



At Callington Kindergarten, we aim to acknowledge, respect and connect with the natural surrounds where we play, learn and grow together on Peramangk Country. We pay our respects to Peramangk Elders past and present, and respectfully recognise the neighbouring and connected Kaurua, Meru and Ngarrindjeri Countries across this region.

TERM 3 WEEK 1 NEWSLETTER 2026

Dear Families,

What a wonderful start we have had to Term 3!

It has been lovely to see the children settle into our longer kindy days. We have also welcomed a new family to Occasional Care and may soon have another child joining our kindy group. Yay!

We feel very lucky to have such a small group of children. This allows us to slow down, listen carefully, follow children's ideas and give them time to become deeply involved in their play and learning.

Ali and the Callington Kindergarten team



OUR TERM 3 TEAM

Our educators this term are:

Tuesdays: Ali and Mary

Wednesdays: Jasmine and Hannah

Thursdays: Mandy and Ali



Kindergarten is open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8:15 am until 3:45 pm.

Occasional Care is open on Thursdays from 9:00 am until 12:00.

CALLINGTON KINDERGARTEN EDUCATOR TEAM



FAMILY PHOTOS

We would love each family to send in a family photo for us to keep and display at kindy. This will help children see and talk about each other's families, while celebrating the people who are important to them.



Pic of Ali's family!

OUR TERM 3 LEARNING FOCUS

Our kindy inquiry will continue to be:

"How does kindness grow at Callington Kindy?"

We will explore what kindness looks like in our friendships, our play, our community and the way we care for animals, plants and the environment. We will continue supporting children to be:

Safe - Kind - Brave learners

Children will have lots of opportunities to play, create, build, investigate, tell stories, solve problems and share their ideas.

We will also be thinking about animals, habitats, nests, burrows and the different places living things call home. This will help us prepare for our exciting kindy visit to Monarto Safari Park later in the term.

OUT AND ABOUT IN CALLINGTON

With the kindy children we plan to take regular walks around our local community. We have already enjoyed visiting the Callington Nature Garden and Callington School Library.

During our walks, we may:

- notice plants, animals, nests and holes
- collect natural materials for art and investigations
- care for our community by collecting rubbish
- visit local places
- listen to the children's stories and questions about Callington.

We would also love families to share any local stories, places or community connections that may add to the children's learning.

SOUP AND SLIPPERS DAY

On Wednesday 29 July, we will have a Soup and Slippers Day. Children are welcome to wear warm, comfortable clothes or pyjamas and bring slippers or non-slip socks to wear inside. We will make and enjoy warm soup together as part of our day.

Please make sure children still have suitable shoes for outdoor play and walking.



BOOK WEEK DRESS-UP DAY

On Tuesday 25 August, we will join Callington Primary School for a Book Week dress-up parade. Children are invited to come dressed as a character from a favourite book. Costumes can be very simple and made from things you already have at home.

There is no need to buy anything special. Families can help by:

- talking with children about their favourite books
- helping them choose a character
- sending along a favourite book for us to share (and we may be able to make costumes at kindy if you prefer)

This year's Book Week theme is "Symphony of Stories."



PUPIL- FREE DAY

Thursday 27 August will be a pupil-free day.

There will be no Occasional Care on this day.

The whole staff team will spend the day working with our Early Years Education Lead Lee Munn. We will look closely at our philosophy, our learning program and our everyday practice. Our main question will be: "Are we living our philosophy?"

This will help us continue building a safe, welcoming and thoughtful learning environment for every child and help us prepare for an assessment and rating visit from the Education Standards Board, which may occur this year.

FREE 4-YEAR HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT CHECKS

The Child and Family Health Service (CaFHS) will visit Callington Kindergarten on

Wednesday 23 September

to offer free health and development checks. Although it is called a 4-year health check, the booking information allows for children aged from approximately 3 years 9 months to 5 years 6 months, with a questionnaire matched to each child's age.

The check includes a conversation about your child's growth and development, immunisations, height and weight, oral health, hearing and distance vision.

It is a helpful way to notice your child's strengths and identify whether any extra support may be useful. Appointments are available at:

9:45 am, 10:30 am, 11:15 am, 12:00 pm, 1:30 pm and 2:15 pm.

Families can speak with kindy staff to book an appointment. Places are limited, and bookings need to be finalised by Wednesday 16 September. Families will be given a consent form, an age-appropriate Ages and Stages Questionnaire, and information about the health check. A parent, caregiver or nominated adult will need to attend the appointment with the child.

Please also bring your child's completed questionnaire and Blue Book.



POLICY CHECK

DIGITAL DEVICES AND CHILDREN'S SAFETY

To protect children's privacy and safety, educators only use site-approved devices for photographs and learning documentation. Personal phones and devices are not used to take photos of children. Images are reviewed and deleted from devices on a planned schedule once they have been safely used or stored for their intended purpose. Some staff may have approval to carry a phone or wear a smartwatch for work, health or safety reasons. These devices are not used to photograph children.

We also ask families and visitors not to use phones, cameras or other recording devices while on the site. Thank you for helping us keep every child safe.



FOOD AND DRINK

With our longer kindy days, children need enough nutritious food to keep them going throughout the day.

Please send:

- a piece of fruit or vegetables for fruit time
- a lunch and snacks
- a named drink bottle containing water only.

Please name lunch boxes and containers and prepare food so your child can eat it safely and as independently as possible. We are an allergy-aware kindy, so please speak with us if you are unsure about any food you are sending. We also encourage containers with as little packaging as possible – it is easier for children to manage and kinder to our environment.



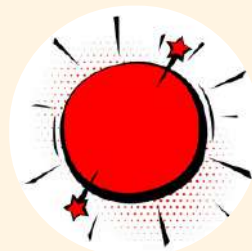
KEEPING INFORMATION UP TO DATE

Please let Ali know if there have been any changes to your child's health needs, medication, emergency contacts or the adults authorised to collect them.

Remember to sign your child in and out each day. Children can only leave with an adult listed on their enrolment information.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Wednesday 29 July - Soup and Slippers Day
- Tuesday 25 August - Book Week Dress-Up Day and parade with Callington Primary School
- Thursday 27 August - Pupil-free day-no Occasional Care
- Wednesday 16 September - Monarto Safari Park excursion with Strathalbyn Kindergarten
- Wednesday 23 September - CaFHS health checks
- Wednesday 23 September - Last kindy day for Term 3
- Thursday 24 September - Last Occasional Care session for Term 3
- Monday 12 October - Term 4 begins



Callington Kindergarten

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OUR MONARTO SAFARI PARK LEARNING JOURNEY FOR KINDY

We are very excited to be visiting Monarto Safari Park on Wednesday 16 September with the children and educators from Strathalbyn Kindergarten (outreach). The bus will collect us at approximately 9:20 am, and we expect to return at approximately 2:15 pm. Our visit will include a Bush Explorer experience and a bus trip around the Safari Park. More information, including permission forms and what children need to bring, will be shared with families soon.



BUILDING CONNECTIONS BEFORE WE GO.

This excursion will be more than a one-day visit. Before we go, we will help the children become familiar with the children and educators from Strathalbyn Kindergarten. We will look for ways to share names, photos, stories and ideas before the excursion so the children feel comfortable when we meet. This will be a lovely opportunity for children to build new friendships and feel part of a larger kindergarten community.

WHAT WILL WE EXPLORE?

In the weeks before our excursion, we will explore:

- where animals live
- what animals need to feel safe
- nests, burrows, holes and habitats
- what happens when animals lose their homes
- how Monarto Safari Park cares for and protects animals
- how people can show kindness to animals and the environment.



We have already noticed holes around kindy and the Nature Garden, as well as a nest in one of our trees.

These discoveries may lead us to ask:

"How can a hole be a home?"

We will follow the children's ideas and questions as our learning grows.



LEARNING THROUGH PLAY

We will bring out our Safari Park diorama and invite the children to add animals, homes, pathways, trees, water and other ideas.

Children may also explore animals and habitats through: books and storytelling - drawing and painting - maps - construction - loose-parts play - dramatic play - clay and natural materials - conversations and group thinking.

After the excursion, children will have time to revisit their photographs, memories and questions. They may create stories, models, maps or artworks showing what they noticed and learned.

