NEWSLETTER NO. 1 Jan 2013

Welcome back everyone
and a huge hello to all of our new children and their families this term.

What's new this year?

Have you seen the wonderful new blue wall coverings in the second room. They were installed at the beginning of the year. It is a material that no only gives the room a splash of new calming colour but we are also able to display the children’s work on it like a pin board. This has been possible with a maintenance grant that Kerry applied for late last year. The other well needed change that you may have noticed is the new office. Wow what a difference. Staff no longer feel crowded as it has opened up more bench area for staff to work on and storage space for their many folders. It also doubles up as a nice quiet clean space for Chris to work in with children having speech support. This has also been possible using the once off Maintenance grant from DECD. Aaron Maiden of AR Cabinetry & Joinery ph 0419 818 698 did this wonderful job of rebuilding the office. He is one of our many very talented parents in the building trade. Thankyou Aaron we are sooooooo happy with our beautiful new space. Ian Thompson of I.T. Voice, Data & Electrical ph 84435587, also a previous parent did a wonderful job of moving all of our power points and other electrical work. Thanks Ian.

SUNSMART

With summer well upon us please ensure your child comes dressed in appropriate clothing to play outdoors and put sunscreen on before coming to Kindy. It is now far too dangerous to be out in the sun harmful summer rays without protection. Parents need to supply a named roll on sunscreen for their child so that they can learn to apply it after lunch with assistance from staff. (No tubes, sprays or pumps as the children find them difficult to manage by themselves and get it all over the floor) Please put it in the sun cream container by the door.

Roll On Sun Cream for Sale
We have cost saving roll on sun creams for families to purchase at Kindy as we can buy them in bulk. They cost $5.00 and are low allergy PABA free.

As part of our Sun smart policy and in accordance with The Cancer Council S.A all children must wear their legionnaire Kindy hat outside during summer. During times when the temperature is into high 30’s and 40 degree day’s play outside will only be permitted earlier in the day and under shady areas of the yard.

REMINDERS

-We have a sign in and sign out sheet under the veranda by the outdoor blue parent notice board as you come in. Please fill this in when you arrive and pick up at Kindy
-All children need to bring a clearly named bag that they can manage themselves to put their belongings into.
-Please provide a spare set of clothes in a plastic bag in your child’s bag so when they get wet during water play activities they have clothes to change into.
-Please put an ice pack in your child’s lunch box to keep their food fresh and safe for eating.
- Provide two pieces of fruit or veg for your child at Kindy for snack time.
-Please discourage your child from bringing toys from home.
-Please check your notice pocket after each Kindy session.
- No thongs at Kindy as they are not safe for climbing in.

VEGETABLE GARDEN
Would you like to come in and cook with the children using vegetables from the garden? Please let us know and share your ideas. Or perhaps you would like to do some planting with the children????

FRUIT TIME
As part of our ongoing commitment to the Eat Well Be Active program we encourage the children to bring fruit or vegetables for their snack time.
Fruit time is referred to as MUNCH and CRUNCH. So please provide your child with 2 pieces of fruit or veg, one to have for morning fruit and the other for afternoon fruit time.
No sandwiches, biscuits, bars or packaged foods, just fresh or dried fruit/vegetables please. We all sit down together and eat our fruit and have a drink of water. Cheese and yoghurts are healthy snack alternatives but for fruit time at Kindy we would really like to encourage the children to have a piece of fruit.
Crunching and chewing on a piece of natural fruit is not only healthy but assists with helping to look after our teeth and gums as well as encourages positive speech development. Eating too many foods that don’t encourage chewing actions e.g. McDonalds or sloppy foods can over time greatly affect children’s speech development. So let’s get our teeth working, move those tongues around and munch and crunch.
Have a think, how many processed (packaged, tinned, and jars etc foods would you eat in a day?) Remember please NO NUTS, or foods containing nuts as we have a child that is highly allergic to nuts.

