



STAVERTON KINDERGARTEN NEWSLETTER

SK news

TERM ONE FEBRUARY 2021

keeping you up-to-date with everything kindy!

Dear Staverton families,

First of all, let us begin by acknowledging the Yuggera people and their Elders, past, present and emerging. They are the traditional custodians of the land on which our Kindy sits on, and we recognise the important responsibility we all have in caring for our land.

Welcome to 2021 and the first edition of our newsletter of the year. There is a lot to share around the efforts that has been put in to ensure our little one's (and of course the parents ☺) are settled in and comfortable for the beginning of their Staverton journey. The good news is that the teaching team as well as the committee members are all full steam ahead in their individual and collective efforts to make better happen.

In this edition of the newsletter, you will find out about who everyone is, and what they're doing to make the Staverton journey a magical one for everyone. Enjoy!

Editor

Highlights in this edition:

- Messages from the Nominated Supervisor and President
- QIP Updates
- Kindy Staff 2021
- Staverton Family Updates
- Education Leader Sharings
- And many more...

MESSAGE FROM THE NOMINATED SUPERVISOR



A very warm welcome to the Staverton community for 2021, our 77th year. I welcome all families who are new to our community this year. I trust that your family will very quickly feel welcome and connected to our kindy. We are delighted that you have

joined our kindy community and look forward to our journey with you. Many people remark to me after leaving that they have made lifelong friends while their child was at kindy. May you too be this fortunate. Take every opportunity to connect through class catch ups, kindy celebrations and becoming part of the kindy in any way you are able. You won't be disappointed.

While we all hope that 2021 will be a different year, the events of recent weeks demonstrate that we have some months ahead of continued patience and partnership as we work together to provide a safe, caring and as normal as possible environment and program for your kindy children to enjoy our play-based learning environment. We look forward to a positive year.

Parking

As we all settle into the kindy year and find our spot where we park to do drop off and pick up I ask you to please be mindful of our neighbours and avoid parking across driveways and any yellow lines. Gwala and Kabarla will find the best access via the Little Lama St and Gungun and Walan entering via the Twickenham St entrance. This will help us with social distancing and flow of traffic.

Managing COVID Safe Practices at Staverton

It is so important that we continue to work together in managing the current Queensland Government COVID Safe practices. Parents are welcome on site but please keep to a minimum and practice social distancing, hygiene and signing in at the office. Children are exempt from COVID restrictions onsite.

All parents are subject to the 1 person per 2 square metre guideline when indoors. As an example, under the current restrictions, unfortunately, we do not have large enough facilities to host all parents as well as children in our classrooms.

We will be communicative in regard to events where we can invite parents onsite and work at maximising these opportunities where possible with COVID checklists and guidelines that will be communicated before events.

Please ensure to wash your hands on arrival and departure of the kindy. We have placed hand sanitiser at entries to make this easier. Children are encouraged to wash their hands throughout the kindy day.

Policies and Procedures

Through the year, we will communicate some renewal of policy and procedures. You are welcomed to review and offer your input on these policies. These will be approved and accepted at committee meetings. Each of these adjustments are in response to changes with regulations or evidence base finding from Lady Gowrie for improved practise. Your awareness of and support for this renewal of policy and practice is appreciated.

Please also be aware that on each verandah there are information in relation to child protection, immunisations, time out from kindy, community support information, local community groups, Our QIP, Reconciliation Action Plan and Our Philosophy. We also share useful links on our website. Thank you to Kiran for giving our website a fresh new look @ www.staverton.com.au

The Staverton teaching team reflected on our philosophy and the committee were asked for feedback at our recent committee meeting. We welcome input at any time about our philosophy to ensure that it continues to be a true picture of our program. Our philosophy helps drive our centre.

Please be aware that you can access the Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) at anytime at kindy. We love you sharing your ideas and thoughts with us and we have created space for you to do this on each of our verandahs alternatively you can contact our Quality officer, Madeline at quality@staverton.com.au

The Office of Early Childhood Education and Care at Metro City are our regulatory authority and can be contacted on 3028 8064 and our governing body is Lady Gowrie and they can be contacted on 3252 2667.

