



NEWSLETTER 6 –July 2020

Have you read?

➤ The white board

➤ The program inside the centre

Your check list:

- 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
- Sign your child in and out on the daily attendance sheet (they are on a table on the verandah)

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

CURRICULUM

The children are settling back into the preschool and occasional care routines with all educators supporting every child to complete their morning routines of hanging up bags and finding their hat, they are then assisting them to connect with friends or choose an activity to begin their day. The children have adapted to this routine of bag packing, and dismissal through the front door.

Our **Literacy focus** is from our Preschool Quality Improvement Plan (PQIP) **Goal 1: children will choose to engage with a diverse range of text in the learning environment.** The program focusses on 'Stories from our community' which engaged children to view themselves as authors as they drew pictures of their favourite holidays experience and the educator scribed their words and they share the story at group time. Educators are using phrases like 'I wonder ...' to encourage children to discuss and encourage children's thought and language about what they have listened to, heard and seen text and pictures in a story. The children are viewing books as they are encouraged to identify the front & back cover, the title, the author, print and illustrations. A favourite book is 'Are we there yet?' By Alison Lester. Children have started the book making process where they use these skills to develop a book. **Most children have participated in this process and have enjoyed the learning.**

The **children's library borrowing** continues to be steady with most children borrowing a book once a week, we will be implementing a "quarantine time" for all library book as per recommendations – all library books will be placed in a holding basket for 7 days after returning from children's homes. This process will hopefully allow all germs that may have contacted the pages to become inactive before the book is passed onto another family. Thank you to Fiona for managing yet another new protocol.

Our **Numeracy focus** is from our Preschool Quality Improvement Plan (PQIP) **Goal 2: children will use standard and non-standard objects and tools to explore, compare and measure in their learning environment.** Children are encouraged to notice and observe the growth of vegetables in our garden and to investigate & explore the question 'I am wondering how we could measure how much our vegetables have grown?' To accomplish this children have access to use informal tools such as pop sticks and formal tools like tape measures to measure growth and to document growth through charts. Children will be supported to notice & recognise number in their environment whether it be counting in the sandpit, writing numbers, and looking for numbers on their letterbox

Educators will support children to discuss distance and measurement by posing questions for example about distance travelled in a car, walking or riding a bike and how they could measure this in kilometres. Kaurua program this term will continue to focus on greetings, everyday conversation phrases and instructions

Caleb Mason from Musical Muscles has started his program for Terms 3 & 4. Caleb Mason from Musical Muscles will present 3 sessions per group each term incorporating songs using pitch, rhythm and musical instruments.

Children are enjoying the garden and watching, and eating our produce, and using the mud kitchen to cook

Pupil Free Days

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 13 March 2020 (this was a Friday for the Monday/ Wednesday group). Educators attended training on Early Years Literacy development for children and were off site

Governing Council have approved Thursday 24 September last Thursday of term 3 and

Thursday 10 December and Friday 11 December.

These days will focus on children's literacy and Numeracy learning, documenting and assessing children's learning, review of plans, and forward planning.

The aim is to have 2 days allocated for each group and giving families you at least one month's notice as required by the Department. ***Parents will need to make other arrangements for your children on these days as staff may be off site or the centre will be closed***

FLU and Colds / Coronavirus

Please remember **if your child is unwell they must not attend kindy**, children presenting with coughs, sneezing, runny nose or other symptoms will be sent home. If a staff member contracts a cold they must also stay away from preschool until all symptoms have ceased. Please remember to notify the centre if your child has an illness. For further information use SA Health Web page <http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au>.

Department for Education Covid -19 updates for the centre have included:

Cleaning arrangements for term 3 continue additional cleaning shift at the end of the day by our cleaners, daily cleaning an extra cleaning shift of high touch surfaces and toilets during the school day by Department for Education cleaners extra cleaning during the school holidays for OSHC and admin areas.

Practice physical distancing at all times in the workplace. This is for adults so we are currently review how this works for staff and parents.