



NEWSLETTER 5 –June 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

As the term progresses the children's resilience continues to grow with the morning "doorway" separation process, we are so proud of their development. Over the next few weeks we are reintroducing the Occasional Care Monday/ Tuesday program, in small groups, as we support these younger children to manage the same separation challenge. To develop the children's sense of belonging, connections to peers and early reading skills we are introducing an "arrival board" near the doorway. As children enter the Kindy they can find their name card (with their picture) and place it on the felt board. As more children arrive they will be able to tell who is at kindy already.

The children have continued to engage and enjoy all gardening activities, we have planted, weeded, dug, raked leaves, potted seeds and bulbs, cleared pathways and built "fences". As children engage in these activities they are supported by educators to question, wonder, notice and predict about the world around them. Many children delight in these close connections with adults, where their thoughts and ideas are heard and respected.

Following on with *The potato people* story, the children have begun to create a book of their own, recording their potato person's journey. These books will form part of their individual folders, and the potato people, will be heading home. Much of our literacy learning at preschool this year is focused on children as writers, and their deep connection to stories. The creation of these books supports the children to begin to see themselves as competent beginning writers; as authors.

Extending our numeracy focus around measurement, children have had the opportunity to engage with farm animals and "stock yards" – the children have used many numeracy skills to sort, order, arrange (tessellate) and measure; to fit different sized animals in different yards. This exploration learning has also captivated their imagination, language use and story development. The children have then directed where our measurement learning should go with several children exploring sequencing by size, we will be providing multiple ways to learn and explore comparative measurement over the next fortnight. The children also created a leaf colour chart and began to explore the use of graphs and data in everyday life. Oliver R shared with us his interest in space and so we have created a space area encouraging shared play opportunities with puzzles, stories, felt pictures, foil drawings and a mini space world. Julie has accessed YouTube children's stories read to us from space by real astronauts. Quite amazing if you think about it.

The children really engaged with the Dress Up Days, with lots of excitement and laughter, though it is a bit hard to find your friend when they are wearing a mask! Lots of giggles, imaginative play and pre-writing development through oral story language. One story developed when we discovered "someone" had eaten one of our zucchini plants, the children decided it was either The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Goldilocks (she did eat all Baby bear's porridge), or there was some evidence found that maybe the zucchini plant ran away! Sophie, Maverick and Sienna spent a long time in search of the culprit, I will let you know if they make an arrest.

FLU and Colds / Coronavirus

We have had two family members tested for Covid- 19 with negative results thankfully, but it serves as a timely reminder that we need to maintain our awareness and safe practices. We again remind all families that **unwell children 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>.

Welcome back Jenny. Week 6 saw the return of Jenny much to the delight of children and staff, we are nearly back to the full team!

Well done to all parents and caregivers with the amazing array of fancy dress costumes, in case you missed the staff we had a "Wally", a unicorn, a football fanatic, a panda and a butterfly. Let me tell you it is no easy task to hold a serious planning conversation with a unicorn!