Dear Parents,

We hope that you have found the Kindergarten newsletter helpful this term as new routines were being established. As of next term, there will be no Kindergarten newsletter. However, the Bethany Newsletter and the Skoolbag app will continue to be a good source of information for all Kindergarten parents. We encourage you to always check your child’s note pocket, as we may send home notes periodically if we need to communicate upcoming Kindergarten events etc.

What’s happening in Kindergarten next week?

- **Religion** – We will be concluding our unit ‘God Loves Me’. We will be focusing on ways in which God shows love for us, and ways we can show love for others.

- **English** – We will conclude our author study of Eric Carle. The book focus for the week is ‘The Tiny Seed’ Children are introduced to letters, words, text direction, spacing between words, full stops and capital letters. Children will be singing ‘Ants in the Apple’ to assist in developing their phonemic awareness.

- **Mathematics** – The focus for the week is multiplication (modelling equal groups).

- **HSIE** – We will continue our History unit ‘Personal and Family Histories’, focussing on what information we can gather from photos and images of the past.

Special Messages.....

- Next week children will only bring home readers (no sight words or homework sheet). Please return readers on THURSDAY, so that new readers can be organised for the holidays.

- Next Friday 8th April is Grandparents Day. There will be a Mass at 9:00a.m, followed by morning tea, then open classrooms from 11:00a.m. We hope many grandparents will be able to join us!

- Occasionally children have toileting accidents at school. Please ensure that a spare pair of underpants and socks are kept in your child’s school bag just in case.
Next Thursday 7th April Kindergarten will be having a fundraiser to support Mrs Howell and Miss Bagster on their pilgrim journey for World Youth Day.

Kindergarten are asked to come dressed as a book character next Thursday and donate $2 to participate in this event. Please do not spend a lot of money on a costume. Feel free to use what you already have at home, or borrow a costume if possible. Whatever you can find will be fine!

On this day, Kindergarten will spend some time with their Year 6 buddies reading and sharing stories. We encourage Kindergarten children to bring in one of their favourite books from home to share with their buddy on the day, and also ask that they return their Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? book next Thursday to read to their buddy.

During recess, Kindergarten will be responsible for running a Munch ‘n’ Crunch for the school. Each child is asked to contribute an item such as jelly cups, cupcakes, a slice, cookies, lolly bags etc. for this event. Thank you to the small number of parent helpers who have volunteered to assist with the Munch ‘n’ Crunch so far. We would greatly appreciate a few more helpers to assist with this from about 10:00a.m to 11:15a.m. If you are able to help, and have not let a Kindergarten teacher know, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you to Mrs Mel Almer who has kindly offered to coordinate the Munch ‘n’ Crunch on the day.

Holiday Fun…

During the holidays keep up the great reading at home! To help continue develop important reading skills, we will send home readers with each child to use over the holidays. Please ensure these are returned on the first day back next term so that we can organise new readers for the week. Remember to make all reading experiences enjoyable. It is important to encourage your child to use a variety of reading strategies such as using pictures, sight word knowledge, letter/sound knowledge, finding smaller words inside larger words, reading ahead, and thinking about what makes sense while reading. It is also essential that you discuss what your child has read. Ask some comprehension questions about the story and discuss your child’s favourite part of the story. Remember, reading without meaning is not reading!

Also, it would be a great idea to continue using ‘Reading Eggs’ during the holidays. Perhaps even a trip to the local library – it’s free and fun! Your child might also enjoy writing a recount at home about some of their holiday experiences.

Remember to maximise opportunities to develop your child’s numeracy skills in the holidays too! Playing number games involving dice, counting collections, reading numbers in the environment (at the shops, on mailboxes) are all fun ways to develop numeracy skills. Rote counting forwards and backwards, and identifying one more and one less than a given number are great skills to be revising in the holidays.

We look forward to a busy and exciting Term Two.

Kind regards,
Sue Neilly, Karina Davis and Karen Shillito