FROM THE PRESIDENT

First term was an incredibly busy start to the year, with getting the children settled and several social functions.

The Twilight Garden Party in March was a fantastic evening for all those involved. This was a special event to thank all those who had contributed so much to the renovation of the rear yard and the new shade sail, and to welcome new families. Thanks again to all those who helped make the evening a success.

What a fabulous turnout for the Kew Festival Parade on 13th March! Thank you to all those who joined in and supported this wonderful community event. The children looked marvelous and very harmonious and seemed to have a great time.

The annual Kinder sports day was on Sunday, 28th March. Again, we had a wonderful attendance and it was a great day (although slightly too warm for the Easter egg hunt - hot chocolate anyone?). Thanks to the families who purchased supplies, sizzled sausages, created our ‘track’, marshalled our athletes, etc, without whom the day would not have been possible. Special thanks, too, to the staff members who gave up their Sunday to attend; we all really appreciate your dedication.

Thanks also go to one of our new Blue Group parents, with a brand new baby, who volunteered to make the children’s “chefs’ aprons” for the cooking program and did such a beautiful job.

SPK JOINS THE WWW

Studley Park Kindergarten now has its own website. Have a look next time you are online. The address is: studleyparkkindergarten.vic.edu.au. Many thanks once again to our Committee member for her persistence and hard work in getting this up and running. Thanks also to Davide Riboni of Intuitus Consulting who provided many hours of assistance in designing and establishing the website. If anyone is a web guru who could update our site on an ad hoc basis, please let us know.

TERM TWO SOCIAL DINNERS

The social dinners are a great opportunity to relax and chat and are usually great fun. Everyone is welcome.

Venue for this Term’s social dinners will be on the notice board at kinder.

The Yellow Group Dinner will be on Wednesday 9th June at 8.00pm.

The Blue Group Dinner will be on Wednesday 16th June at 8.00pm.
OPEN DAY

Studley Park Kindergarten will be holding its Open Day on Wednesday 19th May. Many thanks to Ray White Real Estate, who generously donated the sign advertising the day. Thanks also to Holy Trinity Church in High St Kew for kindly allowing us to display it in a prominent position.

MAINTENANCE MATTERS

Thank you to everyone who attended the working bees in term one - a huge amount was achieved. The Kinder and our children’s play areas are now safer, more varied and pleasant to be in.

The working bees for Term Two will be on Saturday, 23rd May and Saturday, 6th June. There is always a variety of jobs so wear old clothes and bring tools and your gardening gloves. Children are welcome.

If you can’t make it to one of the working bees but would like to contribute please contact one of the Maintenance Officers to arrange an alternative.

INTERNET BANKING

You can now pay your fees over the internet. Please check your fees notice for details.

FUNDRAISING

The fashion night at Blue Illusion, Hawthorn is on Wednesday 12th May from 7.30pm (parade starts at 8.00pm). There will be the fashion parade, nibbles, bubbly, a gift for everyone, and a lucky door prize. Tickets are $5 and are available now from the Kinder. Please remember that 20% of anything sold on the evening will go to the Kindergarten so save up your clothing budget for this fabulously fun fashion fundraiser.

This term we are holding a stall at the Camberwell Market on Sunday 30th May. Please donate your unwanted clothes, toys and books. You can drop any goods for the stall, either at 46 Stawell Street or at the Kindergarten anytime.

Because we are such a small community at Studley Park, many traditional fundraisers don’t work, as they rely on a little bit from a lot of people. Therefore we have to try to be a bit more innovative than some larger organisations. We are always looking for fresh fundraising ideas (and the energy to implement them). Please talk to anyone on the Committee if you can help.

“POSITION VACANT”

Studley Park Kindergarten is looking for a new KPSA (Kew Pre-School Association) Representative. This is a Committee role that involves liaison with KPSA and representing our interests with this organisation that carries out the enrolment function for the five Kew Kindergartens. If you are able to help, please contact the Director or the President.

YOUR FEES + YOUR EFFORT = YOUR KINDERGARTEN

Studley Park Kindergarten is a community Kinder. This means that the fees you pay actually go toward running the Kinder, including paying the staff, maintaining the building and grounds, and funding the program.

The Government provides some funding per head in the Four-Year-Old Group and the Council (which owns the building) also does some essential work. However, the majority of what
goes on at the Kindergarten relies on your fees and your input. The Committee members and others donate many hours of time to provide administrative support and management, which keeps our fees as low as they are. Please remember this next time you get your fees notice or see a note asking for assistance.

**YELLOW GROUP EXTENDED KINDER**

In Terms Three and Four the Kinder will offer extended kindergarten until 2.30pm on Thursday afternoons for the Three-Year-Old Group. We can only run this additional session if we have at least ten children, so please think about whether you would like to include your child.

**CARPETS**

Does anyone have a contact in the carpet industry? We would like to replace the three carpets that the children sit and play on: at mat time; in the reading corner; and the home corner. Donations of, or reduced prices for, three overlocked carpets would be gratefully received (we can provide sizes).

**COMMUNITY GRANTS**

Does your workplace have a community grants scheme that could benefit the Kindergarten? Some organisations have these schemes for their employees. For example the Telstra Foundation very generously gave the Kinder $900 towards the new play equipment in 2003, thanks to an application from a parent employed by Telstra. If you work for a largish organisation, you may have access to such a program. Please ask around as there are plenty of projects at the Kinder that need an injection of cash.

**THE DIRECTOR'S WORD**

The staff and I would like to welcome all children and their families to Term Two. We are pleased to welcome two new children and their families to Blue Group.

A reminder, with Autumn upon us and the cooler, wet Melbourne weather, to please pack your child’s warmer gear.

New Concepts to be introduced to both groups throughout the term:

**Yellow Group Mascot: “Billy the Bear”**

will firstly join the sessions and program and then will be allocated to each family for a designated time for a visit/sleepover. Parents will be encouraged to write with their children in a book about the adventures Billy undertakes during his visit to their house.

**Blue Group Show and Tell Boxes:**

The boxes will be introduced to reduce the number of home toys being brought to Kinder. Each Friday six children will receive a box to take home and return after one week with a “show and tell” item to share.