



Teaching Testimonial – Barb Carter, Director

I always wanted to be a teacher. I can still remember the day when I was in Grade 2 and I looked up at my teacher {a nun} and thought “I am going to be a teacher just like you. I taught primary school children in Portland and Geelong for 5 years before I was married and then when my three children went to school I accepted employment at Black Hill Kindergarten, which was the kindergarten that my three children attended. I have been teaching at Black Hill Kindergarten for the past 21 years and still have the passion and energy to love, care and educate all the children who come to this kindergarten.

I feel privileged to be surrounded by these precious 4 to 5 year old children by developing warm and responsive relationships with them during this year which continues on while they are at school when I see most of them when I visit the Black Hill Primary School. Their enthusiasm and energy to explore and learn through the enjoyment of their play still captures me with awe and excitement and it is a gift to be given the opportunity to share in their play and achievements.

I value the opportunity to share in their learning and accept the important role of scaffolding and expanding their learning so that they can grow and develop to become the best person that they can be. I acknowledge the importance of this profession while helping them to learn throughout their play and I acknowledge the opportunity to share and teach them the importance of the life skills of love, respect, appreciation, caring and valuing ourselves, people around us and to also care for our animal kingdom and the world we live in.

I value the times when I share with the children’s parents the knowledge and relationships I have with their children so that together we can encourage and guide their children to develop a sound sense of wellbeing and intellectual growth for today as well as for the future.

I believe that kindergarten is very much a doing, exploring year but maybe because of my primary school teaching background children leave this kindergarten knowing routines and the ability to wait, sit and listen. These are important life and school ready skills that the children practise throughout the year and success and achievement of these skills are noticed and often commented on by the prep teachers when they begin their formal education as a prep child at school.