



Welcome to the October – December Newsletter

A warm welcome to all of the families who have joined us over the past couple of months.

Butterflies Childcare & Early Learning Centre was formed on the lands of the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation.

We acknowledge Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the Traditional Custodians of this country and their connection to the land, water and community in which we operate.

We pay our respect to them, their cultures and customs and to Elders both past and present.

In this issue...

Calendar of Events

Kindergarten Information

SunSmart Policy

Local Businesses

Community Events



Meeting place

A little bit about us...

Butterflies Childcare & Early Learning Centre is a small, family owned organisation comprising of two early childhood education & care services in the northern suburbs of Melbourne.

The company directors; a husband and wife team along with their four children, dreamt of opening their own childcare & kindergarten where they could ensure high quality education and care in a setting that feels like a 'second home' to families and their children.

Our first service; Butterflies Childcare & ELC Orchard Road opened in November 2011 and has been providing high quality education and care to families from the Doreen, Mernda, Yarrambat, Whittlesea and Diamond Creek areas.

After 10 years of operation and the opportunity to expand, Butterflies Childcare & ELC Mulwala Drive opened its doors in January 2021. The Mulwala Drive service is owned and run by the same family and some of our wonderful and experienced educators have moved over from Orchard Road to ensure consistency for children and families and to ensure the organisation's philosophy is upheld and implemented.

Upcoming Events



World Mental Health Day

Monday 10th October

The overall objective of World Mental Health Day is to raise awareness of mental health issues around the world and to mobilize efforts in support of mental health.

The Day provides an opportunity for all stakeholders working on mental health issues to talk about their work, and what more needs to be done to make mental health care a reality for people worldwide.

Grandparents Day

Friday 28th October

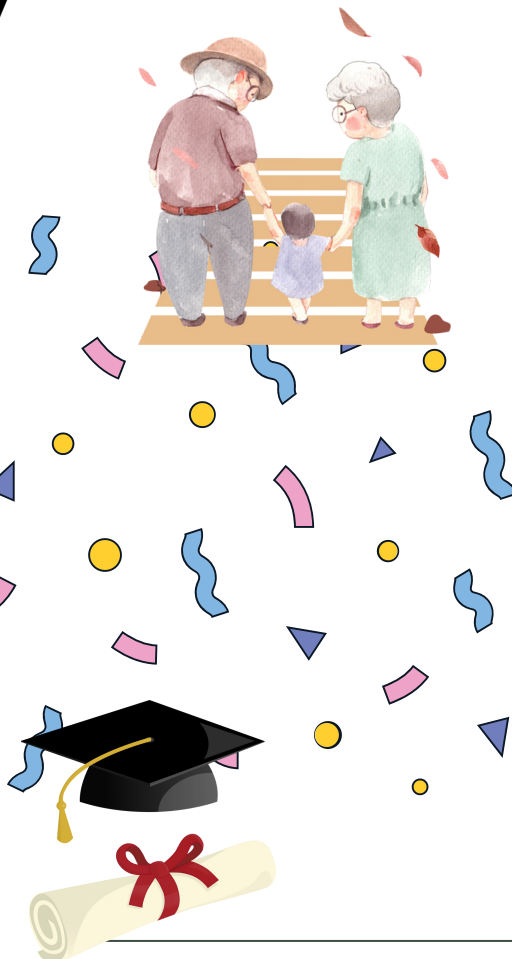
We welcome all grandparents and special persons to join us for some special activities here at the centre.

Time to be confirmed

Kindergarten Graduation

We will be celebrating the 4 year old kindergarten graduation in November (Date to be announced).

Graduation is a wonderful opportunity to bring all of the children together to celebrate a wonderful year of learning, fun and friendships.



Christmas Picnic

Friday 9th December

Our annual Christmas Picnic in the park will be held on Friday the 9th of December, at Fortress Park Playground, Doreen. We will have a very special visit from the Doreen CFA - who will be bringing Santa along to say hello to all of the children!!

As part of our covidsafe strategy we invite all families to bring along a picnic dinner.

Face painting
Gelati truck
CFA visit with Santa



Upcoming Events continued...



World Sight Day

Thursday 13th October

World Sight Day (WSD) is an international day of awareness, held annually on the second Thursday of October to focus attention on the global issue of eye health.

