



Dear Parents

Well, it seems a little early to be writing a newsletter, but with **playgroup finishing** for the year **on Tuesday December 13**, I thought it was time. Also, if I don't do it now I will run out of free afternoons to sit and write it!

As well as the newsletter, you are receiving your **preference form for 2012, which needs to be completed and returned as soon as possible**. As you will know, Yolanda is moving to Toowoomba in January, and because of this there are no guarantees that all groups will continue to operate. We are doing our best to find leaders and helpers to cover all of the groups, but it is too soon to know whether we will be successful. Because of this, **it is important to provide a second preference** in case we need to amalgamate some groups.

NEW ARRIVALS

Term 4 has been a big one for babies! News of pregnancies (including twins for one family) has been coming thick and fast, but the babies actually born have been **James** (Gabi and Samuel, Tuesday), **a daughter** (Sheila and Denis, Tuesday), **Ethan** (Alvina and Ashneel, Thursday), **Bodie** (Magda and Bayden, Friday R), **Liam** (Justyna and Darren, Friday B), **Parker** (Claire and Matt, Friday B), and **Gemma** (Melanie and Daniel, Friday B).

Blessings to all of these families as they celebrate Christmas with their precious new arrivals.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Each group will have a Christmas party in their last session of playgroup – families will be asked to contribute party food and come wearing something Christmassy if possible. **Farewelling and thanking Yolanda, Margie, Teresa and Felicity will be an important part of the final week, as well.**

COMING EVENTS...

Free City of Casey Playgroup Event

The City of Casey is once again inviting all playgroups to **Myuna Farm** (182 Kidds Road Doveton, Melway 90 H7) **on Tuesday December 6, 4:00-7:00pm**. Entry is free and there is a free train ride for children too. Our playgroup provides a sausage sizzle for our families and we look forward to seeing you there.

Free Family Carols Event

Don't miss **this year's Christmas production, Unwrapping Christmas, at the church on Saturday December 17**. There is a cost (\$3 per adult and \$2 per child (3-12 years)) but the event is free for our playgroup families. Please pop in to the church office or phone 9702 1011 to arrange tickets – use the code "Play" to take advantage of the offer. Children stay in for the first part of the program and then can go out to their own special kid's event (crèche facility available for younger children if needed). **Food available to purchase from 5pm, program commences at 6:20pm**. Great Christmas event for the whole family, at a suitable time for the kids!

Jumble Sale & Craft Event

If you are looking for something different over the holidays, head down to the church on **Saturday January 14**. As well as the regular **Jumble Sale**, there is a **Make and Take papercraft event** happening from **9:00 – 3:00**. Sounds interesting for the crafters among us!

Air Fair – School Holiday Activity

The long awaited **Air Fair is back in January!** Jumping castle extravaganza for Primary school kids (but you are welcome to bring younger ones). **January 23-25** – keep your eye out on Clyde Road for signs, and I will email brochures with times and details when they are available. These events are hugely popular in the community and have to be seen to be believed!

2012

PLAYGROUP RESUMES

Term 1 will commence for playgroup on **Monday February 13**, and please let me know if things change over the holidays and you need to change your preferences or no longer want your playgroup position. We always have lots of families waiting to join!

“WOMAN TO WOMAN”

In term 1, the church will be offering the **ten week Lifekeys program “Woman to Woman”**. Every woman carries with her the strengths and weaknesses of her background, and carries the legacy of her past into all of her relationships. This program will show participants how to free themselves from the past and focus on the future. It will provide strategies and skills needed to make positive and lasting changes in relationships. If you are interested in doing this program, please contact the church office – it is being run **on Tuesday evenings, commencing on January 31**. There are plans to run it in term 2 during the daytime (hopefully with some childcare) but let Sue know if you are interested in this option as we have not yet set a day.

LADIES MEET & CONNECT

Another new initiative of Berwick Church of Christ for 2012 will be a **regular Wednesday morning (2nd and 4th weeks of the month, commencing late-February)** chance for ladies to meet and connect over coffee. Again, there may be scope for children to be minded if you are interested – more information to come next year.



BLESSINGS TO YOUR FAMILY

I trust that your family has a blessed Christmas. We have enjoyed sharing life with your family this year through playgroup and look forward to continuing the connection in some way even if the time has come for you to move on from Playgroup. Why not find the other members of your group (and me too!) on Facebook and stay in touch over the holidays and into the future? And why not check out church sometime over the festive season – either the production on Saturday 17th or any Sunday morning at 10.00am. It is too easy to lose the meaning of Christmas and forget to teach it to our children in all the busyness of presents and parties!

Blessings and love,
Sue, Yolanda, Lucille,
Felicity, Teresa,
Margie and Glenda



CONTACT DETAILS

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