STAFFING FOR THIS YEAR
Annette: Full time Teacher
Jaz: Mon & Tues Teacher
Kerry: Full time Teacher and Director
Tonia: Full time Early Childhood Worker
Chris: Part time Special Needs Support Teacher and lunch care support.

Tonia will be on leave weeks 2 & 3 so Ali Clennett will be our relief ECW.

Continue to support your Kindy by bringing your children everyday. We are very fortunate to be able to have a centre that enables us to keep numbers to a minimum so that we can offer smaller group sizes and more individual attention to your children, however for this to continue we still need to show the department that all of our children attend full time. Your child’s regular attendance does affect the data that the department checks regularly. Regular attendance enables us to keep full time staff; irregular attendance greatly effects our staffing. So please support your Kindy and attend regularly. If your child is sick or away on holidays, please phone and let us know as Kerry will document this for data collection. DATA COLLECTION is sent in to the Dept this week and next week. (Weeks 2 & 3)

DIARY DATES TO REMEMBER

| Wk 3 Tuesday 12th and Wed 13th Feb | Kindy Photos. Colin a Kindy/school photographer will be here on Tuesday pm and Wednesday am to take the children’s individual and group photos. They come at the beginning of each year. Parents get to view all of their child’s photos without any obligation to buy them. If you are interested in purchasing the album you can do so through the Kindy. If you do not want your child to be in the group photo please inform Kerry. Thankyou |
| Wk 5 Tuesday 26th Feb | Meet & Greet, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 7pm to 8.15pm | We are looking for more parents to form our new Parent Committee for this year. PLEASE SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR YOUR CHILD’S KINDY BY COMING TO THIS BRIEF MEETING. Ask staff for more info, you don’t have to take on a specific role we welcome parents as general participants. Please RSVP to Kerry |
| Wk 7 Monday March 11th Public Holiday | Adelaide Cup | Kindy is closed |
| Wk 10 Monday 1st April NO KINDY, Public Holiday- Easter Monday |
| Wk 10 Thursday 4th April CAFHS CHECKS at Kindy, (Checking your child’s sight, hearing and general health for children aged from 4.3 years with a Community Health Nurse) bookings can be made with Tonia. A parent or Caregiver needs to be able to attend with your child. |
| Wk 11 Thurs 11th April | Last day of term, 2 weeks holidays. Term 2 begins Mon 29th April |
**Term Dates for 2013**

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<tr>
<th>Term</th>
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<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>29th Jan - 12th April</td>
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<td>Term 2</td>
<td>29th April to 5th July</td>
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<td>Term 3</td>
<td>22nd July to 27th Sept</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
<td>14th Oct to 13th Dec</td>
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**Kindy session times**
Monday to Thursday
8.30 to 4.00 pm (3.55 pm pick up)

We thank families for having a play outside in the garden if you arrive early while staff are setting up in the morning to ensure your child’s safety. Staff often have meetings and professional development after the children’s sessions so picking up children promptly is very important.

**Frieda Corpe Kindergarten’s Website**

As a way of promoting the centre and keeping in contact with families you can read newsletters, get useful websites on parenting and see what’s happening at Kindy online.

www.friedakgn.sa.edu.au

Other interesting web sites:

http://familybyfamily.org.au/


**School Dental Service**

S.A Dental Service Noarlunga
2 Alexander Kelly Drive
Noarlunga Centre 5168
Ph: 83849244
Open Monday – Friday 8.30 am to 4.30 pm
After hours emergency advise Health Care Direct 1800 022 222

A huge thankyou to all of the wonderful work that our gardener (Garry Sutton) has done to beautify and maintain the Kindergarten grounds over the holidays. The children engage in such valuable learning as they play in the natural outdoors. Our outdoor play environment and vegetable garden is certainly a very special place to play and learn in.

Thankyou to Stella’s family for looking after yabbie.
Thankyou to Lola’s family for looking after the worm farm.

Thankyou to Evie’s for looking after the stick insects.

Thankyou to Chris and her husband Kevin, our wonderful cleaner who always does way over and above her duties and helps to keep Frieda Corpe Kindy the special place that it is. Thanks Chris

Once again this year we have weekly Kindy washing to be done so we ask families that are not able to come into the Kindy to help or who are unable to attend the Parent Voice Meetings that help run the Kindy, to please take turns taking home the Kindy washing. This small gesture is still a very big help and we greatly appreciate it. Thankyou.

**Feedback**

We value your feedback, comments and suggestions. Please have a chat with staff or use the feedback form to add your comments. If you do have a complaint please include your name so that we can discuss it with you in person.

**Child Development**

If you would like to have a chat with staff about your child’s development please notify a staff member. When your child is in their second term of Kindy Annette and Jaz will invite you to join them in a discussion about how your child is progressing at Kindy. This formulates their mid term report. In the children’s last term of Kindy a Summative report is written which summarises your children’s interests, strengths and areas requiring strengthening. This report is viewed by the child’s parents first and then a copy sent to their designated school. This all becomes part of a positive and successful transition into school life.

This year we are delving deeper into Reggio Emilia influences and will continue to incorporate The Early Years Framework “Belonging, Being, Becoming”, which is the National Early Years Framework. For more information on either please help yourself to information on the signing in table or please see staff.

**Thankyou**

We need you...
Parents/caregivers don’t have to take on a particular role unless extremely keen. You can just become a general member. You can spend as little or as much time with your involvement as you like - (No pressure.) It’s a great way to get to know how a Kindy is run from a financial, educational and staffing perspective. Be involved in your child’s learning at Kindy.

**AGM TUESDAY 26th Feb 7pm to 8.15pm**

Meet and greet staff and other parents. It is that time again and we need as much parent and caregiver support as we can. It is time to form the new Parent Voice Group for 2013. We only meet twice a term on a Tuesday evening during week 4 and week 8, 7.00 to 8.15pm. We value working with parents and our local community to share ideas to continue making Frieda Corpe Kindy the special learning centre that it is. Part of our strategic directions for this year is strengthening these relationships so please come along and show your support and interest. Have a say in how your Kindy is run, learn about Kindy curriculum and meet new parents.

Please RSVP to Kerry so I can give you a copy of the Annual Report to look over before the meeting.

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**Fundraising**

This term we will have a healthy Easter raffle full of educational toys for something a little different. Tickets will be $2 each, more information to come this term. Does anyone have connections with a gardening centre as we would love a wheelbarrow to put all of the goodies in??

**Safety issues**

We have a feral cat that comes to kindy during the evenings and defecates in any uncovered sand. We cover the sandpit at pack up time but have noticed it uncovered again at 3.30pm. If your child stays to have a play at kindy after 3.30pm the sandpit is closed for safety reasons. Please ensure they do not enter the sandpit as we use bricks to keep the sides covered. Thankyou

**Engaged in Learning Through Play**

Annette and Jaz write a fortnightly program for parents to view which is on the art easel outside. As well as this program we have a learning journal that documents children’s learning that will be placed on the wooden easel by the door. A daily slideshow of the children’s learning will also be available at the end of the day.

**Opening hearts and minds to life long learning.**

Kerry, Annette, Tonia, Chris & Jaz
A copy of our daily timetable

Time Table (Monday to Thursday)

8.30am Children arrive
Parents sign in and greeted by staff.
Parents engage in an activity with their child 10 to 15mins
Staff chat with parents and children.

9.00am Goodbye to all parents
Children engaged in learning experiences

9.45am Morning Meeting (Group time) with all children and staff
Discussions
Sharing information
Teacher provocation
Songs

10.15am Wash hands/Fruit

10.30am Outdoor activities

11.35am Tidy up outside toys

11.45am Inside, wash hands & relaxation

12.00am Lunch
Big Book story with Chris
Re apply sun cream
A large group game.

1.00pm Children engaged in learning through play
Inside/Outside (weather permitting)

2.45pm Pack up outside

3.00pm wash hands/Fruit time
Story/songs

3.15pm Group games, songs, movement.

3.50pm Door open for final goodbyes of remaining children.

4pm Kindy closed-
staff admin duties, meeting.