



Point Cook Playgroup Inc. newsletter

## POINT COOK PLAYGROUP INC.

P.O. Box 6087, Point Cook 3030, Ph: 0402 037 726

**December, 2009**

### **President's Report**

2009 certainly has been a busy year for Point Cook Playgroup Inc. I would firstly like to start by thanking all those who have been on this year's Committee. Such a lot has been achieved over the last twelve months and none of this could have been done without the help of the wonderful group of women who have given their time voluntarily to run the playgroup this year. This has been my second year on the Committee with this year holding the Presidents position. My son starts kinder next year so we will no longer be attending playgroup, but have thoroughly enjoyed the two years in which we have attended.

Our playgroup has also been helped by many other families during the year and I wish to give recognition to those who have contributed their efforts as group and assistant group leaders, those who have given their time to do toy cleaning and those who have participated in our fundraising activities. Not for profit organisations such as ours run because these people help to make playgroup a success for the benefit of our children.

Term 4 as always is a very busy term. We had our Playgroup Shopping tour during October where 37 lovely ladies managed to spend approx. \$11,500.00 between them and raise our playgroup just over \$1,100.00. Photos purchased from Jessie's Studio's totalled over \$4,500.00 which provided us with over \$700.00 profit. The majority of the fundraising money was used for our Playgroup Christmas Party, which was held on Sunday 29th November. Due to bad weather the party was moved from the Point Cook Homestead to the Jamieson Way campus of Carranballac College. The school most kindly gave us the use of their premises at no charge to us, for which we were most grateful. The party was a great success with children enjoying the festivities of craft, jumping castles, face painter, baby animals and the balloon people who made some wonderful creations....I'm not sure how their hands would have felt after three solid hours of balloon creating! Santa is always a much-loved favourite and handed out beautiful presents to each playgroup child.

A few new toys have been purchased for the groups at Jamieson Way including hoola hoops that were a new found favourite of my group on Wednesday. The two Thursday groups and the Friday group have already done toy cleaning at Jamieson Way. Point Cook Community Learning Centre groups are not required to clean toys as this is meant to be done by the Council (the two centres run slightly differently as we are a major user group at Jamieson Way Community Centre, but are contracted by the council to run sessions at the PCCLC).

Finally, it has been lovely to be able to get to know so many of you during my time in this role. I wish next year's playgroup committee a lot of success; and each and every one of you a very happy, safe and joyful Christmas and New Year period.

Best Wishes,

Gabrielle Sharpe

President





# Playgroup 2010 Committee Members

## 2010 Committee Members

President

Toula Papadimitropoulos

Thurs 11.00am JWCC ph 0425 721 528

Vice-President

Kayla Hutchison

Fri 11.00am PCCLC ph 0466 589 165

Secretary

Racheal Priestley

Mon 11.00am JWCC ph 0432 021 962

Treasurer

Kylie Kennett

Wed 11.00am JWCC ph 0409 170 749

Enrolment Officer

Tracey Van Der Linde

Wed 11.00am JWCC ph 0414 332 794

Fundraising Officer

Nicole Watt

Mon 11.00am JWCC ph 0438 547 579

Activities/Purchasing Officer

Miriam Spiess

Mon 11am PCCLC ph 0402 145 261

Assistant Activities/Purchasing Officer

Narelle Watt

Mon 9.00am JWCC ph 0433 495 441

---

Our remaining committee members will be profiled in the next newsletter in early February.

## President

### Toula Papadimitropoulos

Hi, my name is Toula Papadimitropoulos and I will be taking on the position of president for 2010. I have a 14 month old little girl named Indiana who keeps me very busy and is lots of fun. Indiana started playgroup this year at PCCLC in the 11am Friday group. Next year we will be continuing at Jamieson Way on Thursdays at 11am as I will be finally going back to work two days a week. I am looking forward to meeting lots of new people and playing a role in the playgroup committee.

## Secretary

### Racheal Priestley

I moved here from New Zealand in 2007 and joined playgroup and the committee in 2008 and will remain in my current role as Secretary for 2010. I have 2 lovely boys, Liam who will be going to Kinder next year and Connor who will enjoy the one on one time at playgroup.

## Enrolment Officer

### Tracey Van Der Linde

I have been attending playgroup at JWCC - Wednesday 11am session for 3 years. I have 2 gorgeous boys Connor (4) and Lachlan (1) who keep me on my toes!

Outside of playgroup (and mum duties) I keep my sanity by doing some freelance graphic design and publishing work.

## Fundraising Officer

### Nicole Watt

I have been at Point Cook Playgroup for 2 years. I have a daughter Gemma who is 4 and a son Aidan who is 2. I work part-time as an Adult Intensive Care nurse at Royal Melbourne Hospital. I recently took over fundraising for term 4 this year.

