Hello Everyone and Welcome to Term 2!

This term we welcome two new families: Luke Weymouth and his parents, Kylie and Paul, and Ethan Willson and his parents, Lauren and Lucas. Luke will be attending on Mondays and Wednesdays and Ethan will be attending on Tuesdays and Thursdays, please look after our new friends!

Did you all have a great time with your family over the holiday break? The children have been sharing their holiday memories in their work books. Thank you to everyone who has returned the children’s work books but there are still several work books missing which is making it difficult for the children and staff when we do work in our books. Please could you make sure you have returned your child’s work book.

Our focus this term is ‘Creatures of our world’ and we are hoping you will be able to help your child make a poster about their favourite creature which they will share at kindergarten during group times. A letter explaining the project with an A3 sheet of paper is being sent home this week. The projects that the children completed last term have now been added to their work books.

The term overview and weekly program is already in the Learning Journal with details of some of the stories and songs we will be using, so take time to have a look. Term 1 LJ is also on the entrance table for you to see how it ended, we would appreciate your comments at the end of book please. If you would like to borrow it to have a longer look please speak with the staff team.

During the term I will be attending a Nature Based Learning Study Tour in Scotland investigating forest preschools (the children do all of their learning out of doors). I will also be visiting a preschool in Ireland and several preschools in Norway, which are also outdoor learning centres. I have been very interested in this way of working with young children and I am very excited to be able to organise this trip. I will be taking 4 weeks long service leave for this study tour from Monday May 18th and returning Monday June 15th. During my absence I am delighted to inform you that Louise Montesi will be the Acting Director and Crystal Morphett (who has been doing relief teaching during Term 1) will be working as the teacher. The children have already formed a warm relationship with Crystal so I know that they will enjoy having her as their teacher.

Cynthia Meredith
Family Funtastics Fundraising Days
At the end of last term we enjoyed our Family Funtastics Fundraising Days where the children completed 4 laps of an obstacle course and hopefully they had family and friends sponsors them for their efforts. It is now time to return your sponsorship money. This is our biggest fundraising event for the year and this year we will be putting this money towards a special excursion later in the term to the zoo and also for our special ‘Dancify’ program in Term 3. Please could you place your child’s sponsorship money in the butterfly box on the kitchen bench.

Celebrating May Day with a Maypole Dancing Display
Next week we will be celebrating Great Britain by sharing activities such as Maypole Dancing which is part of traditional May Day celebrations. If you have associations with Great Britain we hope you will be able to share some of your experiences with the children as we research cultures and customs. We are planning a special display of our Maypole dancing on Wednesday 6th May and Thursday 7th May at the end of the day, so come a little bit earlier (3:00pm) to see the children dancing around the artificial pole.

CAYHS health check——Monday May 11th all day
There will be a nurse at the kindergarten to do the 4year old screenings which include hearing, sight and general well being. Please speak with Tess for more information or to make an appointment.

Mother’s Day
The children will be preparing something special for their mums as we encourage them to remember all the special things their mums do as part of celebrating Mother’s Day. We hope you will all enjoy a special time with your family on Mother’s Day Sunday May 10th.

Hawthorndene Kindergarten Governing Council——Tuesday May 12th
The next meeting will be on Tuesday 12th May 7:15 for 7:30pm start. We hope you will be able to join us at this meeting, we will be looking at the Quality Improvement Plan and reviewing the plans for the future including an excursion later this term. I will also be sharing further information about the director’s study tour.

Washing Roster
Here’s your chance to have a positive input into kindy in a practical way! Yes it’s the washing roster which needs filling again. Thankyou to everyone who helped last term, apply now so that you can have a turn this term, don’t miss out see Tess for the location of the roster if you are not sure.

Excursion plans
The staff team are planning an excursion later in the term and we will be needing volunteers, there will be more information soon. If you would like to volunteer you will need to have a DCSI screening check which can be arranged through the kindergarten and you need to do the RAN training as mentioned below.

Responding to Abuse and Neglect Training
There are now 20+ members of the kindy community who have had training but there are some parents who were unable to attend the recent training and would like to be trained please let Cynthia know as soon as possible so that another time can be arranged. At this time I have one person who would like to do the training!

Kind regards,
Cynthia Meredith, Louise Montesi and Tess Gibbs.