On World Sight Day, IAPB members work together to:

- Raise public awareness of blindness and vision impairment as major international public health issues.
- Influence Governments/Ministers of Health to participate in and designate funds for national blindness prevention programmes.
- Educate target audiences about blindness prevention.



Pyjama Day

Tuesday 18th October

It's PYJAMA DAY at Butterflies! Wear your comfy PJ's, bring along a special teddy and join us for a day of fun. Parents welcome to wear their PJ's in for drop off and pick up!!



Children's Week

Monday 24th October

The Children's Week Council of Australia is responsible for encouraging and supporting the widest possible participation of all States and Territories in Children's Week. Children's Week is an annual event celebrated in Australia held around the fourth Wednesday in October. A diverse range of events and activities are organised at National, State and Local levels. These focus the attention of the wider community on children, their rights and achievements. Children's Week celebrates the right of children to enjoy childhood.



Diwali

Monday 24th October. We will be celebrating DIWALI!!

Diwali celebrates Rama's eventual defeat of the evil spirit Ravana, and his triumphant return to his home. The business community considers it an auspicious time to start new ventures, as the festival coincides with the Hindu New Year. The children will be served a delicious lunch made with love by our cook, educators and families who wish to participate. Please see management if you would like to be involved in this wonderful day,

Melbourne Cup Public Holiday (centre closed)

Tuesday 1st November

Remembrance Day

Friday 11th November

World Diabetes Day

Monday 14th November

Kindergarten Lunchbox Week

Monday 28th November

Christmas lunch

Friday 23rd December



Kindergarten News



3 Year Old Kindergarten

The 3 Year Old Kindergarten Program is delivered between the hours of 6:30am and 6:30pm.

If your child is currently enrolled at Butterflies, they will have a guaranteed position in our 3 & 4 Year old Kindergarten in the year they are due.

In 2023 Kindergarten will be FREE**

**See our management team for more information on how this applies to your family.



The benefits of Learning through play

Educators draw on their values, professional knowledge and skills as they pay close attention to the interrelated pedagogical practices outlined in the Early Years Learning Framework:

- holistic approaches
- responsiveness to children
- learning through play
- learning environments
- intentional teaching
- cultural competence
- continuity of learning and transitions
- assessment for learning

Planning and teaching for learning through play has long been considered a key feature of early childhood education—a feature which distinguishes it from other sectors of education and is deeply grounded in our history. The EYLF has a specific emphasis on play-based learning and teaching. It acknowledges that children have a right to play under the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNICEF, 1989).

3 & 4 Year Old Kindergarten

Butterflies Childcare & Early Learning Centre currently offers a 3 Year Old Kindergarten Program as well as a Government Funded 4 Year Old Kindergarten Program. Children must be at least 3 years old by 30th April in the year they attend 3 Year Old Kinder and 4 years old by 30th of April in the year they attend 4 Year Old Kinder.



SunSmart Reminders



Hats & Sunscreen

Sun smart times have commenced and all children must wear a hat at all times when outdoors.

Skin cancer is one of the most preventable cancers. UV exposure during childhood and adolescence has a big impact on future skin cancer risk. Reducing UV exposure reduces skin cancer risk.



Other strategies we implement to protect children:

- Our educators will apply sunscreen to all exposed skin 20 minutes before going outdoors.
- We have had our shade sails put back up and we will set up activities in the shade and direct children to shaded areas.
- Please also ensure you send your child in a T-shirt and not a singlet to protect their shoulders.



SunSmart Widget for when you're out and about

Did you know - you can find the SunSmart Widget on our website for when you're out and about.

www.butterflies-childcare.com.au

Just load the page and scroll down!

UV rating. What does it mean?

Ultraviolet (UV) radiation is a type of energy produced by the sun and some artificial sources, such as arc welders and solariums.

The sun's UV is the main cause of skin cancer. Too much UV exposure also causes sunburn, tanning, premature ageing and eye damage.

The UV Index

The World Health Organization's Global Solar UV Index measures UV levels on a scale from 0 (Low) to 11+ (Extreme). Sun protection is recommended when UV levels are 3 (Moderate) or higher.

The UV level is affected by a number of factors including the time of day, time of year, cloud cover, altitude, location and surrounding surfaces.

The UV Index and the sun protection times. The sun protection times are issued when UV levels are forecast to be 3 or higher. At this level there is a risk of skin damage for most Australians.

