



Through

my

window ...

Lockdown in Boroondara through
kindergarten children's eyes

By kindergarten children in Boroondara

**Through my
window ...**



I saw smiles,



eyes,

noses ...





Through

my

window ...



**Lockdown in Boroondara through
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Children's voices are incredibly important within the City of Boroondara, and it is important to Council that they be heard and amplified – including during the COVID-19 pandemic. In mid-September 2020, children who attended kindergarten in Boroondara joined a special online workshop with artist Nikita Hederics, in which they drew their window at home and what they saw through it. The result is a unique view into life in Boroondara during Melbourne's extended lockdown, through the eyes of children aged 3 to 5.

By kindergarten children in Boroondara

Abbas	Flynn	Louis
Abbey	Francesca	Lulu
Adrien	Frankie	Lulu K
Agata	Georgia	Lyla
Annabelle	Grace	Marcus
Archer	Hamish	Molly
Billy	Harri	North
Bronte	Harrison	Oscar
Brooke	Hattie	Peri
Charlotte	Herbie	Rei
Chloe	Hugo	Rupert
Clementine	Isaac	Sophia
Coco	Isla	Spencer
Connor	Jack B	Stella
Dan	Jack W	Thomas
Daniel	James	Vivi
Ella	Jasper	Xavier
Felicity	Leo	Xavier S
Finn	Lincoln	Zoe



Foreword

Like many moments in history, 2020 will be one of those pivotal years where we all remember – for better or for worse – who we were with, or what we were doing, during a span of time. Yet unlike other significant events in living memory, the extended effects of the pandemic have impacted everyone in our community, turning our lives upside down for months on end.

During a seemingly endless cycle of lockdowns, restrictions, openings and closures, and social distancing, some 18,000 children in Boroondara under the age of nine were there to see it all. *Through My Window: Lockdown in Boroondara through kindergarten children's eyes* captures the thoughts and feelings of local children during Melbourne's extended stay-at-home measures.

Viewing day-to-day life through the eyes of a child – specifically, the children who attended kindergarten in Boroondara – is most interesting and heart-warming. Many are the children of parents who continued to work during the pandemic, whether as doctors, nurses, medical staff, ambulance workers, teachers and educators, transport and warehouse workers, cashiers or cleaners to support our community.

The children's illustrations and words paint a picture of hopefulness as well as resilience. In the way only children can do, they tell of building cubby houses with blankets, making things with Lego, watching birds, flowers and veggie patches growing outside the window, playing together with siblings, and aching to go outside to play in the park or return to kindergarten.

When we all look back on 2020, we will remember not just the decision-makers, but the people who went about their lives in our community, the sacrifices they made for others, and collectively, our community spirit.

I wish to thank the Council teams who made this book possible, the early years educators who kept our local kindergartens open so that children who needed to attend (either due to parents' work or vulnerable backgrounds) could play and learn – and of course, our young authors and illustrators! This book offers a window into the lives of children in Boroondara during the pandemic. I hope that we can all take something away from their unique, imaginative and hopeful perspectives.

Cr Garry Thompson, Mayor of Boroondara

I'm with my sister and brother. My sister is saying, 'Look after me' and my brother says, 'Put on a different TV show.' *Sophia*

I am with my brother and sisters. We are playing together with our toys and dolls' house. We are talking and playing on the bed – jumping! *Dan*



Through my window ...

Mummy and Daddy work
at home. I felt sad when I
can't go outside



I played with my brothers during lockdown. They fought a lot and then they became friends and then we all played together!
Isaac



This is me and my little sister. I like reading. *James*

I'm playing with my sister and my cat. I like playing with my cars and train. *Rupert*



Mummy and Daddy work at home. I felt sad when I can't go outside. I played with Mummy and Daddy to feel better. *Molly*



I am playing in the backyard with my mum. She has long hair. I made a cubby house with my bed blanket and hid under the table. *Archer*



This is my painting. *Georgia*



This is my painting. *Daniel*



I'm playing with my brother. We have been building all sorts of things with Lego. I miss birthday parties and going to the shops. *Peri*

It's a window monster truck. I like
just my monster truck. *Oscar*



**Through my
window ...**

**I made a
cubby house
with my bed
blanket and
hid under
the table**



I was looking at the sky and I saw a butterfly.
I have a baby sister Bella and we are playing a lot.
And I've got curtains. *Coco*