Immunisations

Just a reminder that when your child turns four to please send in your child's up to date immunisation schedule from MyGov.

Staffing

I take this opportunity to recognise and celebrate the wonderful staff of our kindy community, who work tirelessly to support the children and their families.

The staff spent a busy pupil free week preparing for the start of the kindy year, completing training, reviewing our QIP, looking at the AEDC data and how best to support the children (and programming for the start of the year. This week our focus has been on

settling the children, forming relationships and teaching them kindy routines. <https://www.aedc.gov.au/early-childhood/faqs-for-early-childhood-educators>.

We welcome Robin Smith to the team. Robin joins us with more than 20 years' experience in the early childhood field. She has settled in well with the team and looks forward to getting to know the children and families of Staverton.

We also welcome Lily Wilson to the position of AKHC assistant educator and we thank Robin Smith and Karen Coomber for stepping in to support.

We have put a Meet the Team on our Staverton Facebook page to help you get to know the team a little better.

Parent Information Sessions

Parent Information sessions were held this week in the kindy playground. Teachers shared information on the year ahead. If you were unable to attend teachers will send out information sheets.

Congratulations

We are very excited to have been recognised by Eco Biz for our efforts with sustainability and being awarded a 2-star partnership in energy and water. Congratulations to the kindy community for their efforts on helping us to care for the environment.

Assessment and Rating

Staverton has received their notice of assessment and rating from the Regulatory Authority and their visit has been scheduled for week beginning the 22nd of February (week 5). I would like to thank the staff and committee for their efforts in preparing for this process.

As COVID-19 restrictions ease in Queensland, the Regulatory Authority is recommencing assessment

and rating visits. Queensland Health advice indicates such visits can occur unless the service has reported a specific COVID-19 risk. The safety, health and wellbeing of children and staff is the Regulatory Authority's primary concern.

Therefore, the assessment and rating cycle for our service is about to begin. Assessment and rating is an opportunity for us to show how our service is performing against the National Quality Standard (NQS). At the end of the assessment and rating cycle, we will receive an overall rating of Significant Improvement Required, Working Towards, Meeting or Exceeding the NQS.

We will receive more details before the visit including information regarding how the visit will be conducted following current health protocols from recognised authorities on hygiene and physical distancing of adults. I will notify families when we receive our exact date and what the visits will look like.

Information on the assessment and rating process is available on the ACECQA website at <http://acecqa.gov.au/assessment-and-ratings-process>.

Community Engagement

Please be aware that we have One World bins inside the exterior gates for donations of clothes, toys, books etc. We would love to pass on your donations.

We also have our Community Children's Library outside the main gates. You are welcome to donate books to the library or take a book for your child to have at anytime.

Volunteer

A great strength of our kindy community is the extraordinary number of parents and caregivers who volunteer their time to help the community in various ways. This is highly valued and appreciated. We thank you for donating of your time.

Thank you

Thank you for choosing to be part of the Staverton family we look forward to a wonderful year ahead together.

Kate

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Welcome everyone to Staverton Kindergarten for 2021! Staverton is a very special place and I'm honored and excited to be the President this year. Already we have been busy getting stuck into planning amazing things for the kindy and your

children. I would like to thank all those who have volunteered in various roles - I'm looking forward to working closely with you all!

A huge thank you must go to all the fantastic people who gave up their Sunday morning to clean up the kindy grounds at the first working bee. It was great to see so many enthusiastic faces and to see the sparkling kindy afterwards! Throughout the year, your class will run one working bee. This is such a great way for you all to not only contribute back to the kindy and work up a sweat, but also to get to know and spend time with other parents from your class. Thank you to the brilliant volunteer worker bees!

Another huge thank you must go to our sponsors! Oxford Constructions have repaired many things for us to a very high quality. All of the materials and their time were donated. EBI solutions have helped us purchase a new energy efficient fridge. And a past parent has donated beautiful sandstone rocks to complete the border of the mud pit - making it look so much nicer for our kids to get muddy in! Thank you again for your very generous donations!

