all to our lovely kindergarten. We’re in for a busy year beginning with our first fundraiser, an Easter raffle going home soon. As a community based organization we hold a number of fundraisers throughout the year which help us to purchase those little extras that our budget does not provide. In recent years through parent’s support, we have been able to purchase new curtains which support the kindy in being sustainable by helping to keep the main room cool, provided $3,000 towards the upgrade of our playground and purchased new equipment for the children and center. Your contribution will be very much appreciated.

On Wednesday March 1 parents are invited to attend an afternoon tea at kindy at 3.30pm. It’s a wonderful opportunity to meet families from both groups. We will also be seeking parents to sit on our Community Advisory Group or affectionately known as CAG. Members of CAG support the director in her role with fundraising etc. You don’t have to be a current kindy family to participate hence the Community Advisory Group.

This newsletter will include information that you may not be aware of, upcoming dates, reminders and a little of what the children have been up to.

We hope your year with us will be full of fun, laughter and learning as we journey through it together.

# So far this term……

# There’s been painting, puzzles, drawing and collage. We have also observed great teamwork and children helping each other. A few tears which is definitely not unusual for this time of the year. Even though we speak in terms of weeks, the children have only been in attendance at kindy for seven days. Each child is unique and will cope with their new routine differently. Please see Beth (Mrs H) if you have any concerns or queries.

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| FUNDRAISINGEast basket fundraiser For this raffle we ask parents/caregivers to donate an egg for our basket which will be placed in the foyer beside the sign in book week beginning March 6th.  **Cookie dough (coming soon)**  For families who would like to participate, our second fundraiser are tubs of delectable (some like to eat it straight out of the container) cookie dough. Various flavors will be available.  **Teddy Bears Picnic**  Parents are invited to join the kindergarten children on the last day of term. A Groups last day is Wednesday 29th March. Siblings are most welcome to attend but are the responsibility of the parents.  Children are asked to bring their favorite teddy on the day. There will be activates and games to enjoy.  Parents attending are asked to provide a picnic lunch for themselves and their kindy child. The picnic is held in the playground.  More information to follow. |
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Child initiated topics covered so far this term:

* Sharks

We’re learning a new song at kindy…it goes like this;

One egg, two eggs, three eggs, four, five eggs, six eggs, seven eggs more. Eight eggs, nine eggs another makes ten. Ten little eggs are nestled under Mother Hen.

Crackle and pop, Crackle and pop, Crackle and pop pop pop.

One chick, two chicks, three chicks, four, five chicks, six chicks, seven chicks more. Eight chicks, nine chicks, another makes ten. Ten little chicks are waddling after Mother Hen.

* Does your child have spare clothes at kindy?
* Has their immunization recently been updated? If so has Katrina received a copy of the update for our files?
* Have your contact details changed including home address, email address, mobile / home phone number? If so, please let myself (Beth) or Katrina know.
* Have your bank details changed?

**Just a reminder!**

Pick up time is 2.30pm.

There is a late fee of $20 for the first ten minutes or part thereof plus $1.50 for every minute thereafter.

If you think you will be running late, please contact the kindergarten so that we can be prepared.

If you would like to contact me over the weekend regarding your child or information about an upcoming event, I can be contacted at [hoeyst@candk.asn.au](mailto:hoeyst@candk.asn.au)

Kind regards Beth

Other things that will be happening this year:

* Excursion to the library
* Excursion to the Historical Village
* Excursions to Sarina Aged Care facility
* Fireman visit
* Fiona from Mackay City Council visiting
* Local dentist visiting kindy
* The Puppet Lady visiting kindy
* Mike Jackson visiting kindy
* Mothers and Father’s day Celebrations;
* ANZAC Day
* Kindy disco
* Pie Drive
* Pyjama Day
* Book Week celebrations

Parent volunteers will be sought to act as supervisors on our excursions.

We are currently seeking donations of the following:

* Old sheets
* Old towels
* Old Curtains
* Odd puzzle pieces
* Unused mobile phones

**Please keep in mind when checking your communication pockets that you ‘dig deep’. On occasions smaller notices tend to slip down making them hard to see.**

**Just a reminder!**

AS the Director of C & K Hoey St Kindergarten everything that happens at the kindergarten is my responsibility. If you have important information you’d like to share about your child, please speak to me as information shared with others can get lost or forgotten in the business of the day. There is a communication book on top of the children’s lockers. If I am unavailable, please make note of your query or request an interview so that we can chat in private. Many thanks Beth

**Just a reminder!**

All monies bought into kindy should be placed in a sealed envelope marked clearly with your name and purpose; for example: *Beth Hansen*/ *Pie Drive* before being placed in the now secure mail box provided in the foyer.

***Please do not hand money over***

***to educator’s.***

Do you know someone who is not a current kindergarten parent who would like to be a part of our Community Advisory Group? They will require a current Blue Card and be a registered C & K volunteer. Please see Beth for more information.

**Staff roles and responsibilities:**

**Director/Teacher** – Mrs Hansen (Beth) runs the service, everything from enrolments, newsletters, applying for grants, paperwork, completing tasks relevant to Government regulations, ensuring that all C & K and Government policies are being adhered to, organisng staff and staff training, as well as teaching both groups, being responsible for portfolios, planning, excursions, making daily decisions regarding the welfare of the children. For instance, whether we play in or outdoors depending on the weather, keeping our environment safe and covered by regulations. Yard maintenance, mentor’s students. Parent interviews.

