



Biala Peninsula



WINTER NEWSLETTER 2011

On behalf of all the staff and committee members, welcome to our WINTER NEWSLETTER.

We are posting this out before the end of term to keep families up to date with all that is happening now and during the holidays.

Our 117 places at Biala Peninsula are now almost all allocated, we will have a small number of new families starting in term 3 – WELCOME!

CONTACTING US

Phone: (03) 5975 1820 – for all programs, staff & management – we can pass on information to staff working off site. Message machine is available and the service is open 50 weeks a year.

Fax: (03) 5975 1187

Email: manager@bialapeninsula.org.au
admin@bialapeninsula.org.au
staff@bialapeninsula.org

Website: www.bialapeninsula.org.au

Yes we are open during the school holidays.

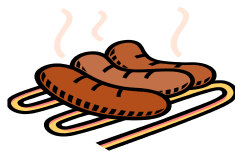
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

- The term 2 school holidays commence on Monday 4 July and conclude on Friday 15 July.
- Biala Peninsula is always open all during the school holidays with a reduced staff team – please call us or call in if you need information or assistance or need to speak with staff members.
- WE HAVE 2x DAYS OF SCHOOL HOLIDAY RESPITE AND CARE PROGRAMS OPERATING IN THE JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS- see enclosed flyer.
- WE HAVE 2x FREE MUSIC SESSIONS ON IN WEEK 2 OF THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS - ONE MORNING SESSION FOR UNDER 3'S AND ONE AFTERNOON SESSIONS FOR 3 – 5'S – see enclosed flyer .
- HELPING CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SESSIONS ARE AVAILABLE DURING THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS – speak with your HCWA staff member.

MUSIC THERAPY HOLIDAY SESSION

- A free music session with Mary is available to any interested Biala Peninsula children (with a parent/carer attending with them) – see enclosed flyer.
- BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
- A REMINDER THAT - Music therapy is available at Biala Peninsula and any Biala Peninsula child is eligible to access the program – but places/times are limited and need to be discussed with your program staff or ring and speak with Mary our Music therapist (on Tuesdays only).
- Individual or small group sessions are offered **on a term basis** to children. Children can access for a term at a time due to high demand for these places.

SAUSAGE SIZZLE AT BUNNING'S



- Our Bunning's sausage sizzle BBQ is on **Saturday July 16th** – (the last Saturday of the school holidays) we are looking for helpers on the day to assist with the cooking and selling – a great fun day & a fund raiser for us.
Helpers needed between 8am and 4pm
- Please ring us at Biala 59751820 to volunteer
- All money raised goes towards the purchase of specialised equipment and resources for your children – we are aiming for \$1000 profit to go Biala - help us reach that target.
- Come past and buy a sausage and drink on the day!

ALL MONEY RAISED GOES TOWARDS CHILDRENS RESOURCES AND EQUIPMENT.

OTHER FUNDRAISERS WE HAVE ON ALL YEAR

- CHOCOLATES FOR SALE AT RECEPTION
- SHOPPING TROLLEY TAGS FOR SALE AT RECEPTION

A REMINDER ABOUT NEXT TERM – term 3 - AT BIALA PENINSULA

Week one

- The first week of term 3 - Monday 18th July to Friday 22nd July – is for staff planning and organization, team meetings and professional development. Programs with group sessions will recommence as of Monday 25th July. Out and About families will be contacted during week one of the term to confirm their next visit.
- **Staff are available during week one for phone calls and emails.**
- You will receive by mail a timetable for your child's program for the whole of term 3 after we have finalised details during week one.

DO YOU HAVE

- 'WELCOME' FAMILY NEWSLETTER
- 'SUMMER' FAMILY NEWSLETTER
- 'AUTUMN' FAMILY NEWSLETTER
- FREE FOLDER – TO KEEP YOUR CHILDS INFORMATION IN?
 - Ask admin staff or your team staff for any of these that you don't have – particularly if you started during the year.

ATTENDANCE BOOK.

- At the Mornington Programs we now have new individual day attendance books with children's names already written in the book.
- A reminder to families – YOU NEED TO SIGN IN AND OUT AT ANY GROUP SESSION – AT ANY PROGRAM – MORNINGTON, FRANKSTON, FRANKSTON NORTH, HASTINGS, ROSEBUD.

WHATS NEW

- **REPAINTING OF THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**
- **NEW CHILDRENS FURNITURE/EQUIPMENT – MORNINGTON VENUE**
- **ADDITIONAL MUSIC RESOURCES – PROVIDED TO ALL PROGRAMS AND VENUES**
- **NEW CHILDRENS BOOKS – ALL PROGRAMS TO SHARE**

- **ADDITIONAL ART AND CRAFT MATERIALS – ALL PROGRAMS TO SHARE**
- **NEW BOOKS FOR THE STAFF AND THE PARENT LIBRARIES**

CHANGING PROGRAMS

- You can discuss at any time your child's program options – some children need to change during the year due to changing needs or their family availability or the children's changing age – we are flexible to meet children and family needs and have a range of program options – speak with Co-coordinator of Family Service Margaret Harris or the staff in your current program. If you are changing groups please ensure you have confirmed this with staff so we send you the correct timetable for next term.

NANA'S WEIGHTED BLANKET – PRODUCTS

- To enable us to provide a better service for families we have become a **Distributor for Nana's Weighted Blanket Products.**
- Resources include weighted vests, blankets, lap blankets, finish cloths, chewy items, weighted toys, feely cloths, stretchy sacks.
- Families can look at the resources as we now have a kit and a display folder and then order and pay through us at Biala Peninsula.

HELPING CHILDREN WITH AUTISM (HCWA) PROGRAM

- Biala Peninsula is a registered provider of services for the HCWA program – it is for children with a diagnosis of autism/ASD and has been approved for the Helping Children with Autism package funding.
- We can offer individual therapy sessions, school transition support, counselling for families, resource purchasing, group programs, holiday social skills and school readiness sessions - please contact manager Marlene fox for more information.
- We have a short wait time to commence services.
- LIMITED TIMES & SPACES AV AVAILABLE DUE TO DEMAND - SO PLEASE CONTACT MARLENE TO DISCUSS OPTIONS – THIS SERVICE RUNS ALL YEAR ROUND

OTHER PROGRAMS Biala Peninsula is involved with

- **PLAYCONNECT HASTINGS**
 - a playgroup for families with children with ASD or symptoms of ASD
 - Friday mornings 9am – 10.30am
 - In partnership with Mornington Peninsula Shire Council
 - Biala Peninsula staff member – Leanne De Groot is the Co-Coordinator
- **PLAYCONNECT KARINGAL**
 - a playgroup for families with children with ASD or symptoms of ASD
 - Wednesday afternoons 1 – 2.30pm
 - In partnership with Frankston City Council

- Biala Peninsula staff member Heidi McCormack is the Co-Coordinator

• **PLAY BUDDIES – MORNINGTON**

- A playgroup for families on waiting lists for services – eg early childhood intervention, community health etc
- A partnership between Community health & Mornington Peninsula Shire Council
- With a Biala Peninsula staff member Cathy Ray assisting twice a term
- Thursday mornings

• **MYTIME HASTINGS**

- A parent support playgroup for families with children with additional needs.
- A partnership between Yooralla Westernport and Biala Peninsula.
- Biala staff member Cathy Ray is the co-facilitator
- Monday afternoons – fortnightly

MOVIE NIGHT

**A BIG thankyou from the committee to any parents who
- attended, sold tickets to others &/or helped with
providing supper.**

**WE HAD A FULL HOUSE - a wonderful film, a fabulous supper, a great speaker to
introduce the film and great feedback from those who attended.**

**ALL MONIES RAISED WILL GO TOWARDS BUYING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES &
EQUIPMENT FOR USE IN THE CHILDRENS PROGRAMS.**

HAVE YOU ENROLLED FOR KINDERGARTEN IN 2012??? **4's PROGRAMS**

Kindergarten enrolments for 2011 4 y.o. kindergarten places CLOSE AS OF FRIDAY JULY 8th for ALL FRANKSTON COMMUNITY KINDERGARTENS and ALL MORNINGTON PENINSULA SHIRE COMMUNITY KINDERGARTENS IN THE CENTRAL ENROLMENT SCHEME (4 kinders do their own enrolment – contact MPSC for details).