Please take note of the following events for term 1:

- Staverton Series - A presentation by Clinical Psychologist Dr Peta Lilley on dealing with an

anxious child. Wednesday 3 March 6:30pm-7:30pm

- Hot cross bun drive
- Personalised ice block holder drive
- Easter picnic Sunday 14 March 8:30am-10:00am

This year we would love to raise the funds for a few projects. The office and kitchen are long overdue for a renovation and it would be great to install solar panels on the kindy roof. Another dream the staff and the committee have is to create a more natural outdoor play space, complete with wooden tree house and gorgeous landscaping. So we thank you so very much for your contributions to fundraising throughout the year to help us achieve these goals.

You may have heard that Staverton will be going through the assessment and rating process during the week of February 22nd and you may be wondering, "Well what can I do to help?" This is a great question! Thanks for asking! The best way you can help the kindy is to provide feedback, either through Kindyportal, the Quality Improvement Plan on the verandahs or by emailing me or your teacher. You might notice things that need improvement or you might have an idea you'd like the kindy to explore or you simply would like to leave a positive message of support. We truly thank you for this.

I heartily encourage you all to contact me at any time if I can be of assistance throughout the year. Lastly and most importantly, I wish all our Staverton children a wonderful kindergarten year filled with many opportunities to Play, Discover and Grow.

Carrie

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN (QIP) UPDATES

The Quality Improvement Plan is our way of documenting our quest for continual improvement. It is written in consultation with staff, families and children and is updated regularly and is a requirement of the National Quality Framework (NQF).

It's format follows the NQS and consists of 7 Quality Areas:

- Educational Program and Practise
- Children's Health and Safety
- Physical Environment
- Staffing Arrangements
- Relationships with Children
- Collaborative partnerships with Families and Communities
- Governance and Leadership

Quality Area Six; Collaborative partnerships with Families and Communities

How do you feel about starting Kindy at Staverton?

Do you feel you are given enough opportunities to communicate with your new Kindy before the year starts?

At Staverton we value parent's input into our Quality Improvement Plan (QIP). If you would like to view our QIP it is located in the office, you can also contribute by speaking to our Nominated Supervisor or the Quality Officer within the committee.

A brief overview of the QIP is located on both verandahs.

KINDY STAFF 2021

Staverton Kindergarten – Unit 1



Educational Leader/Teacher

*(Thursday, Friday,
alt Wednesday)*

Kristy Coombs

*Graduate Diploma
(Early Childhood)*



Educator

*(Thursday, Friday,
alt Wednesday)*

Lee-Anne Harvey

*Associate Diploma of
Education (Childcare)*



Teacher

*(Monday, Tuesday,
alt Wednesday)*

Margarita Chercoles

*Bachelor of Education
(Early Childhood)*



Educator

*(Thursday, Friday,
alt Wednesday)*

Robin Smith

*Diploma of Early
Childhood Education &
Care*



Educator

(Monday, Tuesday, alt Wednesday)

Mina Kevat

Diploma of Children Services

Age Group: 3½ – 5 Years

Maximum Number of Children: 22

Kindergarten Program: 8.30am – 2.35pm

Staverton Kindergarten – Unit 2



Nominated Supervisor/Teacher

(Monday, Tuesday,
alt Wednesday)

Kate Beutel

Bachelor of Education Primary
Diploma in Children's Services



Educator

(Monday, Tuesday,
alt Wednesday)

Angela Strickland

Diploma of Child Care
and Education



Teacher

(Thursday, Friday,
alt Wednesday)

Judy Ford

Bachelor of Education Studies



**Educational
Leader/Additional
Needs Educator**

(Monday, Tuesday,
alt Wednesday)

Kristy Coombs

Graduate Diploma
(Early Childhood)



Educator

(Thursday, Friday,
alt Wednesday)

Mina Kevat

Diploma of Children Services

Age Group: 3½ – 5 Years

Maximum Number of Children: 22

Kindergarten Program: 8.30am – 2.35pm

Staverton Kindergarten – AKHC



AKHC Coordinator

(Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday)

Genevieve Border

Diploma in Children's Services



**AKHC Assistant
Educator**

(Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday, Thursday,
Friday)

Lily Wilson

Studying Certificate III in
Early Childhood
Education & Care
(Due of Completion
November 2021)

Age Group: 3½ – 5 Years

Maximum Number of Children: 22

Kindergarten Program: 8.30am – 2.35pm

STAVERTON FAMILY UPDATES

New team member: Robin Smith



I have been fortunate to be involved in the early childhood sector for 20 years in an assistant educator role. It is a privilege to encounter children at the time in their lives that they

approach life with curiosity, joy and delight. My role as I see it is to then build on children's own interests and passions so that optimal learning takes place. I consider myself very lucky to be working with parents at a time in their child's life when they are so hugely involved in, and passionate about their child's education.

