NEWSLETTER NO.3  May 2011

WELCOME BACK EVERYONE and a huge welcome to our new pre entry children. Everyone has settled in so well to the term and we are enjoying getting to know our new friends. The term has begun with a mathematical focus on observing patterns in our environment. Annette has set up an interesting display on the science table for the children to explore. If you notice interesting patterns in things in your home or garden please bring them in or perhaps take a photo of it to share at kindy. You may have heard the children talking about having a group meeting??? Each day the children are involved in a large group meeting at the beginning of the day. During this group meeting each child has the opportunity to communicate their ideas, interests and share their news. It is an important time for the children to come together and learn about working together as a group, develop self confidence, communication skills, skills of negotiation, listening skills, turn taking, social etiquettes, learning about how to empathise with others, a time to learn about how we respect others, a time to feel part of a special group/community and develop relationships. It is a time for discussions, for children to reflect on their learning, a supportive time for children to bring up any concerns and for peers to help them problem solve ideas and offer suggestions, it is a time to share what they would like to explore in their Child Initiated Curriculum? It is also a time when Annette shares the routines of the day’s happening, a time to introduce new resources and provocations for the children to start thinking about. Staff take minutes of the meetings to capture children’s ideas and voices and keep a record of ideas to follow up on.

Week 7
Port Noarlunga formal transition program begins. Parents will be notified about this via information sent from the school to kindy and put in your pigeon hole. For transition visits to other local schools please contact your school of choice for your child’s transition visits to school during their last term of kindy.

CAFHS screening
Wk 2 Tuesday 10th May
If your child is 4.3 years of age they are eligible to have their free CAFHS screening at kindy. Sight, hearing, weight are checked and parents can discuss any questions or concerns regarding your child’s health and wellbeing with the CAFHS nurse. Book in for an appointment at kindy.

Wk 4 Tuesday 24th May
Parent Voice Meeting. All Welcome. Time: 7pm to 8.15pm. Discussions about finalizing a kindy uniform, DIAF, our site’s validation and our priority of access policy. Please RSVP to Kerry, thankyou.

Wk 5 National Reconciliation Week

REMINDERS SAFETY ISSUES
If your phone number or address changes please put it in writing and give to Kerry. I must have an up to date phone number of an emergency contact person who is available during the day and lives within reasonable distance of the kindy. For Health and Safety reasons we are unable to keep sick children at kindy. If your child falls sick at kindy they will need to be collected within half an hour by either yourself or your emergency contact person.

Term Dates for 2011
Term 2 2nd May to 7th July
Term 3 25th July to 29th Sept
Term 4 17th Oct to 15th Dec

Kindy session times
Monday to Thursday
8.45 to 3.00pm
Pre Entry session time
Fridays 8.45am to 10.15am
 COLLECTION AND PICK UP REMINDER

Please sign your child in when you come to kindy and then sign out on pick up. Thankyou so much.

We appreciate families waiting under the veranda until we open up the doors and say goodbye to the children. If you need to collect your child early please come in quietly and let staff know.

We understand from time to time that emergency situations arise that cannot be helped in regards to picking up your child from kindy. If this happens please arrange for your emergency contact person to collect your child or phone Kerry if it is someone different to who is listed on your child’s enrolment and ask them to please bring some form of identification. Please be aware that staff often have Professional Training and Development workshops and meetings to attend after kindy finishes and need to leave promptly. If a family are consistently late the Director will charge a late fee of $10 per 10 minutes after session finish time as per outlined in the Parent Information Package.

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

SUNSMART

As part of our Sunsmart policy and in accordance With The Cancer Council S.A we will all still wear our hats and sun cream outside until the U.V rays fall below 3. We check these daily on the Bureau of Meteorology website.

THANKYOU

To those parents that have taken the washing home do to, it is such a huge help. If you haven’t had your turn please see staff we don’t like to put out a roster we rather parents honestly just take their turn. Thankyou to Gary Sutton for all of his hard work in keeping the outdoor environment looking fabulous and well maintained.

HELPING AT KINDY

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?

FEEDBACK

We value your feedback, comments and suggestions. Please have a chat with staff or use the feedback form in your child’s portfolio to add your comments.

SCHOOL ENROLMENTS

When you enrolled your child at kindy did you confirm with Kerry the school that your child will be attending? If you were unsure and didn’t list a school please let Kerry know ASAP with your school preference as our schools need to know ASAP for staffing arrangements, class placements and transition programs.

Please note: If you informed Kerry that your child will be attending Port Noarlunga School your child’s name is already enlisted at the school and you will not need to formally enrol your child until the transition visits with Lyn Koehne (Transition Teacher) and Heather Walker (Principal) in their last term of kindy. Thankyou

TRANSITION PROGRAM

The Port Noarlunga School has a 4 year old program for children that will be attending the school in the future. This program operates on a Friday morning from 1.45pm to 3.15pm. You are welcome to attend anytime once your child has turned 4 years of age. Please phone the school on 83822455 for further information or pick up a brochure from kindy.

This is an extra program to the children’s formal transition visits to school that happen in their last term of kindy.

VIOLENCE ON T.V & COMPUTER GAMES

I have found some interesting information from various sources on the impact of violence in children’s television viewing and computer game playing. We often see the impact of this at kindy which is reflected in the children’s play, learning dispositions and behaviours. Hopefully the materials will be useful and something to reflect on. Please see Kerry if you would like more information.

LUNCH AT KINDY

It is wonderful to see families providing healthy lunches for their children.

Children are very active at kindy so perhaps you might consider not only putting in a sandwich or crackers or quiche or left-overs from dinner but perhaps think of adding in a yoghurt or muesli bar or extra fruit or a healthy muffin as we are finding that children that just have a sandwich are still quite hungry and are looking for something else to nibble.

If your child does not eat their crusts we do encourage them to do so however we are finding that some children are taking a few bites out of the sandwich and then trying to throw the rest in the bin because it has crusts on it. Perhaps cut the crusts off?

Please be mindful that children really struggle with cling wrap, perhaps consider going environmentally friendly and just provide the sandwich in a small square sandwich container to keep it fresh and held together. This also assists them with being independent.

ATTENDANCE TO KINDY

It is wonderful to see all of our children attending regularly so that they have continuity for their learning. Our data collection week is weeks 1 & 2 of each term. I send in the children’s attendance to the dept which is then recorded, this then effects our staffing for the term. Please remember as much as we enjoy seeing your children each day that if they have a cold or illness then they need to be at home. If your child attends kindy with a green infected nose then you will be contacted to come and collect them. We have a child undergoing Chemo treatment who can get severely sick when subject to unnecessary coughs and colds. Thankyou for your understanding.

Opening hearts and minds to life long learning.
Kerry, Annette, Tonia, Chris.