SUN PROTECTION and the UV INDEX										
Low		Moderate			High		Very High		Extreme	
UV INDEX	UV INDEX	UV INDEX	UV INDEX	UV INDEX	UV INDEX	UV INDEX	UV INDEX	UV INDEX	UV INDEX	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11+
SUN PROTECTION NOT REQUIRED		SUN PROTECTION REQUIRED								
Unless outdoors for extended periods, or near reflective surfaces such as snow or water.		Wear sun-protective clothing, a broad-brimmed hat and sunglasses. Apply SPF30+ sunscreen to any unprotected skin. Seek shade.								

Storypark



What is Storypark?

Storypark is an easy-to-use private online service that helps teachers, parents and families work together to record, share and extend children's learning.

Your child's development is documented in photos, videos, stories, moments, notes and responses.

Each family will receive an invitation to Storypark. It is free to join and use.

Parents can also choose to invite other family members to share the joy of their child's day and allow others to follow the child's development, look at photos and videos and comment on stories!



Why do we use Storypark?

Storypark supports parents and families to:

- Be part of their child's day no matter where they are.
- Extend their child's interests and learning.
- Record their child's stories and keep them forever.
- Share and collaborate with wider family in a safe, private environment.
- Perfect for any parent or family situation, including working couples, separated parents and overseas relatives.
- It's totally free for families to access.

How do I access my Storypark account?

Download the Storypark for Families iOS app or Android app today and log in using your Storypark account. Upon enrolment, you will receive a link to create your child's profile.

Visit the Storypark for Families Help Centre to learn more about the Storypark app or see one of our friendly team members for assistance.



CovidSafe Update



Drop off and Pickup procedures

IA friendly reminder about our current drop off and pick up procedure here at Butterflies.

We ask that families **DO NOT** enter the children's rooms at morning drop off or evening pick up times but rather wait at your child's room door for an educator to greet you.

We introduced this new drop off and pick up procedure as part of our COVIDsafe policy. Although we introduced this procedure due to health and safety reasons, we saw many benefits with children's social and emotional well being.



Benefits seen at morning drop off

We saw benefits for children who were being dropped off in the morning. Children were able to separate more easily without the distraction of many other children and educators around with unnecessary sensory stimulation impacting the drop off.

We saw benefits for children who had already been dropped off who were still settling into the room. Previously, each time the room door would open and another parent would walk into the room, this would unsettle the children over and over.

Benefits seen at afternoon/evening pick up

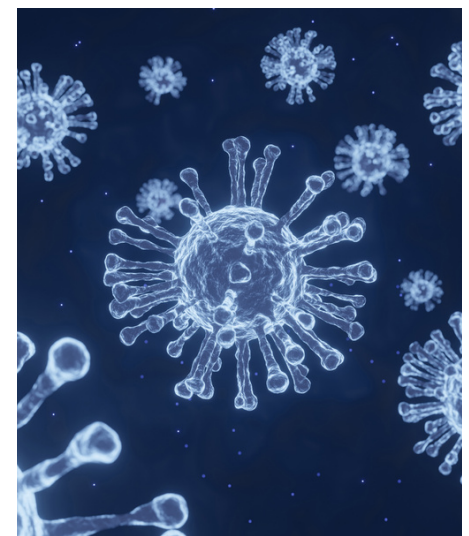
We also saw benefits in the afternoons and evenings when children are being picked up. Children who are here later do not have a large number of parents entering the room one after the other to collect their children before they themselves are picked up. Previously, each time the room door would open and another set of parents would walk into the room, children would become unsettled or even anxious over and over again with each parent entering the room.

Longer term benefits

We did not expect to see these benefits to occur from implementing a new procedure due to COVID but now that we have, we have a duty of care to keep these procedures in place and continue to provide a safe, secure and predictable environment for all of the children here at Butterflies.

If you arrive to your child's room door and the children and educators are all outside you may proceed through the room to the next door. Please ensure you **DO NOT** enter the yard, where the children and educators are present.

Please take note of family grouping rooms, if your child is no longer in their room.



Family Grouping

Family grouping is in the Ladybugs room in the early morning, and the Witchetty grubs in the late evening.

We thank you for your understanding as we do our best to provide a safe, secure and predictable environment for all children here at Butterflies.

Local Businesses



DESIGN

Excavation & Landscaping



BREAKFAST - LUNCH - CATERING



U5, 121 Elation Blvd, Doreen VIC 3754

8735 7359

www.doreendental.com.au

info@doreendentalclinic.com.au

gia  pilates

WHEN YOU SUPPORT A

Small business,

YOU'RE SUPPORTING
A DREAM



Do you have a business you'd like to share?