## TOY CLEANING

Thank you to the following people from the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday groups at JWCC for cleaning the toys at the end of the term:

Sharon Brockhouse, Grace Marsden, Biljana Wood, Cassie Dullard, Jeanette Ellul, Melanie Ruskin, Sreekanth Sarikonda, Raelene Graham, Louise Bradley, Eva Loader, Carolyn Stormonth, Nick Hay, Claire Yaziji, Gillian Dortmans,



# Group Leader Reports- JWCC

## Term 4 2009

### Group Leaders

#### Mon 9.00-11.00

**Group Leader:** Deanne Jones  
**Assistant:** Coralie Firth-Zsembery

#### Mon 11.00-1.00

**Group Leader:** Kelly Carter  
**Assistant:** Ingrid Rubino

#### Tues 9.00-11.00

**Group Leader:** Amber Palmqvist  
**Assistant:** Kirsty Evans

#### Tues 11.00-1.00

**Group Leader:** Karen Curson  
**Assistant:** Linda Baird

#### Wed 9.00-11.00

**Group Leader:** Sreekanth Sarikonda  
**Assistant:** Grace Marston

#### Wed 11.00-1.00

**Group Leader:** Elissa Tippet  
**Assistant:** Lekha Gadiyar

#### Thurs 9.00-11.00

**Group Leader:** Claire Farmer  
**Assistant:** Kerry Wilkinson

#### Thurs 11.00-1.00

**Group Leader:** Rachael Barrant  
**Assistant:** Carolyn Stormonth

#### Fri 9.00-11.00

**Group Leader:** Gillian Dortmans  
**Assistant:** N/A

#### Mon 9.00

We have had an eventful year this year with many new additions. Tom, Kellie and Tahlia are expecting in Feb and Lee-Ann, Shane and Bryce are expecting in the middle of January.

Everyone that attended the Christmas Party had a lovely time and loved the presents they received from Santa.

We would like to send a sincere thank you to the Committee for all they do and we really appreciate it.

Best wishes to everyone and their families for Christmas and a happy 2010.

**Deanne Jones and Coralie Firth**

#### Mon 11.00

With less than two weeks until Christmas this term has flown by. With the warmer weather the kids have enjoyed the sandbox and play equipment. We have had fun with the craft activities each week and really enjoyed doing the Christmas crafts.

We also held a Pink Ribbon playgroup session organised by Ingrid Rubino raising money selling Pink Ribbon products.

The Christmas party was a big success with Santa giving out some great presents to very excited kids.

Next year we only lose 2 families with majority of families coming back, which will be great for the kids to come back to some familiar faces.

A big thank you to the committee for all your hard work this year and wish everyone a fabulous Christmas and a safe New Year.

**Kelly Carter**

#### Tues 9.00

The Tuesday morning group has continued to be a tight group of sociable mums and children doing what we do best: chatting and having fun!

Highlights for the children in the warmer weather have been the joys of sand play, painting outside, and sharpening some ball skills. Rainy days have seen our little treasures jumping in some puddles and finding new things to do inside with the pile of hoops that arrived recently. The Christmas party was enjoyed by all as well as the many birthday celebrations that have marked many milestones and seen the devouring of some delicious cakes.

It is the end of an era for many of us mums as we say goodbye to Aiden, Liam, Beth, Paige, Alex and Isabel who will be graduating from playgroup and kinder and are off to prep next year. We wish them all the very best as they begin a new chapter in their lives.

**Amber Palmqvist**

#### Tues 11.00

The Tuesday 11am group had a lot of new faces this term! A little disconcerting for most at first, it's worked well though with some pretty variable attendance (myself included).

We welcomed new members from Australia, India, New Zealand and South Africa and will be welcoming some new little members in the new year. We got into the craft activities a lot this term and with so many tiny tots this resulted in some really interestingly glittered, painted and pasted creations. The wide age variance in the kids seemed to work quite well.

**Linda Baird**

**Wed 9.00**

The Christmas party was enjoyed by everyone in the group and the balloon ladies were fantastic I have heard and the balloons my kids had made were great. Everyone from our session attended and seemed to have enjoyed it.

We are planning a small party for our last session next week.

We welcomed a new baby to the group this term with Michelle giving birth to baby Tegan.

At the end of the year we will say a sad farewell to Billi and Thomas who along with older brother Fletcher now at school have been at playgroup for four years now. We also farewell Jedd and Kiran who are off to school next year.

We look forward to the return of Lisa, Brodie and Jake next year - Lisa and the boys have taken a year out from playgroup and will be back next year.

We wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and New Year and look forward to seeing you all at the start of Term 1.

**Sreekanth Sarikonda**

**Wed 11.00**

This term was a busy one for our group. We welcomed 5 new mums and their children. They were actually members of the Wednesday 1pm group, but as that group was no longer run this term, they moved to join our group at 11am. It has been great to have some new faces around and to have the opportunity to meet some new people and make new friends. Welcome to Tanya and Matthew, Faith and Lola, Nicole and Summer, Karen and Thomas and Angela and Oliver.