I have two adult children and a mini schnauzer called Angus. I enjoy keeping my hands busy in the garden, sewing and learning new crafts. I love having a game of tennis and volunteering for varied organisations.

New team member: Lily Wilson



Hello, my name is Lily Wilson. I will be joining Staverton Kindergarten as an assistant educator during the After Kindy Hours Care Program!

I am passionate about providing children a safe and nurturing environment to develop their skills and get them ready for primary school. I love to see the kids creative sides through painting, dancing, using playdough/ clay, cooking, etc. and I am very excited to join the Staverton team!

Service Milestones

Please join us in congratulating both Judy and Kate for their exceptional service to the kindy and being such valuable team members of the kindy:

- Judy Ford - 20 years of service
- Kate Beutel - 10 years of service

2021 Executive Committee and Approved Provider

President: Carrie Grassick

Vice President: Harriet Bodimeade

Secretary: Rahul Nair

Treasurer: Eric Sengstock

2021 General Committee

Fundraising (Team Leader): Amy Anderson

Marketing and Sponsorship: Mary Vu

Website: Alison Nugent and Kiran Matta

Maintenance: Richard Blanch

Grounds and Gardens: Anastasia and Nick Kostellar

Workplace Health & Safety: Ashleigh Pain-Geddes

Newsletter: Loke Meng Wong

Staverton series: Olivia Taylor

Quality Officer: Madeline Hagon

2021 Class Reps

Gungun: Melissa Billiau and Georgia Bilad

Walan: Kellie Knight

Kabarla: Michelle Murphy and Anna Finlayson

Gwarla: Jade Matheson and Danielle Reisener

2021 Non-Committee Roles

Books Maintenance: Kellie Lawrence & Kelly Grady

Grocery Shopping: Michelle Murphy

Garden Watering: Prue Barnard & Nina James

Photographer: Rahul Nair

Deck Maintenance: Open

MEET THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



President: Carrie Grassick

Carrie is passionate about continuing to make Staverton a gorgeous place for our kids to learn and grow. 2021 is her third year on the committee. She has two kids and loves Irish dancing and making cakes.



Vice President: Harriet Bodimeade

"I'm delighted to be taking on the role as Vice President for Staverton Kindy. I'm looking forward to meeting and getting to know the 2021 Staverton community and for making this a year filled with joy and growth for our kindy children. I myself attended Staverton for kindy and can attest to the lasting memories and utter fun our children will have throughout this year. Please feel free to reach out to me if I can ever be of support to you and your families during the year."



Secretary: Rahul Nair

"Curiosity killed the cat and that's how I volunteered for the role of the Secretary here at the Staverton Kindergarten. I am super excited to be able to contribute to the growth of the kindy and make a positive difference. By profession I help startups build up their ideas into game changing and community impacting software products. My son Aadee has started in the Gungun class this year."



Treasurer: Eric Sengstock

Eric is the father of Hugo in Walan class, Theodore (baby) and partner to Staverton's wonderful WH&S Officer for 2021, Ashleigh. Eric is an accountant by trade, and is currently Chief Financial Officer of ATP Science, a health product wholesaler/manufacturer. In his spare time, Eric likes to play basketball, surf, and try to keep up with his kids."

EDUCATIONAL LEADER UPDATES



I hope you are all enjoying the first few weeks of Kindy.

My name is Kristy Coombs, I am the teacher of the Walan class at the end of the week and an Additional Needs Educator with the Kabarla class.

I am also the current Educational Leader. This position was created after recent quality revisions to the National Quality Standards (NQS).

One aspect of my role is to support families in accessing information and support they may need in relation to their child's early education experience and development. I will send information you may find informative via email as well as add information to each newsletter.

