

# April Newsletter

Welcome to our April Newsletter

## Acknowledgement to country

Little Assets Forest Hill respectfully acknowledges the traditional owners of the land on which the centre is based on, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, and pays our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.



## Go Blue for Autism Day

World Autism Awareness Day is a day focused on raising awareness, understanding, and acceptance of autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

It aims to celebrate the uniqueness of individuals with autism, promote inclusive practices, and educate the public about the challenges and strengths of those on the autism spectrum.



**Centre-Wide "Go Blue" Day**  
**2nd April, Wednesday**

**Dress in Blue:** We invite all families, children, and educators to dress in Blue on the day.

Children will participate into a cooking activity with our chef, making Blue cupcakes.

April marked the start of the **Waring Wombat Season** on the Kulin nation calendar. As the weather cools, waring (wombats) emerge from their burrows to bask in the sunshine, while bulen-bulen (superb lyrebirds) dazzle with their courtship dances. It is a wonderful time of year as it coincides with the changing colours of autumn.

We remind you to pack some extra clothes in children's bag, as the weather is getting cooler in the morning and night.



## Important dates

2nd April, Wednesday  
World Autism Awareness Day  
'Go Blue for Autism'

2nd to 13th April  
Nature Play Week

14th April, Monday  
Easter Raffle Draw

18th April, Friday  
Good Friday (Public Holiday)

21st April, Monday  
Easter Monday (Public Holiday)

22nd April, Tuesday  
Earth Day

25th April, Friday  
ANZAC Day/ World Penguin Day



## Easter Celebration - Ester Egg Hunt

We're excited to let you know that our Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Tuesday the 15th and Thursday the 17th of April!

Children will be making their very own Easter baskets in the lead-up to the event, ready to collect all the hidden surprises.

And guess what? The Easter Bunny will be hopping in for a special visit too! 🐰

It's going to be a fun and festive time—we can't wait to celebrate with the children!

# Upcoming Incursions & Excursions

## Incursion from Museums Victoria for 3&4YO Australian animals and megafauna 3rd of April



Australia is home to some of the most interesting animals in the world. This hands-on program engages children to learn about the lives and habitats of our favourite mammals, birds and reptiles, as well as extinct ancient megafauna.

Through storytelling, movement activities and hands-on exploration, children will develop an understanding of how special these animals are and build awareness of the importance of caring for the natural environment. The program features:

- A wide range of our favourite taxidermied animals from the Museums Victoria collection.
- Fossil casts and full-scale representations of Diprotodon (the largest marsupial of all time), Thylacoleo (a leopard-sized marsupial predator) and Koolasuchus (an ancient car-sized amphibian)



## KingSwim Incursion - 4YO 8th April Tuesday

The program content covers:

- Water safety rules around safe swimming behaviour, how to be sun smart, how to assess an aquatic environment for dangers, how to perform a basic rescue, and the importance of never swimming alone.
- Water safety information for open water environments such as beaches, rivers, and lakes.
- The importance of adult supervision.
- Emergency response skills which give young ones simple steps to follow in the event of an accident.
- Skills and knowledge to help preschoolers make safe judgements and decisions around water.



## Excursion for Orange Room Babies!

Our Orange Room babies will continue with their excursion to Tally Ho Lake!

Date: 1st & 17th April  
 Destination: Tally Ho Lake

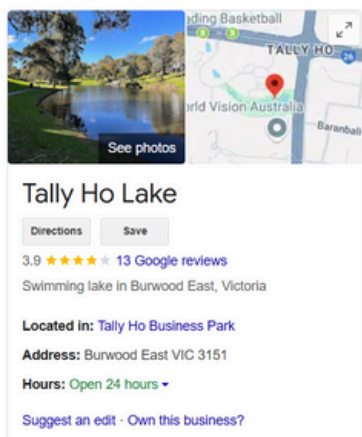
This special outing will give our little ones the chance to explore the beautiful outdoors and experience nature first hand. Our adventure will include:

- ✓ A walk in the pram to Tally Ho Lake 🌿🦋
- ✓ Observing nature, waterfalls, and the lake 🌊
- ✓ Looking for local wildlife – we may spot some ducks, turtles, or other animals that live in the lake! 🦆🐢

This gentle and engaging experience will allow our babies to connect with the natural world, enjoy new sights and sounds, and spend time outdoors with their educators.

As the weather is getting cooler, please ensure you pack some extra clothes in your child's bag.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out!  
We look forward to our excursion with our little explorers! 🌿🦋





# Upcoming Incursions & Excursions

## 4YO Kinder Library Excursion

Kinder Library excursions run, once a month on a Tuesday afternoon (1.20pm - 3.30pm) this will be on 22nd April.

Our Kinder children will travel on the tram to Vermont South Library, they will be able to have a story-telling session with Helen, and borrow some books for home.

Please make sure your child has good walking shoes (preferably runners) Children will be given a library bag to place the books.

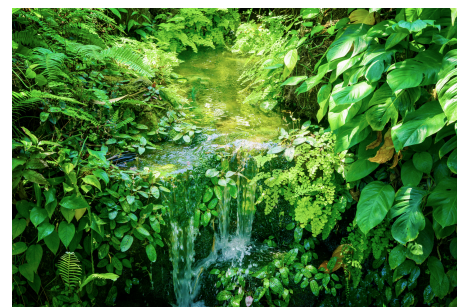
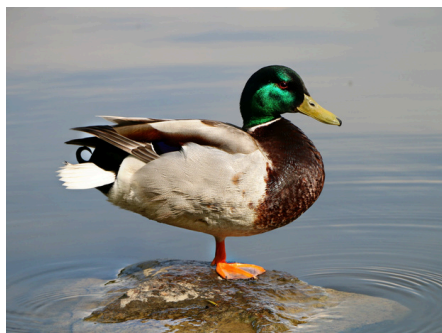


## Green Room Excursion

As part of Nature Week, our Green Room toddlers will be going on a special excursion on Tuesday, 9th April. During this exciting outing, the children will explore the outdoors through a scavenger hunt, discovering various animals and plants along the way.