The Christmas party was enjoyed by all in our group. Thanks to everyone involved in the organisation of the party. All the children had a great time on the jumping castle and with the petting farm. Also the balloons and face painting were amazing. Best of all

though, we were all glad to see Santa and thanks for the wonderful presents. They will keep the kids busy for hours!

Next year is going to bring some changes to our group. As many of the mums have 4 year olds, we will be saying farewell to about 6 of the mums and their children as they will be moving on to kindergarten in 2010. We wish them the best for this next stage in their lives.

Finally I want to say a special thank you to Gabby Sharpe who has been a member of our group as well as the playgroup president for 2009. She has put in a lot of hard work and has done a wonderful job and we have all appreciated her efforts. She will also be leaving playgroup at the end of this term and she (and Noah) will be missed.

Merry Christmas to everyone. Enjoy the holidays and we will see most of you again in 2010.

**Elissa Tippett**

**Thurs 9.00**

Wow, can't believe that we have reached the end of the year for playgroup. At the end of this term we will say goodbye to a lot of our playgroup friends, with Kinder and other things happening next year. This term we have had a new arrival, baby Oliver, congratulations to Peta and big brother Elijah. We have had fun in Term 4, particularly making the Christmas craft activities. Merry Christmas everyone!

**Claire Farmer**

**Thurs 11.00**

As the last week approaches us for Playgroup 2009, we would like to say a big thank you to all our members who join in on a Thursday at 11am. We have had an exceptional year. Our children have played so well together and many friendships have formed. We have had several dads join in from time to time which is very nice to see, especially when they take over and entertain the kids!

Each and every one of us, have in some way added value to our group and together we have created such a fun and relaxed place for our kids to grow, learn and play. Well done everyone!

We have some exciting news for next year with the arrival of Carolyn's baby no. 2, a little sibling for Tyler. Also Catalina's new little bub, another sibling for Bailey! We wish you both all the best and look forward to meeting the new editions in 2010.

Unfortunately we will be saying goodbye to a few members which is rather sad as it will leave a huge gap for next year. We really enjoyed getting to know you all and we wish you all the best in your new adventures in life.

**Rachel Barrand**

**Fri 9.00**

**No report received.**



# Group Leader Reports- PCCLC

## Term 4 2009

### Group Leaders

**Mon 9.00 – 11.00**

**Group Leader:** Nayth Loft  
**Assistant:** Julianne Francis

**Mon 11.00 – 1.00**

**Group Leader:** Cassandra Barbuto  
**Assistant:** Miriam Spiess

**Thurs 9.00 – 11.00**

**Group Leader:** Karen Viedra-Garofalo  
**Assistant:** Carrie Silke

**Fri 9.00 – 11.00**

**Group Leader:** Tina Bestwick  
**Assistant:** Wendy Thorpe

**Fri 11.00 – 1.00**

**Group Leader:** Vanessa Summers  
**Assistant:** Sharon Lawrie



Playgroup resumes  
week commencing  
Mon 1<sup>st</sup> Feb. 2010

**Mon. 9.00**

No report received.

**Mon. 11.00**

No report received.

**Thurs 9.00**

During the 4<sup>th</sup> term our playgroup parents got creative. We themed some of our sessions including The Beach, Halloween, The Races and Christmas.

Our themes inspired creative craft activities such as trick or treat bags, race hats and toilet paper roll Santa's. They were all lots of fun thou I must admit, us parents enjoyed the craft activities more so than the kids. The kids could have just played on the slide every week and not have been the wiser.

Our playgroup has happily embraced the addition of two newborns, Eli and Noah and anticipates the birth of three more babies throughout the holidays and into the new year.

Wishing everyone a wonderful Christmas and a prosperous New Year and safe holidays.

**Karen Viedra-Garofalo**

**Fri 9.00**

No report received.

**Fri 11.00**

No report received.

### 2010 Term Dates

**Term 1:** 1<sup>st</sup> Feb-26<sup>th</sup> Mar

**Term 2:** 12<sup>th</sup> Apr-25<sup>th</sup> Jun

**Term 3:** 12<sup>th</sup> Jul-17<sup>th</sup> Sept

**Term 4:** 4<sup>th</sup> Oct-17<sup>th</sup> Dec

### 2010 Public Holidays

**Australia Day:**  
Tues 26<sup>th</sup> January

**Labour Day:**  
Mon 8<sup>th</sup> March

**Good Friday:**  
Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

**Easter Sunday:**  
Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April

**Easter Monday:**  
Mon 5<sup>th</sup> April

**ANZAC Day:**  
Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April  
(Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April is the substitute public holiday)

**Queen's Birthday:**  
Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June

**Melbourne Cup Day:**  
Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> November

**Christmas Day:**  
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> Dec  
(Monday 27<sup>th</sup> Dec is the substitute public holiday)

**Boxing Day:**  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December  
(Tues 28<sup>th</sup> Dec is the substitute public holiday)