Kristy

Healthy lunch boxes



More potential ideas can be found at the link below:

<https://www.taste.com.au/recipes/collections/kids-healthy-lunch-box-ideas>



Podcast: Growing happy little VEGGIE-mites with dietitian Kate Di Prima

<https://lifeeducationqld.org.au/podcasts/growing-happy-little-veggie-mites/>

Parent networks

<https://parentline.com.au/>

<https://www.triplep-parenting.net.au/qld-uken/about-triple-p/positive-parenting-program/>

<https://raisingchildren.net.au/>

Community links

Nature babes at Benarrawa

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NatureBabesAtBenarrawa/>

COVID-19 Hygiene



How to talk to your child about COVID-19

- Be aware of your own anxieties (as children can pick up on these)
- Communicate from a place of calm - choose a safe plan and time to chat
- Ask what they know/have heard about COVID-19
- Ask how they are feeling and validate their feelings
- Invite questions
- Give simple and honest information, but also keep it as positive as possible
- Reassure and let them know about what is being done to help/protect people
- Use this as an opportunity to learn together, e.g. you could watch a video or read a book on how our immune system works
- Give them things they can do, e.g. hygiene practices like hand washing, coughing etiquette, etc.

@ParentlineQLDNT

Sun Safety



BEE SAFE IN THE SUN

- WEAR A HAT**
- APPLY SUNSCREEN**
- SEEK SHADE**
- PUT ON SUNGLASSES**
- COVER UP YOUR SKIN**

Car Safety



NEVER leave your child unattended in a car.
NOT EVEN FOR A MINUTE!

Presents an Information Night on

Dealing with an Anxious Child



Presented by
Dr Peta Lilley

Clinical Psychologist, CEO & Founder of Lilley Place

When: Wednesday 3 March 2021

Where: Staverton Kindergarten

43 Twickenham St, Chelmer

Time: 6:30pm to 7:30pm

Cost: Free

RSVP: speaker@staverton.com.au

For further information visit www.staverton.com.au

Special thank you to our sponsors:

Oxford Construction & Development



EBI Solutions



For translating and interpretation help:

When you need an interpreter, phone 131 450

Arabic
 عندما تحتاجون إلى مترجم، إتصلوا على الرقم 131 450

Chinese
 当您需耍传译员时，请拨电话 131 450

Dari
 وقتى به ترجمان ضرورت داريد. به 131 450 تيلفون كنيد.

Farsi (alt Persian)
 وقتى كه به مترجم شفاهى نیاز دارید. به شماره 131 450 تلفن كنيد

Greek
 Όταν χρειάζεστε διερμηνέα, καλέστε το 131 450

Hazaragi
 وختیكه شموده یگو ترجمون نیازدرین ده شماره 131 450 زنگ زده شونه

Italian
 Quando hai bisogno di un interprete, telefona al 131 450

Japanese
 通訳が必要な場合は、131 450 に電話してください

Karen
 မျက်လိပ်တံတိုင်းဖုန်းနံပါတ် 131 450 တတုန်

Korean
 통역사가 필요하시면 131 450 번으로 전화하세요

Nepali
 बोभाषे चाहिँदा, 131 450 मा फोन गर्नहोस्

Pashto
 کوم وخت چې ناستو ژباړونکي ته اړتیا لری، شمیرې ته زنگ ووهی 131 450

Russian
 Когда вам потребуется переводчик, позвоните по номеру 131 450

Serbian
 Када вам треба преводилац, јавите се на 131 450

Somali
 Markaad u baahato turjumaan, ka wac 131 450

Spanish
 Cuando necesite un intérprete, llame al 131 450.

Tamil
 உங்களுக்கு ஒரு உரைபெயர்ப்பாளர் தேவைப்படுமே போது, 131 450 எண்ண இலக்கத்திற்கு அழைப்புகள்

Thai
 เมื่อใดที่คุณต้องการล่าม โปรดโทรไปที่ 131 450

Turkish
 Bir tercümana ihtiyacınız olduğunda, 131 450 numaralı telefonu arayın

Vietnamese
 Khi cần thông dịch viên, xin quý vị gọi điện thoại số 131 450

www.tisnational.gov.au
 24 HOURS A DAY, EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR