



kindergarten

TERM 2 - JULY 2018

Newsletter

Director's Message

I love the winter! At Malin Friends, this is a time that is cozy and warm, busy and fun, quiet and productive. Our trees may be bare, but our gardens are covered in fantastic winter leaves, real gardens full of mysterious adventure. The cool crisp weather is perfect for all programs physical – running, climbing and playing outdoors in the fresh air, ideal for active, happy growing children!

As the days start to become longer, we commence our preparations for 2019, yes, 2019! Our office is currently in the process of confirming next years enrolments for our families and also new families that will join our community next year which is most exciting!

We look forward to a fabulous term ahead! Our yearly Sustainable Art Exhibition is coming up in September and all classes have commenced planning projects for this event. The children will spend extended time experiencing sustainable ideas, ways of living, and understanding as outlined in our Sustainability Statement. The children will learn more about recycling, reducing waste and re-using materials, which will form the basis of the art projects presented. I look forward to this wonderful process and the final exhibition. Observing the children participate fully in these ideas and concepts, along having a wonderful time, is truly a delight.

Claire Vellios

Director and Educational Leader

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reflections

Rated as 
EXCEEDING
in all NQS quality areas



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Educator changes and team update

This term we warmly welcome Suri Xiong to our kindergarten team. Suri will take on the role of Kindergarten 2 teacher for Terms 3 and 4, and work closely with Emalka, Aimee and the team to plan, implement and evaluate all kindergarten programs. Suri has completed her Bachelor degree in the UK and a Masters of Teaching from the University of Melbourne. She has experience in teaching 3 and 4 year old children. She will commence on Monday 16th July – Term 3. We look forward to getting to know Suri.

Claire Vellios

Director and Educational Leader

Mid year, satisfaction surveys

In the coming weeks, I invite all families to participate in our yearly satisfaction survey. We are dedicated to providing excellent services for you and your children, and we welcome feedback on our programs, policies and procedures. We also love to hear of aspects of our service that you are delighted with. I will be providing a digital and paper copy for families in the coming weeks. Further, families of children participating in the funded pre school program in Pre Prep, will be invited to undertake an online Department of Education survey later in the year. I will send out further details at that time. I would like to also add that you are welcome to provide us with feedback at any time of year, either by completing a program reflection form, or feel free to email our office anytime, admin@malinfriends.com.au.

Claire Vellios

Director and Educational Leader

Maintenance, development and building

Mid year clean - During July, our centre has experienced a mid year clean. During this the floors, walls, bathrooms, and kitchen areas are thoroughly cleaned professionally.

Indoor Painting - We undertake painting at Malin Friends twice yearly to ensure that areas are clean and fresh. During June, the Kindergarten classrooms were painted, and the Pre Prep classroom and Studio will be painted later in July/ August.

Kindergarten classroom dividing doors - The new dividing doors will be installed late July.

Southern garden redevelopment - Aimee and I have met several times with Adrian our landscape designer and we are making excellent progress with the southern garden redesign. We have asked Adrian to provide us with a garden which highlights natural elements such as our beautiful trees, sand, earth, wood, rocks and water. The focus is on creating an exciting play space which encourages exploration, play, participation and engagement. The garden needs to be safe and secure, however encourage achievable challenges and risks for the children. In the coming weeks I will be presenting a draft plan of the southern garden, and invite families and our community, to provide feedback on the plans. I will keep you posted!

Claire Vellios

Director and Educational Leader

Centre structure – Key Contacts

Claire Vellios

Director and Educational Leader

Claire creates/ oversees the children's programs, manages staff development, and oversees administration, compliance and all building maintenance. She is an Early Childhood and Primary Teacher. During the next 2 terms Claire will be working reduced hours - Mondays and Wednesdays.
claire@malinfriends.com.au

Shamma Manjee

Centre Co-ordinator and ECT

Shamma coordinates and oversees all daily operations of the centre including compliance and staffing. She is the Early Childhood Teacher who oversees the Nursery programs alongside the Educational Leader. She also teaches some Pre Prep programs.
coordinator@malinfriends.com.au

Tessa Stewart

Administration Officer

Tessa manages all daily administration tasks such as email correspondence, enrolments (new and ongoing), accounts & ordering and stocktake.
admin@malinfriends.com.au

Aimee Hicks

Early Childhood Teacher

Aimee is our Pre Prep teacher and coordinates and oversees all programs across the kindergarten alongside the Educational Leader.
preprep@malinfriends.com.au



From the Co-ordinator

Dear families,

Thank you so much for a beautiful Term 2. It has been wonderful to see all of the children develop and grow over the past few months. Term 3 will commence on Monday the 16th of July 2018 – I look forward to what the next term has to bring. I am most excited about the Sustainable Art Exhibition that will be gorgeously set up in the Studio upstairs between the 17th September – 5th October 2018.

As a part of our role at Malin Friends, Claire and I worked on our Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) during Terms 1 and 2. The aim of a QIP is to help us as service providers to self-assess our performance in delivering quality education and care and to plan for future improvements. We review and assess our QIP's annually and also review our policies, procedures and philosophy once a year as well, generally in July/ August. We would love your positive feedback and thrive on your suggestions and thoughts on improvement. These feedback forms are located in the foyer and program reflection forms are available in digital format.

Later in Term 3, we will be arranging a First Aid Training Course for parents/grandparent/nannies of Malin Friends (number permitting). If you are interested in this, please express your interest by emailing admin@malinfriends.com.au.

Wishing you the very best,

Shamma Manjee

Coordinator and Early Childhood Teacher





@malinfriends

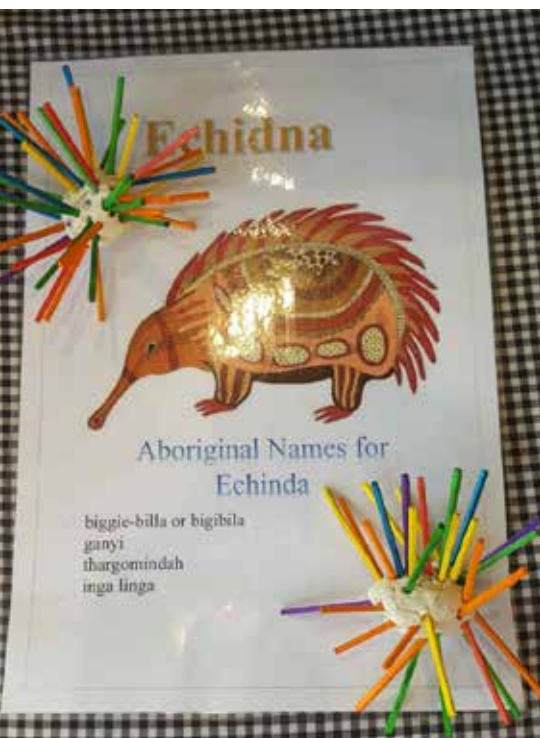
Naidoc Week

- 9th - 13th July



The children and educators celebrated National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) week. The theme this year "Because of Her, We Can!", a powerful message and celebration of women who have played, and continue to play active and significant roles in their Indigenous communities.

The children participated in many experiences over the week exploring our indigenous culture.



**BECAUSE OF HER,
We Can!**
8-15 JULY 2018

Newsletter
Term 2 - July 2018



Nursery 1 - Group C

What a great Term 2 we have had.

Nursery 1 Group C has been busy exploring many new experiences and forming many new bonds. The children have been engaging in experiences such as magnetic blocks, playing with cars and other types of vehicles, cooking at the cafe, dancing, singing and other art activities such as roller art, drip art, painting and stencil art in small friendship groups.

This term the children have enjoyed music with Anne where they have explored music through instruments, role play and actions. The children's favourites' songs include the 'Hokey Pokey', 'Bee Bee Bumblebee' and 'Pitter Patter Raindrops'.

The children in Nursery One Group C most desired rotation has been in the studio for music and movement. The children enjoy dancing to music with the ribbons; manipulating the ribbons to make twirls, twists, circles and zig zags up high and down low.

Thank you to all of the families who have booked in Parent/Educator Meetings. It is such a valuable time to formally discuss your children, their friendships and strengths among all developmental learning areas.

Wishing you the best and look forward to working with you more over term 3.

Best wishes,

Joanne Sterry

Lead Educator of Nursery One Group C

Nursery 1 Group D

We have moved so quickly through Term 2. It has been so exciting to observe the children experiencing endless growth and development, whilst achieving wonderful milestones. The Nursery 1- Group D children have so enjoyed participating in many birthday celebrations with our peers who have recently celebrated turning 3 this term!

This term, the highlight has been welcoming Anne Vercoe as a music specialist for our music and movement program in the studio. The children have loved experiencing a wide range of activities through song, instruments, props and role play. Favourites include playing the ukulele, transforming into butterflies, sitting around the campfire and learning new ways to interpret old favourite songs such as Incy Wincy Spider, Hokey Pokey and Bee Bee Bumble Bee.

Group D children have been very busy creating incredible artworks whilst mastering new and challenging techniques to do so. Painting with fine brushes and watercolours, exploring aboriginal art, roller brush for stencil prints, bubble blowing with coloured dye, droplets for drip art, paint pens to create dot paintings and most importantly how to use glitter shakers!

Together, Nursery 1 Group C & D have had a fantastic term participating in some of our most loved experiences. These include: exploring the kinder climbing yard, keeping busy in the N1 Office making and taking calls, typing, writing notes, taking trips on the pirate ship, flying off the balancing beams and popcorn parties.

Our very busy calendar has also included events such as our fantastic Mother's Day Afternoon Tea, Reconciliation Week, and Teddy Bear's Picnic week. We are all so excited for the term ahead and look forward to sharing all our amazing experiences and stories with you all.

Best wishes,

Kate Johnson

Lead Educator Nursery One Group D



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Nursery 2 Group A

What a busy term we have had! The children in Nursery 2 – Group A have been more familiar with routines and have celebrated many special events such as Mother's Day, Crazy Hair Day and Music Sessions with Ann Vercoe.

Most children in Group A have loved having their first ever painting experience this term, exploring the use of brushes and doing hand prints and finger painting. The children have also been very interested in play dough, C.D. books, stories, creative dancing, musical instruments and have been tackling new challenges with their gross motor development e.g. climbing, jumping and throwing skills.

This term the children have been getting to know their peers more while engaging in parallel play. Parallel play is a form of play in which children play adjacent to each other, but do not try to influence each other's play. Some children have strengthened their friendships by engaging in more associative and interactive play.

What amazing developments to observe.

I Look forward to seeing what Term 3 has to bring.

Best wishes,
Emma Marshall
Lead Educator –
Nursery 2 Group A



Nursery 2 Group B

Term 2 has been very busy for the Group B children. The children have enjoyed having fun, developing and learning across all areas and the fostering of friendships.

This term we have enjoyed the following special events:

- The commencement of music sessions with Anne each Monday morning
- Mothers' Day Afternoon Tea
- Crazy Hair Day

The children have been enjoying our topped up sandpit along with the new sand toys, the rotation program including music and movement, small group outdoor experiences, the art rotation as well as the changes each month to our classroom program.

Being half way through the year we are in a lovely position of reflecting on the last six months and seeing just how much the children have grown and developed since the beginning of the year.

The confidence levels of the children in the class is wonderful to see and the warm, nurturing, positive interactions that are exchanged daily provides the children with the basis of a beautiful learning environment.

I look forward to continuing to work with all the families in Term 3.

Best wishes,

Penny Evans

Lead Educator - Nursery 2
Group B



Kindergarten 1

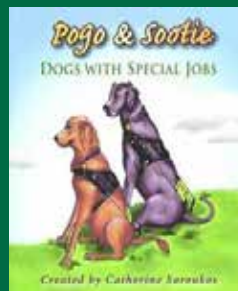
During Term 2 in Kindergarten One, the children were very busy learning and exploring.

This term children continued to learn about emotional regulation, social skills and friendship building through an inquiry project. Our favourite hand puppet friends (George and Avana) visited us many times to demonstrate how to modulate emotions during a range of social situations including conflict. We extended this inquiry to support children building positive identities and to teach them to accept, understand and value people regardless of physical differences, physical abilities, and the languages they speak. We incorporated a range of resources and strategies to facilitate this learning such as, role plays, discussions, and books. The following are a few books that we utilised:



Role playing and learning about the human body at the hospital dramatic play station, imaginative play at the dinosaur world learning station and exploring letter symbols with play dough were some of our much-loved learning experiences this term.

We made sure to spend extended time exploring our beautiful outdoor gardens playing with nature as much as possible. The children had so much fun collecting, raking,



throwing and scrunching the amazingly colourful autumn leaves and at times gold coloured leaves were pretended as pirate treasure.

As the term progressed, the children began to engage in an inquiry project to explore Indigenous culture. 'I'm Australian too' by Mem Fox. This book helped the children to understand that the Indigenous people are the traditional custodians of the land. To extend this learning, we now we acknowledge Aboriginal people every day during our morning meeting.

We are looking forward to delve further into this topic in Term 3.

Wishing you well over the school holidays and look forward to seeing you all after my leave.

Best wishes,

Emalka Jayakody

Early Childhood Teacher - Kindergarten One





Kindergarten 2

The Kindergarten Two children have had a very busy Term 2! We began by exploring Anzac Day commemorations, and made our own Anzac biscuits according to the traditional recipe used during World War 1. It was also wonderful to see so many of our mothers, grandmothers and other special people at our Mothers' Day Afternoon Tea in May.

This term, we have placed an emphasis on social learning through our exploration of the text "Have You Filled A Bucket Today?" by Carol McLeod. We discussed how our words and actions can affect others, and we have incorporated the language used in the text into our Kindergarten environment. We then explored ways in which we can all be "Bucket Fillers" and created our own "Bucket Filling" chart to support us in this regard.

To finish up the term, the Kindergarten Two

children explored Indigenous culture through acknowledging Reconciliation Week. To extend this celebration, we explored Indigenous culture. We investigated Indigenous languages and talked about how the Aboriginal people had their own languages, and how the Wurundjeri people spoke the Woiwurrung language. We also discussed how different Aboriginal tribes had their own stories. We listened to a traditional Wurundjeri story called "How the Platypus was Made". We used these stories to learn some words in the Woiwurrung language.

The children looked at how Indigenous people communicated with each other through paintings. We discussed how the Indigenous people painted using materials they sourced from the environment. We decided to make our own paintings using some materials that we found outside.

I have had a fabulous time working with the children in Term 1 and Term 2 this year and will shortly commence my maternity leave.

I wish all of the children and families the very best for the rest of the year.

Best wishes,

Kate George

Early Childhood Teacher - Kindergarten 2





Pre Prep

What an eventful term it has been in Pre Prep. Throughout Term 2, the Pre Prep children continued to engage in cultural inquiries, exploring two countries; Australia (May) and South Africa (June). Inquiries such as these, broaden children's understanding of the world in which they live and provide opportunities to explore the diversity of culture, heritage, background and tradition.

- Whilst exploring Australia discussions and experiences centered around topics such as native animals, ANZAC's flags, instruments, the traditional owners, indigenous art and symbols. At the end of our inquiry children were then invited to transfer what they had learnt to create their own indigenous inspired story paintings.
- Whilst exploring South Africa, discussions and experiences centered around music and animals. Children were invited to dramatise in a large safari setting. This allows children the opportunity to engage in dramatic play and support the children in their co-operative play and processes of sustained shared thinking in play. At group times the children were

introduced to a Large African Djembe Drum, and musical instruments were on offer in the room to extend on children's interest in music and African culture.

Our interest in countries and cultures of the world has led us to a large group project exploring concepts surrounding geography and maps. The Pre Preps have begun to map postcards we have received from around the world onto large wall maps. The children enjoy receiving postcards and learning about each country it is from.

Wishing you the very best over the school holidays and see you all in Term 3!

Best wishes,

Aimee Hicks

Early Childhood Teacher – Pre Prep



Green Connections

Term 2 also introduced our Green Connections program to the Pre-Prep children. This special program extends upon our Pre-Prep program and offers children an opportunity to engage with a section of a natural environment at Kellett Reserve. The park was a hive of activity with so many wonderful interactions and experiences. We saw children rolling down the hill, finding natural materials, building campfires, looking at bugs, finding marks left in a tree, playing chase, looking for birds and so much more!! Here are a few photos of our time!!



Sustainability: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

To ensure we have a clean and beautiful earth to live in it's important to begin teaching children at a young age the importance of recycling. During Term 3, all of the classes will be preparing and presenting works in our Sustainable Art Exhibition.

In preparation for the Art Exhibition, the Pre Prep children have been collecting lids and bottle caps of all shapes and colours. We are inviting all of our Malin Friends community to contribute to our project and recycle any lids and caps they use. There is a box located in the foyer where lids can be placed. The pre preps are enjoying cleaning and preparing them for use in our artworks. Thank you to all the families that have already contributed.



African Drumming

On Tuesday 19th June, the whole centre participated in a Journey to Africa Incursion with the Knowing Project. This incursion was a fun and interactive workshop exploring African drumming, dance and stories. The session introduced children to a variety of different instruments like the djembe, balafon and shaker, accompanied by stories of Africa told through song and dance. All the children enjoyed dancing and having a turn at drumming along to the music with Lamine.



Photographer

A reminder to all families that Professional Photography are scheduled for Tuesday 24th Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th of July, Week 2 of Term 3 for all classrooms at Malin. A photographer from Classic Studios will attend Malin Friends on the above dates and will take individual and class photo's of the children. Information and paperwork about ordering photos will be sent out subsequently.

Crazy Hair Day



On Thursday 24th May, Malin Friends celebrated Crazy Hair Day to raise money for Cystic Fibrosis Australia! Things got crazy for the day with children coming with crazy hair, or getting their hair sprayed at Malin.

The Kindergarten and Prep Preps used group time to discuss why we were getting our hair coloured, watch some videos about cystic fibrosis and learn about the importance of washing hands.

