



## Camberwell Structured Playgroup Newsletter Term 3, 2017

### From the President



Welcome to our Term 3, winter, newsletter. The heaters have been cranked up to full throttle this term as we bide our time before spring. Fortunately, the days have generally been dry enough for the kids to get

outside into the playground most weeks.

You will have been seeing a variety of Facebook ads for the playgroup in term 2 and 3 as we roll out our new communication and marketing strategy. Our aim is to increase our local profile and generate higher enrolment numbers. The ads have been generating a healthy number of 'likes' and 'shares' along with enrolment enquiries already. The next phase will see an overhaul of the website and appearances in some local print material. We would like to arrange a professional photoshoot at playgroup to get some current photos. More information will be made available later in term.

We want Playgroup to be your home away from home with a strong community feeling. If you've got any suggestions for how to take this further let the leaders know or contact any of the committee via the contact details on the notice board. Playgroup recently received \$280 from the Playgroup Victoria raffle. We would love your ideas on what you think we should spend this money on - specific toys, equipment, outdoor signs...let us know your thoughts.

Fundraising is an important source of additional income that lets us invest in new toys and equipment. The committee have got a fundraising program in motion and are currently collecting Woolworths 'Earn and Learn' stickers and before long we will have a place in

the community fundraising area at Grill'd Camberwell. When this comes up we'll let you know and we ask that you spread the word as well as eating some delicious burgers! The more fundraising income we receive the more scope we have to update and improve the toys and equipment at playgroup. We also hope to get a timeslot at Bunnings to hold a weekend BBQ this year, although the waitlist is long. These can be extremely lucrative. When the time comes we'll be asking for volunteers to help out.

Did you know the leaders are committed to using recycled craft material as much as possible? If you have anything at home which could be of use, please have a chat with your leader to let them know what's available. We also welcome non-monetary donations in the form of tea and coffee supplies, long life milk and sugar.

We also welcome a new Wednesday Group Leader, Katherine Addison. Katherine studied early childhood education and care, nannies and runs her own creche facility! Her skills are wonderfully suited to our community Playgroup. A big thank you goes to Beth who has done a wonderful job with our Wednesday group.

Thanks for coming along to playgroup this term, I hope you're enjoying it as much as Zach and I do. We look forward to welcoming you back again in Term 4.

Regards,

Chris Berting  
President

[president@csp.org.au](mailto:president@csp.org.au)

## Facebook – like our page



Did you know that CSP has a Facebook page? Make sure you like our page to keep up-to-date and in contact with CSP – and of course to see all the exciting activities our little ones get up to! Find us at: [www.facebook.com/camberwellstructuredplaygroup](http://www.facebook.com/camberwellstructuredplaygroup)

## What's happening at Playgroup

**12-14 Sept** - Bring a Friend! Bring a friend to Playgroup this week so you can share the fun together.

**14 Sept** - Enrolment and payment for Term 4 due.

**19 Sept** - Earn and Learn finishes, get your stickers in!

**19-21 Sept** – End of Term 3 parties. Bring a healthy snack to share with everyone.

**10 October-22 December** - Term 4.

**14-16 November** - The CSP photographer will come and take individual photos of your child, available for purchase and in time for Christmas.

**19-21 December** – End of Term 4 and Christmas parties

## #famous

Have you seen the September issue of the Boroondara Bulletin? We are featured in it! Check us out on page 8.

<https://www.boroondara.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2017-09/Boroondara%20Bulletin%20-%20September%202017.pdf>



## Fundraising

CSP is a community-run not-for-profit – and we've been around for over 30 years! We survive from your enrolments fees, many hours of volunteer work and money raised through our fundraising activities.

Fundraising is important for CSP. It helps us to maintain the hall and the playground, to purchase arts and crafts supplies, new toys and books and also keep our glitter supply up!

### We need help with fundraising



Do you think you can help us? The Fundraising position has recently become available. The role involves organising and coordinating different activities, such as the Caring for Kids raffle, Bright Star Kids labels, Earn and Learn as well as identifying new opportunities to raise money for CSP.

Even if you only have time to work on one or two projects, we'd love to hear from you! If you'd like to find out more about this position please speak to your playgroup leader or email [president@csp.org.au](mailto:president@csp.org.au).

## Meet Abbie, our Thursday group leader



I'm Abbie, the Thursday group leader and treasurer for Playgroup. I'm a mum myself to two girls, Beatrice and Liliana. I came to playgroup 2 years ago having moved from England and have been the Thursday leader for 18 months.

I love meeting new mums and children at playgroup and helping families get to know each other. I also enjoy organising the craft activities and badly singing songs!

I'm an avid hiker and recently completed the 2 bays trek over Arthur's seat. I have plans to trek in Nepal to Everest base camp!



## Woolworths Earn & Learn



The annual Earn and Learn is on at your local Woolworths. For every \$10 spent, you'll earn a sticker. You can place your stickers in the CSP box at the Camberwell Junction store or bring them to Playgroup and put them on the noticeboard.

These stickers help us earn points for arts and crafts supplies, new toys and equipment for Playgroup. Every dollar we raise helps us keep the fees down!

Get your stickers in by 19 September to make sure they count!



## How should we reinvest the money?

CSP participated in the 2017 Caring for Kids raffle. There was a \$6000 Flight Centre voucher up for grabs, remember? Well we didn't win the voucher, but we did manage to raise \$280 for CSP! Thank you for your efforts in selling the tickets.

How should we invest the money? We'd love to hear your thoughts. Let your Playgroup Leader know, drop an email to [contact@csp.org.au](mailto:contact@csp.org.au) or send us a message on Facebook to let us know your thoughts.

### Tea and Coffee

Did you know there is tea and coffee available for parents at Playgroup? Keep an eye out for the blue mugs in the kitchen.

Please help us by washing and drying your cup!

## Only 3 months until Christmas...

With Christmas fast approaching, get a head start on your present shopping. Parent Direct have so many items covering all ages groups on offer – games, puzzles, science-based play, outside and water play (great with summer approaching) as well as many things to make and create.

And the best part about it is that they donate up to 25% of sales back to CSP.

The latest brochure is at Playgroup noticeboard for you to take or you can shop online at [www.parentdirect.com.au](http://www.parentdirect.com.au) - make sure you select Camberwell Structured Playgroup at checkout so we get the benefits of your buys.



## Bright Star Kids



Bright Star Kids offer a great range of personalised name labels, bags, drink bottles, wall art – even great present ideas for grandparents.

They also give 20% of sales to CSP!

If you need to order something for your bright star, on checkout use 'Camberwell Structured Playgroup' to make sure CSP gets the benefit of your purchase. There is a brochure on the notice board at playgroup if you need more information.

Check out the range and place your order online at [www.brightstarkids.com.au](http://www.brightstarkids.com.au).



## Local resource

We all know how valuable local knowledge and support is, particularly in all things children and family. And we all know how challenging it can be when the weekend sneaks up on you and you haven't made any plans yet!



*Tot: Hot or Not* will rescue you! It's a travel blog that helps families to explore the best of Melbourne, Regional Victoria and beyond. There are over 1000+ personal reviews and tips about things to do and places to go with kids and family travel related products and services.

The blog operates on a simple binary rating system – is it HOT or NOT? There's reviews on indoor play, new playgrounds, activities and events, free things to do... the list goes on.

You can check the blog out at [www.tothotornot.com](http://www.tothotornot.com), follow the Facebook page or subscribe to the weekly email.

It has saved us a few times, hopefully it can help you out too!



## Puffing Billy's Santa Special



Tickets are now available for a very special (and high demand) Christmas activity, Puffing Billy's Santa Special.

On your special day, you'll departing Gembrook Railway Station for a 1-hour return ride through the forest and picturesque farmlands of Gembrook - and you'll get to meet Santa!

Each child (up to 10 years old) receives a present from Santa in the Santa Cave.

There's also the opportunity to make some great Christmas themed gifts to take home in the Little Elves Workshop.

There's lots of photo opportunities along with activities you can do as a family – both indoors and out!

These tickets are in high demand each year so get onto it quickly. The Puffing Billy Santa Special will run on the first two weekends of December. Check out more here:

<http://puffingbilly.com.au/en/events-and-dining/santa-special-2017/>



## CSP Committee

President	Chris Berting <a href="mailto:president@csp.org.au">president@csp.org.au</a>	Marketing	Rachel Drummond
Secretary	Kath Wharton	Maintenance	Beth Polson
Treasurer	Abbie Chandler	Tuesday leader	Jenny Purvis
Enrolments	Olivera Ivcovici	Wednesday leader	Katherine Addison
Fundraising	<i>Vacant</i>	Thursday leader	Abbie Chandler
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