From my mum's bedroom window, you can see the veggie patch. There's also an orange tree and a grapefruit tree and a lemon tree next to the veggie patch and we give some to Brian and Joan. A butterfly landed on the window. It said "Why are you and Mum lying down in bed?" *Thomas*

This is a flower and it is on the window sill. The flower is excited to grow. *Lulu K*



Me. I am in my garden and picking some peas and lettuce. Then it started to rain so I went back inside and the sun came out. *Frankie K*

It's raining and the tree will grow. *Adrien F*



A spider. Me. I am looking at a flower because I want to see a bee come and get nectar. A spider just started to make the spider web so you can see it. *Hugo S*

Through my window ...

This is a flower and it is on the window sill. The flower was excited to grow



I'm playing with my toy cars and planes at home with my brother. The bird is flying a message from Dad. I miss going to the swimming pool. *Lincoln*



**Through my
window ...**

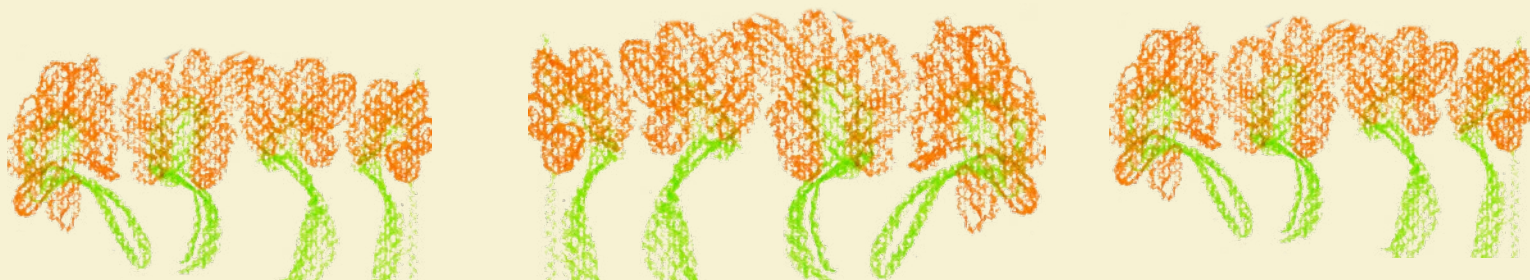
**My babies are
telling me a
bird has flown
to give Mum
a letter**

I am with my family at home. I'm painting. My babies are telling me a bird has flown to give Mum a letter. It says, 'Dear Spencer's family, I hope you are having a great time at home together and having fun.' I'm sad because I don't get to go to swimming lessons. *Spencer*



I am happy and holding my brother's hand. He has been in
hospital but he's home now. He likes to watch me riding my bike.
I can see starlings outside the window on the concrete.
They've brought bread from someone else's house.

Harrison





I am with my brother. We can draw together. I have my paper and pencil. My brother can play cars, he loves cars. I miss the park and the playground.
Annabelle



I am with Mummy. We have been playing with my toy butterfly. I would love my mum and I to play and ride on a unicorn. I can see the flowers in the garden. I wish the coronavirus was gone so I could go on a holiday.
Brooke



My whole family is at home. I'm watching the birds outside. I'm bored so I watch Pokemon on the TV. I miss going to the beach house. *North*



Me and Mum are having lots of walks and it's a really sunny day. Sometimes it's a rainy day and we go walking. *Harri*

Through my window ...

I can see the flowers in the garden.
I wish the coronavirus was gone so I
could go on a holiday



Through my
window ...

I miss having
longer walks
in the sun and
I like playing
with my sisters



I wasn't allowed to go
to kinder for 11 sleeps
... I don't know how
long. I like being back
at kinder so I can play
on the monkey bars
again and running
around with my friends
playing horses.
Agata



I've been looking for butterflies. I've been playing with my
sister and my doggy. *Isla*



This boy is walking around looking for a flower. It's raining, the flower will grow.

