



## NEWSLETTER 2 – March 2021

### Your check list:

- Sign you're with the QR code displayed at front gates or you can use the sign in sheet.
- Hand sanitizer is available at the front door
- Sanitize your hands before you enter the premise for 5 minutes at the beginning of the day.
- Sanitize your child's hands before they enter the centre.
- Close the gates when you come and go.
- Pack a hat, water bottle, lunch and 2 snacks in your child's bag.
- Apply sun screen on your child each day.
- No hat no Play outside

### Occasional Care

Sessions are on Mondays, am and pm and Tuesdays are. Phone 8322 0677.

### FLU and Colds / Coronavirus

Please remember to notify the centre if your child has an illness. For further Covid information use SA Health Web page <http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au>.

Every month I will be sending out a centre newsletter which gives general feedback about the curriculum with more specific feedback about your child's learning coming from the teachers Joanne Welch and Julie Fitzsimons. I give input into these conversations and am available to have a chat if you call or email for a time. Other information such as Dates to Remember and Health Covid 19 updates for the centre are part of the newsletter. I try to keep newsletters to one page for easy reading and will email them. (Emmy)

### CURRICULUM

It has been a busy time with children settling into routines including lunch & snack time, toileting and packing away. They learnt about caring, sharing and playing together at preschool. Children have enjoyed painting, using the blocks, puzzles, sand pit and climbing outside. They have become familiar with one another's names as they participated in these activities and used name cards at the lunch table. The children's language and literacy has been promoted by learning rhymes and songs like everyone *Clap Hands, Count to 100, Banana, Banana Meatballs and Days of the week*. Each day the children have small story group where they listened to stories like *Brown Bear Brown Bear, Rainbow fish, Possum in a hat, Wombat Stew and How the Birds got their Colours...* Numeracy activities have included measuring children's heights and using an egg timer to measure time.

As part of our multi-cultural program children discussed the Kurna culture and are learning to sing *Heads Shoulders Knees and Toes* in the Kurna language, Acknowledgment of country and Kurna greetings. The children have also learnt about the significance of Australia day, and Chinese New Year. (Year of the Ox)

The child protection program has a focus on the children's awareness of fair and unfair behaviour, rights and responsibilities and feelings. Children listened to the story *The Rainbow Fish* and brainstormed feelings. Children made hand prints and considered using 'gentle words and kind hands' when playing with their friends.

Children have been observing and inquiring about the environment using natural materials for pasting, construction, in the digging patch and sand pit. The children were shown honeycomb and are interested in the beetles borrowed from the Nature Education Centre which has led them to ask about the lifecycle of a variety of creatures.

**Children's library borrowing** is on **Wednesday for Kookaburra** group and **Tuesdays for Koala** group. Please remember to bring your library bag on these days. We are distributing **Raising Literacy book bags** from the Commonwealth Government which can double as library bags. A note about book borrowing is included in these bags.

### PUPIL FREE DAY

The centre is allowed **4 PUPIL Free Days** per year by the Department for Education and approved by the Governing Council. These days are for staff to attend staff development. On these days there is **NO PRESCHOOL or OCCASIONAL CARE PROGRAMS**.

This year your **Governing Council** approved the first day being **Friday 12 March 2021** (this is the Friday for the Monday/ Wednesday group). The staff will be attending training on Early Years Literacy development for children and will be off site.

The other pupil free days are under negotiation, with one being scheduled for Terms 2, 3, and 4. Further details are coming your way as soon as they are confirmed with Governing Council, our Education Director and staff. We aim to spread out the days throughout the year with 2 days allocated for each group and giving you at least one month's notice as required by the Department. **You will need to make other arrangements for your children on these days.**

The centre is closed on Monday 8 March for the public holiday and Friday 12 March for the pupil free day