HOW FAMILIES CAN SUPPORT OUR LEARNING

Families can help by:

looking for nests, holes, tracks and animal homes when out walking - sharing books about animals and habitats - talking about animals your family has seen or cared for - sending in photographs or information connected with animals - asking your child what they are wondering about Monarto - sharing any animal knowledge or family experiences with us

Please speak with us if you have a favourite animal book, an interesting story or an idea that could add to our Safari Park learning.

How lucky are we to have this experience to look forward to!



TEDDIES FOR THE CHIMPANZEES

In Term 3, our kindy children will be visiting Monarto Safari Park for a very exciting learning experience. Families are invited to donate one clean, soft toy for the chimpanzees at Monarto Zoo. This is completely optional. Please only donate if you have a clean, soft toy at home that is no longer needed. This is a lovely way for children to learn about kindness, caring for animals and giving to others.

A donation basket will be placed in the kindy for any families who would like to contribute.

Callington Kindergarten and Occasional Care Term Planner for Term 3 2026

	PRESCHOOL WEEKLY FOCUS	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			Educators: Ali & Mary	Educators: Jasmine & Hannah	Occ Care Educators: Mandy & Ali	
Week 1		20 July	21 July Kindy 8:15-3:45 <i>Local Walk to Nature Garden</i>	22 July Kindy 8:15-3:45 <i>School Library visit 11am-12</i>	23 July Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm	24 July Schools Tree Day
	5–12 July NAIDOC Week					
Week 2	Caring for the garden, or “kindness to living things”.	27 July	28 July Kindy 8:15-3:45	29 July Kindy 8:15-3:45 <i>Tribute to National Pyjama Day – soup and slippers day</i> <i>School Library visit 11am-12</i>	30 July Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm	31 July
Week 3	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children’s Day Landcare Week / Keep Australia Beautiful Week	3 August	4 August Kindy 8:15-3:45 <i>Local Walk to Nature Garden and around Callington rubbish collecting</i>	5 August Kindy 8:15-3:45 <i>School Library visit 11am-12</i>	6 August Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm Jeans for Genes Day	7 August
Week 4	Dental Health Week	10 Aug	11 August Kindy 8:15-3:45	12 August Kindy 8:15-3:45 <i>School Library visit 11am-12</i> GOVERNING COUNCIL	13 August Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm	14 August
Week 5	BullyingNo Way Weekand Daffodil day	17 Aug	18 August Kindy 8:15-3:45 <i>Kindness, belonging and safe friendships week.</i>	19 August Kindy 8:15-3:45 <i>School Library visit 11am-12 Local walk – spreading kindness</i>	20 August Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm <i>Daffodil Day</i>	21 August
Week 6	Book Week – “Symphony of Stories.”	24 Aug	25 August Kindy 8:15-3:45 BOOK WEEK DRESS UP DAY PARADE WITH THE SCHOOL <i>Local Walk collecting for science/art project</i>	26 August Kindy 8:15-3:45 <i>School Library visit 11am-12</i> 22–28 August CBCA Children’s Book Week 2026 theme is “Symphony of Stories.”	27 August Pupil Free Day No Occasional Care	28 August
Week 7	Biodiversity Month / Save the Koala Month Connection to National Science Week link and preparation for Monarto Safari Park excursion	31 Aug	1 September Kindy 8:15-3:45 <i>National HPE Day- Disco Day-</i>	2 September Kindy 8:15-3:45 <i>School Library visit 11am-12</i> <i>Early Childhood Educators’ Day-</i>	3 September Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm	4 September Sunday 6 September Father’s Day
Week 8	Biodiversity Month / Save the Koala Month – link and preparation for Monarto Safari Park excursion	7 Sept	8 September Kindy 8:15-3:45	9 September Kindy 8:15-3:45 <i>School Library visit 11am-12</i> GOVERNING COUNCIL	10 September R U OK? Day Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm	11 September
Week 9	Preparation for Monarto Safari Park excursion	14 Sept	15 September Kindy 8:15-3:45	16 September Kindy 8:15-3:45 9 am to 3pm MONARTO SAFARI PARK EXCURSION WITH STRATH KINDY	17 September Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm	18 September
Week 10	Review and Term 4 planning	21 Sept	22 September Kindy 8:15-3:45	23 September Kindy 8:15-3:45 <i>School Library visit 11am-12</i> Preschool Health Check with CaFHS 9:45 to 2:45	24 September Occasional Care 9.00am – 12.00pm LAST DAY OF TERM 3	25 September

Callington Kindergarten Term 3 Curriculum Overview 2026

Kindergarten: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 8:15am-3:45pm

Occasional Care: Thursdays, 9:00am-12:00pm

Whole-site inquiry: How does kindness grow? Shared expectations: We are safe. We are kind. We are brave learners.

