

Bush Kinder Report

The Bush Kinder program has had a wonderful start. Our first Wednesday allowed children and parents to visit the site together and take a tour of the boundary. This time gave staff a chance to meet and spend time with the families and get to know them a little before the first full session without parents. Families were encouraged to bring children to BK wearing clothing that is appropriate to the setting in regards to being sun smart and protecting the skin from bites and falls.

The second session saw some difficult good byes to parents whilst others settled easily. We ran a small group time early in the session to help settle children and to get to know each other's names and share some songs. We took another tour of the boundary and did some yoga along the way.

The children were given time to freely explore the site and begin to develop their skills at play without toys or designed activities.

Last Wednesday was a wonderful session with both staff and children ready to help those that needed assistance with saying goodbye to family. These transitions were smooth and easy and children settled quickly into their work/play. Some children were busy with cubby house play whilst others were pounding rocks. Sitting with a lunch box and snacking whilst perched on a log or rock was a popular way to spend time.

Tree climbing was discovered with support from educators.

We chose to finish with a group time so as to smooth the ending of the session and allow for an easy pick up by parents. The children already have a favourite song that Sumi taught us and have been serenading their families over the week.

We all look forward to the rest of the term of Bush Kinder and sharing the benefits of outdoor play with families and children.