This boy lost his tooth and it will grow bigger and bigger. This is my mum and I am behind my mum. I am trying to catch a butterfly. *Xavier T*



I miss having longer walks in the sun and I like playing with my sisters and sometimes when we are outside I can see a rainbow. I love rainbows. *Ella*



Nonni's not in there. I can't go to her house because of the virus. *Felicity*

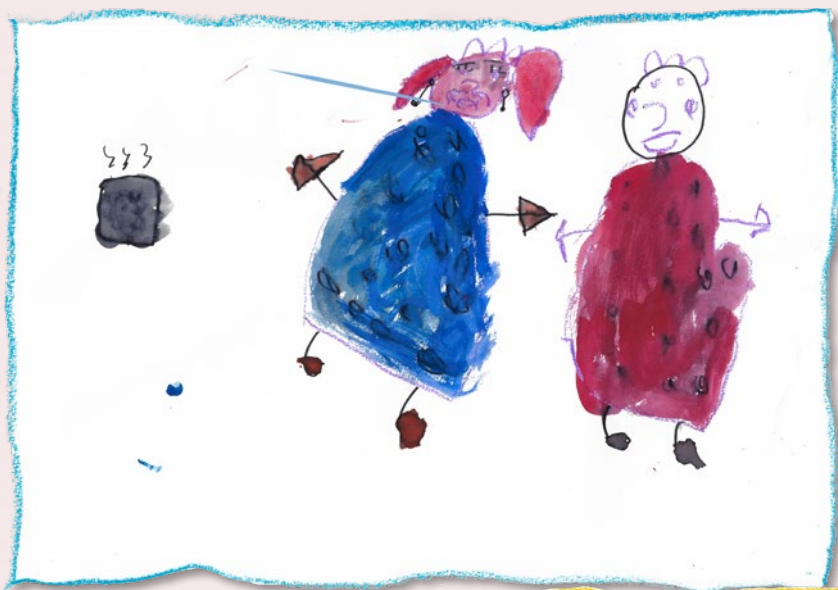


This is my dad. We play video games at home and Lego. My grandad is far away. He is not in my house. There is a baby in my mummy's tummy. I'm just so excited for it. *Louis*

Through my window ...

I miss my grandma and grandpa





I miss my grandma and grandpa.
That's music – flower music. I feel sad
because I can't see my grandma. *Stella*



This is me and my mum and dad and
my sister Sarah. The blue is London.
It's a long way away. *Abbas*

This is my mum and dad and me at home. I'm not allowed friends over to my house because of the lockdown. I like being at kinder because of the slide and I like playing with Felicity. *Vivi*



Through my window ...

This is my mum and dad and me at home. I'm not allowed friends over because of the lockdown

I drew my family. Dad, my brother, Mum. I also drew a possum. *Abbey*



I drew my family, driving home. I love my family. *Charlotte*



This is me and my special friend James. There is a rainbow. *Billy*



I drew my parents, my Omar and Pa. I love my parents. I like my Omar and Pa. *Hamish*



Through my window ...

Mum has a person on the screen and is having a meeting



Mum has a person on the screen and Mum is having a meeting. Mum is doing lots of work and I can watch TV when she works and I have been eating lots of food. *Xavier S*

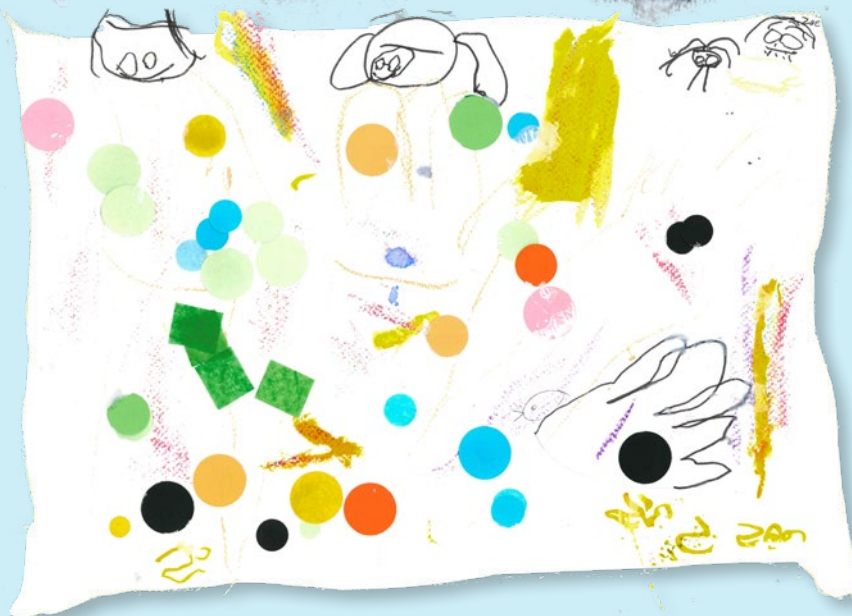


I'm with Mummy and Daddy. I've been watching TV and Daddy is working in his office at home. I feel sad because I want to go to the park. *Finn*



My mum and dad have to go to work so I come to kinder every day. They need to look after their patients cause they're doctors.