If you have **not yet** enrolled for 4 year old kindergarten you need to contact the relevant Council ASAP to ensure you are on the waiting list for places if any are available after the first round of offers are sent out. Indications are that places will be limited for 2011 so get in now if you have not already done so, speak with your Biala staff if you need any assistance.

3'S PROGRAMS

Contact the kindergartens of your choice for enrolments for 3 year old programs in 2012 ASAP as places are very limited and there is always a high demand. Some kindergartens will be offering less 3 year old sessions in 2012 due to changes for 4 year old kindergarten groups.

DO WE HAVE YOUR DETAILS?

Has your child started in a 3 y.o. or a 4 y.o. kindergarten program during this year?

Please pass this information onto your Biala staff members – to keep our records up to date.

We will be asking all families to confirm their child's 2012 KINDERGARTEN/CHILDCARE enrolments EARLY IN TERM 3.

SCHOOL ENROLMENT FOR 2012

Children attending school in 2012 **MUST ENROL AT THE SCHOOL ASAP** – some schools have already closed their application process and others will begin offering orientation programs during term 3.

Please let your Biala Peninsula staff know where your child will be attending school as soon as possible so we can assist these schools if requested and support you as families through the transition to school process.

Children seeking funding for an aide must do this via the school they are enrolling at and as assessments are part of the process families need to ensure they have made a decision about the school and completed the enrolment process with the school.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 31st AGM is on Tuesday 14th September at 3.30pm for a 4pm start with afternoon tea refreshments provided. All parents and carers of children attending Biala Peninsula are especially invited to attend.

A special FREE entertainment event for children will be presented downstairs when the AGM is on, for any children whose parents would like to attend the AGM.

More details An invitation will be sent out later this term.

FEES

- We have a small quarterly fee of \$100 per child per quarter (with half price for a second child/twin in the service) and with a 10% discount for a year's fees paid in advance.
- Fees can also be paid in instalments – please speak with admin staff or manager Marlene Fox.
- **What do the fees pay for????**
 - **Additional resources such as - therapy and play equipment for all ages, art materials, children's books,**
 - **Additional staff hours to ensure we can offer extra staff in each program - these are additional hours beyond the small number of hours per child per year that we receive funding for.**
 - **Upgrades to furniture and facilities**

Staff Team

Marlene Fox – Manager (full time)

Leanne Bartle – Administration supervisor

Leanne Falvo – Administration assistant

Michelle Wells – Administration assistant

Margaret Harris – Co-Ordinator Family Services & Support

Nola Harrison – Senior Consultant - Psychologist

Mary Rainer Perry – Music Therapist

Cheryl Taylor – consultant physiotherapist

Jane Unwin – Physiotherapist

Heather Taylor - Early Childhood Intervention Teacher

Jacqui Zuidema - Early Childhood Intervention Teacher

Cathy Ray – Early Intervention Teacher

Daphne Fergusson - Early Intervention Teacher

Leonie Fraser - Early Intervention Teacher

Angela Russo - Occupational Therapist

Leanne De Groot – Occupational Therapist

Liat Sifris – Occupational Therapist

Stephanie Derix – Occupational Therapist

Heidi McCormack - Speech Pathologist

Kylie Blair – Speech Pathologist

Tracey Ayton – Speech Pathologist

Philomena Yakopo – Trainee Program Assistant

Rebecca Gourlay – Trainee Program Assistant (on leave in term 2)

Casual Consultant staff

Calvin – graphic design

Volunteers list

Jan -(COM Treasurer, maintenance officer & Friday morning at Frankston Nth)

Pandy - (Monday am at Mornington)

Veronika - (Monday am at Mornington)

Fiona - (Tuesday am – admin and maintenance support)

Sue – (Mornington Tuesday am)

Kate - (Wednesday am at Mornington)

Michelle - (Wednesday am at Hastings)

Kathie - (Wednesday am at Frankston)

Kelly – (Wednesday at Frankston and Friday at Mornington)

Ethel - (COM Secretary, Boardmaker & program resources Wednesday am & Friday am at Mornington)

Jill – (Thursday all day at Mornington)

Leanne - (Thursday am at Mornington)

Virginia - (Mornington Friday am – starting term 3)

MARLENE FOX – MANAGER