



"A caring and stimulating learning that grows with your child"

Kimmba Bilingual Learning Playgroup Multicultural Multilingual Children's Performance

Kimmba Bilingual Learning Playgroup had its first musical inter cultural performance for its seven playgroups on Sunday, 18th of November, 2007.

"We were honored to have both Darebin former Mayor and councilor, Victorian Multicultural Commissioner Dr. S. Chiang and our parents' representative, Mr. W. Tseng, the Liberal candidate for Gellibrand give us the encouragement and praise for the pioneering work Kimmba Bilingual Learning Playgroup Inc. has done to gather our local community and migrant families together through these structured playgroups set up to encourage bilingual learning and inter cultural understanding for our young children", President of Kimmba Association, Mrs. Linda Chin said.

More than 150 adults and children participated in this first multicultural event. Parents and family members have all worked as volunteers and helped to make this a fun and interesting event for our multicultural children become a reality. We are proudly supported by Manningham local restaurants that have kindly provided us with refreshments and food. Without any one of our sponsors and volunteer parents, this first multicultural multilingual event for young playgroup children wouldn't have been possible.

Mandarin, Cantonese, and Spanish speaking children were on stage for their own individual group performance, singing and dancing songs that are representative of their unique languages and culture. "Teachers and children were working very hard at practicing those special songs and children went on the stage on the day without rehearsal because of a situation where we were paying for the hall from Manningham council by the hour without any financial assistance or any discount (even though we are a non profit making organization) from the council so we really couldn't afford to

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pay for a longer period of hours" said Mrs. Theeboom, program coordinator for Kimmba.

"Children and parents were having a wonderful time together through out this multicultural event. This is also the first time that some of these families have met the families from other playgroups that are learning a different language so this is a great opportunity for us to really gather together" she said. "We had SBS Mandarin and Cantonese news reporters, Mrs. D Leung, and Mr. J. Fang, as well as 3CW radio station Mandarin program reporter Ms. Fang Fang interviewing us. They were all present right through our performance and were surprised at how difficult it is to organize such a fun and meaningful, multicultural event without any government assistance and how our Kimmba Bilingual Learning Playgroup committee members, teachers and volunteer parents were determined to make it happen for all of our families and children."

"We hope that by doing it, we will be able to make everyone aware of the importance of providing children from local and migrant families a stable language based playgroup environment to help bring harmony and promote community cohesion within our unique Australian multicultural society". Mrs. Theeboom says.

A professional DVD of this event will be available for purchase. Please contact marisha.theeboom@kimmba.com.au or 0425 703 831 for details.

If you would like to know more about the unique Kimmba Bilingual Learning Playgroup program, please visit our website: www.kimmba.com.au

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