



Lara Stephen and her son Luka

MESSAGE FROM COORDINATOR - LARA

Hi All
 Nearly the end of the year which I am discovering is an exciting time when you have a small child. I am looking forward to Christmas as my family will visit from Perth and my little boy Luka is pretty coherent about the whole present and Santa thing so it's a lot of fun. I have taken a ton of new enquiries about our Playgroup over the past couple of months and things are looking great for an exciting New Year. With a brand new toy shed, new deck (go Kiri Jenkins) and a ton of new toys coming our way, 2006 is shaping up to be pretty exciting. The recent AGM had a great turnout from all sessions and we can look

forward to some more changes to improve our Playgroup such as revised simpler membership fee structure, some new baby groups, hopefully some interior changes to our room and more social events such as an Open Day in late March. I am also keen to look towards Best Practice for our Playgroup in the New Year, bringing us in to line with some the best Playgroups in Australia but more on that later. A big welcome to new Committee Members also, I am looking forward to working with everyone. Enjoy your holidays and hope to see you at the Christmas Party for a bit of fruit cocktail on the new deck.
 Best Wishes, Lara



KIDS GIVE NEW TOY SHED SEAL OF APPROVAL

The new bike shed and bike track are now open and the kids all agree its fantastic! The improvements were originally the vision of previous Coordinator Ang (no longer attending Playgroup). It has taken almost two years of research, negotiation, planning, fundraising and construction. Ang applied for a \$4,000 grant from the Department of Sport and Recreation and Waverley Council contributed dollar for dollar, plus donated over forty native plants for the garden. North Bondi Playgroup fundraising contributed another \$800

for extra plants. Cathy designed the native garden which has been lovingly planted and nurtured by Kiri Jenkins who also implemented the project. The final part, the deck is almost completed, cleverly designed by a horticultural student to include the existing native tree. We are hoping to have an official opening early in the new year.

A big thank you to all involved, a magnificent project and a great example the true spirit of community!



Wednesday 1 Baby Group show off our new toy shed.

MEET YOUR PLAYGROUP...

Farewell and thank you to Ally and her son Marlon from Tuesday 1.

While juggling time with her family and working part-time at the cancer unit at St. Vincent's Hospital, Ally has also been the super session leader of Tuesday 1 since September 2004. Marlon starts VIP pre-school next year, so sadly the group will say farewell to them both. The group will miss your warm, kind and patient leadership - you have been fantastic!



YOU AND YOUR FAMILY ARE INVITED TO THE NORTH BONDI PLAYGROUP 2005

CHRISTMAS PARTY

SATURDAY
 10th DEC
 FROM
 10:30am @
 Playgroup

LOTS OF CHIRSSY
 FUN INCLUDING
 CRAFT TABLES,
 CHRISTMAS FAIRY,
 ELF & SANTA

BRING
 *\$5 WRAPPED
 PRESSIE &
 A PLATE OF FOOD
 TO SHARE!

*You MUST bring a \$5 Unisex present for each of your children that attends. They will be given out by Santa on the day. No presies, no entry!

MORE INFO: Please call Bec 0405719644 or Linda 041626656

TWO MORE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Our Committee is looking very strong going into 2006 with nearly all positions filled. We are still looking to TWO more crucial positions including Treasurer who keeps an eye on Playgroup's money and Garden Coordinator who will continue with Kiri's lovely work by coordinating efforts to maintain our lovely garden. ALSO, anyone wishing to assist one of the Committee members with a role is very welcome to share. All these roles would only take a little time each week and would be a lot of fun. Is this you?

Contact Lara 0402 409 076 or via email

lara@larastephen.com

FROM THE EDITOR.....

Hi, I'm Mel Burkett, the new Playgroup Promotions Coordinator and Editor of Playgroup Express. I would like to invite you all to contribute to our newsletter as it develops and we increase its circulation. I'd love to hear your ideas or articles. Just jot them down on the 'messages' board or why not write a whole article? If you have a recipe, something to sell, an interesting story in your session, I'd love to hear from you? Contact me 0412 971 793 or mel@isn.com.au

Thanks, Mel

CHRISTMAS BREAK

The Playgroup will close from Friday 23rd December, reopening on Monday 9th January 2006. Please note individual sessions can start and finish when they like within these dates. Wishing you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2006!

LOCAL BUSINESS FEATURE THE LAST RESORT

Saimaa Khan - Naturopath/Director of the Last Resort writes about her organic day spa across from our Playgroup and a special offer for Playgroup members only!

The Last Resort is an organic day health spa, located at 2 Brighton Boulevard. We offer everything to do with health and wellbeing from natural health care, therapeutic massage and colon hydrotherapy to organic beauty and spa treatments. We also serve organic coffees, juices and smoothies in an ambient environment where you can relax with friends and de-stress from your daily routine. Our resident team includes Monique Triml (Spa Manager), Tabitha McIntosh (Nutritionist/Colon Hydrotherapist) and Alana Whiting (Beauty & Spa Therapist). As for myself, I am a Naturopath with extensive experience in the fields of nutrition, sports medicine, weight management and detoxification. I am very passionate in motivating others towards achieving their goals. E-mail any questions or queries to: info@lastresortwellbeing.com.au

Yours in Health & Wellbeing,
Saimaa Khan

LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITY GROUP DONATION

For those of you who were wondering what happens on Mondays at Playgroup, a lovely community group called the Lighthouse Community runs after-school homework class to help kids at school with their learning. This group recently wrote to our Playgroup and donated \$250 as they noticed we were busy fundraising for improvements. The money will be put to good use towards improvements next year with our sincere thanks for a lovely and much appreciated gesture from the Lighthouse Community.

TWO FOR ONE OFFER!

THE LAST RESORT IS OFFERING A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS TREAT VOUCHER FOR PLAYGROUP MEMBERS ONLY.

Enjoy a two for one on a treatment at the Last Resort. Share the cost of the treatment of choice with another

Mum from Playgroup. Come in either together or separate while you together or take it in turns to look after the kids while the other is being pampered!

Valid to 31st Jan 2006,

Conditions apply. Please present this voucher or Playgroup Express Newsletter.



NEW TOYS

Sarah, our Toys Coordinator will shortly be purchasing the following great new toys for us to share: Scooter, Trike, Xylophone, Mower, Rigg toy, Dumptruck, Activity Box, Clock Toy, Tunnel, Stacking Boxes, Work Bench, Maracas, Castanets, Toddler Drums, Hopstotch, Spin Around Kids, Mega Bubbles, Cooks Kitchen, ABC Bus, Water Slide, Mail Box, Touch and Tunes, Wiggles 'lil Car, Wiggles Car. Should you wish to something else added to the list please contact Sarah on 0400 108 822.



NEW FRIDGE

Mel and Paul Burkett have kindly donated their 'beer' fridge to replace our rather large and old fridge at Playgroup - if any one has any ideas about getting rid of our existing one, let Lara know. Thanks heaps Mel and Paul!



CONTACT YOUR PLAYGROUP COMMITTEE!

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