A risk assessment and consent form will be shared with families shortly by the Green Room team.

We look forward to this wonderful opportunity for the children to connect with nature and enjoy hands-on learning in the environment around them!



# Nature Play Week at Little Assets

Nature Play Week is coming! 🌿🐞

From Monday, April 7th to Friday, April 11th, we will be celebrating Nature Play Week across our centre!

This is a wonderful opportunity for children to connect with the natural world through fun, hands-on experiences that spark curiosity, creativity, and a love for the outdoors.

Throughout the week, children will enjoy activities such as:

**Nature scavenger hunts**  
**Mud kitchen and sensory play**  
**Nature-based art and crafts**  
**Outdoor yoga and story time**  
**Gardening and more!**

Nature play is more than just fun—it's essential for healthy child development. Research shows that time spent in natural environments helps children develop physical strength, coordination, and balance. Climbing, running, digging, and building with natural materials like sticks and stones allow children to move their bodies freely and confidently.

But the benefits go far beyond the physical. Being outside encourages children to observe, ask questions, and explore, sparking curiosity and creativity. Nature becomes a playground full of possibilities—whether they're making potions in the mud kitchen, collecting leaves for art, or watching ants march across a log.

Importantly, nature play also promotes emotional wellbeing. The calming sounds, fresh air, and open-ended experiences support children in developing focus, resilience, and a sense of peace. It also nurtures empathy and a lifelong connection to the environment—an important step in raising environmentally conscious citizens.

Throughout the week, children at our centre engaged in a variety of nature-based experiences, from bug hunts and leaf rubbings to building shelters and storytelling under trees. It was beautiful to see how naturally the children collaborated, problem-solved, and expressed their ideas while immersed in the natural world.

As educators, we are reminded how valuable it is to step outside the classroom and allow nature to become the teacher. We look forward to continuing these outdoor explorations and creating more opportunities for children to grow through the joy of nature play.





# A Healthy Easter Snack – Bunny Fruit Bowl

These adorable bunny-themed fruit cups are not only festive but also full of vitamins and natural sweetness! Great for Easter morning or as a lunchbox surprise.

## Ingredients:

- 1 cup strawberries, chopped
- 1 cup blueberries
- 1 cup green grapes, halved
- 1 cup pineapple chunks (fresh or canned in juice)
- 4–6 small clear cups
- Mini marshmallows or banana slices (optional for bunny tails)
- Paper or felt bunny ears and faces (optional for decoration)

## Instructions:

1. Wash and prepare all fruit.
2. Layer fruit in clear cups to create a colourful rainbow effect.
3. For a bunny tail, place one mini marshmallow or banana slice on top.
4. (Optional) Decorate cups with bunny faces using googly eyes and paper ears glued or taped to the cup.
5. Serve fresh and chilled!



# Earth Day - 22nd April

The theme for Earth Day 2025 is **OUR POWER, OUR PLANET.**



At Little Assets, we're celebrating Earth Day by learning how even the smallest hands can make a big difference! Our focus is on helping children understand their role in caring for the planet through fun, hands-on experiences:

## 🌱 Planting Seeds in Pots

Children will each plant their own seeds in small pots. This activity nurtures a love for nature and helps them understand how things grow with care and patience.

## 💬 Discussions About Change

We'll engage in meaningful group conversations about how change starts with us—talking about ways we can help our Earth every day, like turning off lights, reusing items, and picking up litter.

## 🐦 Making Bird Feeders

Children will use recycled materials to create simple bird feeders, encouraging them to think about how to care for animals and the importance of biodiversity.

## 🧪 Science Experiment: Water Pollution

Through a hands-on science experiment, children will explore the effects of pollution on our water systems. They'll observe how pollutants affect clean water and discuss how we can keep our environment clean.






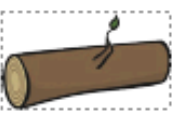
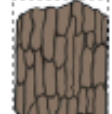
















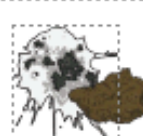
We can't wait to see the children connect with nature, express their ideas, and take pride in their role as Earth's little guardians!



# Nature Scavenger Hunt

## My I Spy Scavenger Hunt

Before this activity, you may wish to discuss with children the dangers of touching/eating berries and how to look for small creatures without disturbing/hurting them.

smooth leaf  <input type="checkbox"/>	spiky leaf  <input type="checkbox"/>	twigs on the ground  <input type="checkbox"/>	rocks  <input type="checkbox"/>
soil  <input type="checkbox"/>	smooth bark  <input type="checkbox"/>	rough bark  <input type="checkbox"/>	nuts or seeds  <input type="checkbox"/>
fruit or berries  <input type="checkbox"/>	red flowers  <input type="checkbox"/>	yellow flowers  <input type="checkbox"/>	white flowers  <input type="checkbox"/>
flying insect  <input type="checkbox"/>	ants  <input type="checkbox"/>	caterpillar  <input type="checkbox"/>	butterfly  <input type="checkbox"/>
spider  <input type="checkbox"/>	web  <input type="checkbox"/>	snail  <input type="checkbox"/>	nest  <input type="checkbox"/>
feather  <input type="checkbox"/>	bird flying  <input type="checkbox"/>	footprints  <input type="checkbox"/>	animal droppings  <input type="checkbox"/>



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Thank you for reading!