**Educator** – Miss Bec supports the director, prepares paint etc., cleans, plays and teaches the children.

**Administration** – Miss Katrina’s role is to liaise between the Director, kindy and head office. Organize files, take enrolments, fees, responds to parent’s questions, fundraising and paperwork.

**What is a pupil free day you might ask!**

Educators are allocated four pupil free days a year (one per term) to attend training and development. This can be completed at the kindy or out attending training. For instance, Friday 16th June is a pupil free day as the Director (Beth) attends the Directors Conference in Brisbane on that day.

**What is a Non-Contact Day?**

Each year the Director/Teachers are entitled to a number of these throughout the year. The workload is dependent on what is happening during the term. Term 1 is usually set aside for profiling, portfolios and term one assessment for 44 children. Term 2 could be profiling and whether the children’s goals are being set; if not how best we can support them in this. Term 3 is usually portfolios, learning and assessment, while Term 4’s focus is on writing transition statements for each child in readiness for the end of year transition to prep.

Have you checked out the playground yet? We’re very happy with it and love watching your children explore and use it in their own unique ways. Stay and play, enjoy the kindy environment with your child. You’d be most welcome!

Did you know that the C & K website includes parenting information; well worth a visit.

[www.candk.asn.au](http://www.candk.asn.au)

Some of you may have seen these already, for those who haven’t the following web sites hold a wealth of parenting information to support families and their children.

Websites which promote children’s development and learning and love of literacy include:

[http://deta.qld.gov.au/earlychildhood/families/kindy/kindyfun/index.html](https://www.vision6.com.au/ch/54581/17xxj/2156916/252a39hy0.html)  
  
[http://deta.qld.gov.au/earlychildhood/families/suggested-booklists.html](https://www.vision6.com.au/ch/54581/17xxj/2156917/252a3w636.html)  
  
[http://deta.qld.gov.au/earlychildhood/families/tips/index.html](https://www.vision6.com.au/ch/54581/17xxj/2106310/252a3441.html);

**Literacy -** **Let’s read**  
[http://www.letsread.com.au/Professionals](https://www.vision6.com.au/ch/54581/17xxj/2156918/252a3ds5g.html)  
  
**first5forever:**  
[http://first5forever.org.au/](https://www.vision6.com.au/ch/54581/17xxj/2156919/252a3vvtg.html)  
  
**Kidsafe:**  
In relation to safety for children, advice can be sought from Kidsafe, in particular to home safety and playground safety:  
[http://www.kidsafeqld.com.au/](https://www.vision6.com.au/ch/54581/17xxj/2156920/252a33hm7.html)  
Kidsafe has a range of downloadable fact sheets and resources useful for educators and families.  
  
**KidsMatter**  
  
KidsMatter is a mental health and wellbeing initiative for children. KidsMatter Early Childhood works with early childhood education and care services to support the mental health and wellbeing of young children, their families and early childhood educators using a promotion, prevention and early intervention framework.  
[https://www.kidsmatter.edu.au/early-childhood](https://www.vision6.com.au/ch/54581/17xxj/2156921/252a3t4cr.html)

Did you know,

* *ninety percent of brain development occurs in the first five years of life, it’s vital that we expose young children to as much language and literacy as we can.*  
    
  *Children are born ready to learn and some of the best learning comes from nurturing relationships full of singing, playing, reading and talking.*  
    
  *Engaging children in rich language experiences from birth builds a foundation for their future development that can last a lifetime.* <http://first5forever.org.au/>

***TERM 1, WEEK 1 - WELCOME***

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child to C & K Hoey Street Kindergarten. Starting kindergarten is an exciting, though sometimes overwhelming experience for many families. It signals the start of the formal education process, and is a sure sign that your child is growing up! If this is the first time you have enrolled a child in kindergarten, you may be wondering just what benefits there are for that child. There are literally mountains of academic research devoted to the subject, but, in brief, kindergarten programs are designed to enhance your child’s development in the following key areas:

* social skills, like how to play with other children in a calm, sharing and rewarding way
* self-awareness and respect for others
* emotional skills, for example understanding their feelings
* language, literacy and numeracy skills, such as reading stories and counting objects
* a joy for learning and group activities, such as talking, drawing and making things together with other children their own age
* ability to make new friends
* exposure to new ideas and concepts

Your child will explore creativity, numeracy, literacy, science, physical development, social interaction and Information communication technology through their play and learning opportunities provided during their time at kindergarten. Experts agree that children who attend a high quality early childhood program have better skills in areas such as communication, reading, numeracy, problem solving and socialization throughout their education. At C & K Hoey Street Community kindergarten our goal is to support your child to become a confident, competent and successful learner and to facilitate a smooth and effective transition to school.

We strongly value teacher-parent relationships and hope that as your child grows, so too will the connection between home and kindergarten. In truth, we don’t just enroll children at our kindergarten – we enroll entire families! Please do not hesitate to make time to discuss any matters that may be of interest or concern throughout the year. We are looking forward to a wonderful year, assisting your child to learn more about themselves, each other, and the world around them.

Mrs Hansen (Beth) and Miss Bec