Monday 2\textsuperscript{nd} April 2012

\textbf{Australian Early Development Index (AEDI)}

Dear Parent/Carer

Our school is taking part in a national collection of data on young children’s development. It is called the Australian Early Development Index (AEDI). The AEDI is an Australian Government initiative which provides information about how populations of Australian children are developing by the time they reach school.

The next collection will occur between May and July this year. Your child’s teacher will complete a checklist – like a survey or questionnaire – based on their knowledge and observations of your child. The AEDI is not a test and it does not require your child to be taken out of class.

Collated AEDI data will be released publicly. While individual names and details are supplied for data collection individual children cannot be identified in the AEDI results. Additionally, the web-based data entry system is a secure site for data entry. Your child’s information will be kept secure at all times and apart from its use as described in this letter, will not be used for any other purpose. You can see how the 2009 data were presenting by visiting \url{www.aedi.org.au}. It is expected that the results from the 2012 collection will be presented in a similar way.

The AEDI will be used for policy and planning, data analysis, and statistical and research purposes. Data may also be combined with information from other organisations to improve programs and policies for young children.

If you would like more information about the AEDI, please refer to the enclosed frequently asked questions, contact the school, visit \url{www.aedi.org.au} or phone 1800 092 548.

If you do not want the information about your child to be collected, please contact the school.

This year’s collection is a great opportunity for parents, local communities, schools and other agencies to work together in the best interests of our children. Thank you for supporting the AEDI.

Regards

Bronwyn Wilson
Principal