Whether you own your own business, or would like to shout out to a local business here, let us know at info@butterflies-childcare.com.au

Send us some information along with a business logo to be included in our next newsletter.

There is no charge for this - we're all about connecting families with their local community and supporting local.



Community Events



Bringing up great kids (6-week program)

Event details

Facilitator: ParentZone and Drummond Street Services
Date: Wednesday, 12 October 2022
Time: 10:00AM – 12:00PM
Location: TBA
Contact: Family Services Education Officer
Phone: 9404 8865
Cost: Free
Registration - Book online



Highlights

Bringing up great kids parenting program is a mindful parenting program which gives parents the skills to slow down and respond to children in a calm and relaxed manner, leading to less stress in their lives and positive changes in their children's behaviour. The BUGK program supports parents as they explore what influences their parenting practices, and the messages their passing onto their children. Recommended for: parents/carers of children (aged 2-10 years of age)

Let's celebrate Diwali

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Tuning into kids (6-week program)

Event details

Facilitator: KidsFirst Australia and ParentZone
Date: From Thursday, 20 October 2022 to Thursday, 24 November 2022
Time: 10:00AM – 12:00PM
Location: TBA
Contact: Family Services Education Officer
Phone: 9404 8865
Cost: Free
Registration - Book online
Highlights

Tuning into Kids (TiK) is a program that provides parents and carers with skills in emotion coaching. Emotion coaching is about recognising, understanding and managing your own emotions as a caregiver as well as your children's emotions. When children develop these emotional skills, they are better equipped to negotiate the ups and downs of life. TiK is an evidence-based program; randomised controlled research trials have shown that it makes a difference to parents and children. Recommended for: parents/carers of children (aged 3-10 who live in Yarra, Darebin, Whittlesea, Banyule and Nillumbik Councils)

Community Events continued...



Read, Play and Connect – 22 November 2022

Event details

Facilitator: Early Years Team and Yarra Plenty Regional Library
Date: Tuesday, 22 November 2022
Time: 10:30AM – 12:00PM
Location: Whittlesea Library, 57-61 Laurel Street, Whittlesea
Contact: Family Services Education Officer
Phone: 9404 8865
Cost: Free

Registration – Book online

Highlights

Read, Play and Connect brings together our community at the local library for story time, games and activities with your children. Families can connect at your local community hub with the City of Whittlesea Early Years team to be informed on services, programs and events happening in your Neighbourhood. Recommended for: parents/carers of children



Whittlesea Show

Event details

The Whittlesea Show began as a fair in 1859 and has grown to become one of the best Shows in Victoria. The purpose of the Show is to educate, inform and entertain – bringing agriculture, farming and rural knowledge to the wider public.

Date: From Saturday, 5 November 2022 to Sunday, 6 November 2022

Time: 9:00AM – 5:00PM

Location:

Whittlesea – Yea Road Whittlesea

Contact: Show administration

Phone: 9716 2835

Cost: Adults \$20, concession \$15 children \$5

Registration – Book online

Highlights

- Farm and Garden
- Homecrafts
- Food expo
- Horses
- Cattle
- Poultry.

Managing change for children

Event details

Facilitator: ParentZone

Date: Monday, 21 November 2022

Time: 6:00PM – 7:30PM

Location: Online

Contact: Family Services Education Officer

Phone: 9404 8865

Cost: Free

Registration – Book online



Highlights

We all know that children and young people have had to deal with a lot of change.

This interactive session is an opportunity to hear from other parents.

We will explore some of the fears and worries our young people have around change and how we can respond to these. We will discuss a range of resilience skills and strategies that may be helpful to support young people during periods of change. Recommended for: parents/carers of children

Feedback



We appreciate and value your feedback and take it all on board to better our practices.

Please make contact with one of our educators or a member of management if you have any feedback, comments or concerns.

You can do this in many ways including via email, via phone call, in person, through your Storypark app, or even via our website contact section.

We love hearing from families and working collaboratively to make Butterflies an inclusive and wonderful environment for all children, families and educators.



You can also find updates and communicate with us via our social media pages on FaceBook and Instagram

GET IN TOUCH WITH US

IN PERSON: 2-4

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review us on

facebook.



Thanks for
reading our
newsletter!