Lockdown is different in kinder because Clem is at home now. They stay home cause the corona's on. I missed playing with my two best friends. *Hattie*



I'm in the middle with a happy face. I like it when the playgrounds were open again. This is my friend Millie. I didn't see her and I missed her. I did Zoom calls with her. Siyana stayed at home because of the virus. *Zoe*

There's a dinosaur eating a type of rock. These are pretend things that I just created. There was a big robot bee flying around with lots of people inside. There's also my cat, April. There's also a ghost and my upside-down house. *Flynn*



It's a square. So that's my mum, that's my dad, that's Zachy laying in his cot. And that's mell love it so much; I think I would like you to copy it so I can take it home. That's my bike, that's my scooter, that's my skateboard. *Clementine*



It's myself with my toy when I'm sleeping. Mummy she likes washing clothes that are dirty. I did the black on my egg. I have four eggs at home. *Grace*



There's someone, his hand is like that. I saw a boat and a monster. My mummy is playing here, with a rocket. The rocket goes to the moon. I play with Mummy, with the rocket. The man is on the roof. *Leo*



**Through my
window ...**

**These are
pretend
things that I
just created!**

I am wearing a green jumper with a wolf on it.
I am in the outback in Australia, looking for a
dingo. Here is an ordinary tree and a green spider.
When you are bitten by this spider you get healthy
because it has healthy fangs. When you get stung
by this bee you feel like lying down on a beanbag
and make you happy. Jack W

When I was at home I played with no one, but I was happy. But I liked being at home more cause I cooked food with my daddy! Here is me at kinder with my friends playing ninja chased. I turned my friend into a pancake! *Marcus*



I liked playing at kinder more than playing at home because my friend Marky was there. This is us playing at kinder. I played with my dog when I was at home. My friends can't come to my house because of lockdown. *Herbie*



I can play with my cars at home. Daddy is working at home. I didn't like staying at home. I'm happy I can go to kindergarten now. *Connor*



I'm in kinder in my picture. I like playing with Herbie every day in kinder. I love my best friend Herbie. I liked being at home too. When I'm at home I played with Transformers. *Jack B*

I'm at home looking out the window at a rainbow. I wish I could have a sleepover with my cousin Phoebe. When the virus is gone the other children will come back to kinder. *Charlotte*



Through my window ...

This is us playing at kinder. I played with my dog when I was at home



Through my
window ...

I saw a rainbow.
When the virus
has gone, the
other children
will come back
to kindergarten.

A smile, my eyes, my nose, my hair, my ears
and earrings. I'm happy seeing butterflies
and Dougy. Nonna and Nonno have moved
into my house. *Lulu*



My dad was going to go off to the park with
my mum. And then I keep playing jigsaw
puzzles myself. I enjoyed the lovely sun. *Rei*

I went for a walk with Mummy. I saw a rainbow. Then I read a book with Mummy, then I did a puzzle. *Jasper*



That's the singing thing and that's a bat and a butterfly because it's coming up to night-time. That is the sky showing through the window. I'm getting a dog and Mummy and Daddy read me books. *Lyla*



One, two, three, four windows. I put purple, pink, yellow because they are my favourite colours and orange and red because they are Mummy and Daddy's favourite colours. *Francesca*



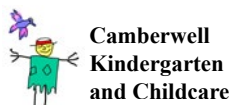
It's a big window and it looks like a snake. I'm the snake with my babies. There's a sun. My sun is angry, and the sun is happy. *Chloe*



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WONCLE

Through My Window

Lockdown in Boroondara through kindergarten children's eyes
By kindergarten children in Boroondara
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The City of Boroondara acknowledges the Traditional Owners as the original custodians of this land, including the Wurundjeri People in the northern part of our City, and pays its respects to their Elders, past and present, and the Elders from other Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander communities in Boroondara.

Through my
window ...



I saw hair,

ears ...



I was happy!





*My mum and dad go to work
so I come to kinder every day.*

*They need to look after their
patients 'cause they're doctors.
Lockdown is different at kinder.*



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