Living our philosophy Belonging, community, play, learner agency, creativity, learning visibility, safety and inclusion.	Planning stance This is to be used as a responsive guide, not a script. Play, children's interests and ideas, family voice and community experiences shape the pathway.	Ongoing threads Welcoming a new learner; storytelling; loose parts, dramatic/creative play, kindness, safety, being brave	Safety thread Medical plans, hygiene, allergies, active supervision, risk assessments, safe walks, co-regulation and repair.
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Week / dates	Weekly focus	Possible experiences and intentional offers
Week 1 21-23 Jul Kindy: Tues/Wed Occ Care: Thurs	Belonging, welcome and connection	- Welcome rituals, play choices, environment use and child-led starts - Revisit safe, kind and brave expectations including body safety - Nature Garden walk; floor book: How does kindness grow? - NAIDOC reflection and connection to Country
Week 2 28-30 Jul Kindy: Tues/Wed Occ Care: Thurs	Kindness to living things	- Care for garden; loose parts nature play; draw and revisit - Soup and slippers day: warmth, comfort and belonging - Discuss what living things need to grow - Cooking hygiene, allergy-aware routines and helping jobs
Week 3 4-6 Aug Kindy: Tues/Wed Occ Care: Thurs	Children, Country and caring for place	- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day - Landcare walk; rubbish collecting with safe procedures - Community map, dramatic play and places we know/care for - Floor book: kindness to Country looks like...
Week 4 11-13 Aug Kindy: Tues/Wed Occ Care: Thurs	Caring for our bodies	- Dental Health Week dramatic role play and stories - Handwashing, food choices and self-care routines - Safe hands, safe bodies, safe words and consent language - Body safety and trusted adult/help-seeking practice
Week 5 18-20 Aug Kindy: Tues/Wed Occ Care: Thurs	Kindness, belonging and safe friendships	- Daffodil day and other flower day! - Kindness walk and kindness messages/cards - Puppet/dramatic stories: entering play, sharing and repair - Group games: turn-taking, waiting and brave learning
Week 6 25-27 Aug Kindy: Tues/Wed Occ Care: PUPIL FREE DAY	Storytelling many ways	- Book Week: Symphony of Stories - Story baskets, puppets, oral and dramatic stories - Draw, act, build with loose parts and map stories - Local walk collecting for science/art storytelling project
Week 7 1-3 Sep Kindy: Tues/Wed Occ Care: Thurs	Brave bodies, brave learners and biodiversity	- Disco/movement day, animal games and creative dramatic play - Biodiversity and Save the Koala Month links and Safari Park links - Generate Monarto animal questions and wonderings - Science is fun focus...
Week 8 8-10 Sep Kindy: Tues/Wed Occ Care: Thurs	Wellbeing, help-seeking and Monarto preparation	- Feelings check-ins - Excursion social story, pretend bus/zoo play and visuals - Animal wellbeing, habitats and conservation - Practise safe walking, staying together and asking for help
Week 9 15-17 Sep Kindy: Tues/Wed Occ Care: Thurs	Monarto Safari Park inquiry	- Pre-visit questions, pretend zoo play and safe/kind/brave reminders - Monarto Safari Park excursion with Strathalbyn Kindy - Animal observation, drawing and post-trip storytelling - Reflect: What did Monarto teach us about kindness?
Week 10 22-24 Sep Kindy: Tues/Wed Occ Care: Thurs	Reflection, health and celebration of growth	- CaFHS preschool health check Wednesday - Floor book review: how has kindness grown? - Draw/build/act self as a safe, kind and brave learner - Begin collecting ideas for Term 4 Callington Show display

Across every week: protect time for play, learner agency, loose parts, creative and dramatic experiences; check medical plans and medication access; use active supervision; complete/revisit risk assessments for walks, cooking, tools and excursions; practise hygiene, allergy-aware routines, sun/weather safety, co-regulation, restorative repair and family communication. Document through floor books, child voice, photos, educator noticing and family input.