Why are we having Crazy hair today?

Billy.L - That's how it is

Tom.C - Crazy hair

Jessica.S - Just for fun

Stephan.G - That's the day

Rafe.P - You get coloured hair

Why do we donate gold coin?

Carter - for some people who are sick

What happens with the donated money?

Isaac.H - For people who got no money

Theo.C - People got so much money and they give some

Sylvia.K - To feel them better

Felix.Z - Doctors can buy medicine

Well done to the children, staff and families of Malin friends for raising \$245 for Cystic Fibrosis Australia!



Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

This term we celebrated Mother's Day, inviting Mothers to attend a special Mother's day Afternoon Tea. The children were excited to spend time with their mothers and show them around their class.



Kindergarten & Pre Prep Upcoming Important Dates:

July

Monday 16th Term 3 Commences

Tuesday 24th Thingle Toodle Road Safety Incursion (Pre Prep)

Tuesday 24th, 25th, 26th Professional Photography by Classic Studios

August

Friday 3rd Jeans for Genes day

Monday 6th - Friday 10th Green Connections (Pre Prep)

Monday 13th - Friday 17th National Science Week

Tuesday 14th Reptile Encounters Incursion

Monday 20th - Friday 24th Children's Book Week

Friday 31st Fathers Day Afternoon Tea 4:30pm

September

Monday 3rd Friday 9th Green Connections (Pre Prep)

Monday 10th Little Woodworkers Incursion

Monday 17th - Friday 5th (October)

Sustainability Exhibition

Friday 21st Term 3 Concludes

Monday 24th -Thursday 27th Footy Week

Friday 28th AFL Grand Final public holiday (Malin Friends Closed)

Nursery Upcoming Important Dates:

July:

Sunday 8th - 15th National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC WEEK)

24th, 25th, 26th July - Professional Photography by Classic Studio

August:

Friday 3rd - Genes for Jeans Day (for children's medical research)

Wednesday 8th - Animal Farm Incursion

Monday 13th - 17th Science Week

Monday 20th - 24th - Children's Book Week (bring your favourite books, or come dressed as your favourite character)

Friday 31st - Father's Day Afternoon Tea

September:

Sunday 2nd Father's Day

Monday 17th - 5th October Sustainable Art Exhibition

Monday 24th - 29th AFL Footy Week (come dressed in your club colours)

Friday 28th AFL Grand Final Public Holiday



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Newsletter
July 2018

Administration Officer

By July, all families have completed their online Child Care Subsidy Assessment through MyGov and received your CCS assessment letter from Centrelink (if participating). If you have not received this letter you will need to contact Centrelink to resolve any outstanding issues. Thank you to those families who have completed and have transitioned successfully. The CCS system will activate from the 2nd of July 2018. The system is new and involves a great deal of learning on my behalf, so I appreciate your patience during this transition period. So far the transition to the CCS has been wonderful!

For further information please visit either website:

<https://www.education.gov.au/ChildCarePackage> <http://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/child-care-subsidy>

Thank you to all families who have returned their 2019 request forms. All forms are due by 20th of July 2018 – please assist by ensuring you have returned this form to me in a timely manner.

Classic Studios Photography are coming to Malin Friends on the following dates:

Tuesday 24th of July 2018, Wednesday 25th of July 2018, Thursday 26th of July 2018. If your child does not normally attend on these dates you are most welcome to bring your child in for their individual and class photo but please liaise with educators on the day of photography to discuss potential timings of the day.

Also, a quick note to let you know that I am now working Monday to Thursday from the 2nd of July onwards. These will be my permanent days for the remainder of the year. I look forward to seeing all of you more often!

Best wishes,

Tessa Stewart

Administration Officer



From the Kitchen

At the beginning of June, we started the new Winter Menu at Malin Friends. The Winter Menu was created and based on educator and children feedback to a survey I distributed last term. I love hearing about the children's food likes and preferences, and I am delighted to provide nutritious meals they love!

The new menu incorporates necessary nutritional requirements as well as the children's likes. Tarragon Chicken, Beef Nacho's, Mango Chicken and Vegetarian Sausage Rolls seem to have been the favourite meals so far. Afternoon tea's have been a wonderful and colourful array of fruit platters, dips, cheeses and breads which the children have loved.

Wishing you a great Term 3 and don't hesitate to contact me should you require any recipes!

Best wishes,

Priscilla Parisienne

Chef

Social connections



facebook.com/malinfriends



[@malin_friends_kindergarten](https://www.instagram.com/malin_friends_kindergarten)



malinfriends.com.au



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