NEWSLETTER NO.7  5.11. 2012
Term 4

Hello everyone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DIARY DATES TO REMEMBER</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wk 8 TUESDAY 27th Nov Parent Voice meeting 7pm to 8.15pm. Last one for the year. Please RSVP to Kerry</td>
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<td>Wk 8 TUESDAY 27th Nov Sue Harris Puppets $8.00. Please see permission slip for details.</td>
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<td>Wk 9 THURSDAY 6th Dec Sue Harris Puppets $8.00. Please see permission slip for details.</td>
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<td>Wk 9 Friday 7th DECEMBER - KINDY FEES due to enrol your child for next year. I cannot enrol your child for next year without them.</td>
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<td>Wk 10 Thursday 13th Dec, LAST DAY OF TERM</td>
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<td>Please note: for families whose children are leaving this term, you may like to arrive earlier for pick up at 3.15pm on the Tuesday or 3.15pm on the Thursday of this week as this is when we hand the children their special portfolio and say our formal goodbyes. (Tissues provided xxx)</td>
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<td>Wk 10 Tuesday 11th Dec and Wed 12th December Children’s end of year Kindy Disco at the Kindy. It will be held in the children’s normal session times. More info to come via invitation.</td>
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Term Dates for 2013

| Term 1 begins | 29th Jan | 12th April |

Art Show fundraiser
Thankyou to all of our families who supported this very special event. What a great night we all had. The children enjoyed finding all of their art work in the gallery and proudly showed it to their family and friends. We managed to raise over $1500.00, yippee thankyou so much everyone.
The funds raised are being put towards making some more natural play spaces outside. The children have initiated this idea in wanting special places to play. We will also utilize the funds to put up new pin boards in the kindergarten, ceiling to floor to display the children’s art work. The pin up boards will be specially made so that they help to absorb noise as well, making our Kindy learning environment conducive to all our learners.
Children’s week

We made a special wishing tree to hang positive affirmations and messages of hope to our friends, family and the world.

TEAR Australia is an organisation that responding to global poverty and injustice. For as little as $5.00 seeds, school supplies or a chicken can be donated to a child in need. TEAR Australia’s ‘useful gifts’ is a way to buy a goat and other poverty fighting gifts and is tax deductible. Let’s make a difference today!

Ph 1800 244986 or visit www.usefulgifts.org

Chalk and Parent Direct Toy Catalogues

Orders can now be collected from Kindy.

Welcome Ali

Ali has been with us on a Monday and Tuesday supporting children with special needs and as an ECW on other occasions.

Informal discussions

Once again Annette and Jaz will have informal chats with parents whose children have attended two terms of Kindy. It is a nice opportunity to have a quick chat about how your child is going or for you to share any concerns/questions.

As the teachers are writing Summative Reports for those children who are about to go off to school, informal discussions will take place later this term after week 5. The booking sheet will be on the back of the office door if you would like to have a chat.

Impelementation of the 15 hours, Universal Access to Early Childhood Education Initiative.

Thankyou to everyone for your patience. We have now received approval from the Universal Access Team in regards to keeping the same session times for the children next year.

Monday to Thursday
8.30 to 4.00pm

Please note: If you would prefer to pick your child up earlier we will have a flexible pick up time anytime after 3.30pm. If your child needs a half day transition into kindy we can accommodate this also, please see Kerry. We will review these sessions half way through next year again and should they not be conducive to children’s learning we will consult with the Governing Council (Parent Voice) and parents.

Can you help?

We would love some parent helpers to come in and help us clean at Kindy on Thursday 13th Dec. If you can help please see Tonia, sorry no siblings this day.

The yabby needs a home for the holidays- tank and food provided. He only needs feeding every 3 days approx.

The art work that families have ordered from the art show will be available in the next few weeks.
Extract from Your child's first year at school: Getting off to a good start

Schools create ‘a sense of belonging’ when they take the time to get to know each child, and the family that is an important part of their identity and security.

**POSITIVE TRANSITIONS**

By the time they are getting ready to go to school, five-year-olds will have experienced various changes and transitions. They may have gone with their parent to a playgroup, attended a local child care or preschool service, or been in family day care. In these situations, they may have had to deal with new adults and other children, move between rooms and spaces, separate from siblings or friends, and adjust to new challenges and expectations. Each child responds differently to such changes and each child will deal differently with the transition into school.

Starting primary school is an important time for children and their families. Children who make a positive start to school are more likely to feel:

* comfortable, relaxed and valued
* good about themselves as learners
* a sense of belonging to the school community.

Schools create ‘a sense of belonging’ when they take the time to get to know each child, and the family that is an important part of their identity and security. Parents encourage a sense of belonging when they take the time to get to know the school, their child's teacher and find out how 'things are done in that place'.

**Building children’s capacity for school**

As the KidsMatter Early Childhood initiative (Book 1, pp. 6–9) explains, to enjoy and succeed in school, children will need particular kinds of skills:

* personal skills, including the ability to look after themselves and their belongings, managing their time and getting tasks done, and understanding that particular rules and routines apply in each situation
* relationship skills, including being able to join in games, take turns, to make and maintain friends and to learn how to talk with less familiar adults
* learning skills, including being able to keep going with a task, knowing how to ask and answer questions, how to listen to and follow instructions, and having a positive attitude towards learning new things.

Parents help to develop children’s personal, social and learning capacity when they:

* gradually ask the child to take responsibility for organising their belongings, setting out clothes for the next day, sorting and storing their socks, shoes and coats, and so on
* give the child small, manageable responsibilities at home, such as putting out the pet food, cleaning up, setting the table, clearing their place, or putting their toys away
* involve the child in family decisions according to their age and ability; and offer them choices about what to wear, what they want to eat, or where the family might go on an outing
* talk about the different rules that apply at the pool, in the park, in church or at the cinema, and why we have rules such as wearing a seat belt in the car
* invite children over to play and guide the child into joining in and making friends
* sit with the child doing small tasks, encouraging them to persist and solve problems
* read books and develop the child’s listening skills, concentration, thinking and conversation
* join in community activities which involve learning to socialise with less familiar people, such as going to playgroup, joining a club, or attending story time at the local library.

Parents are the safe base from which children can move out to explore the world, to learn and grow and become socially confident, responsible young people.

**Jenni Connor**
Education Consultant

**Pam Linke**
Early Childhood and Parenting Consultant

Your child’s first year at school: Getting off to a good start offers over 80 pages of practical and useful everyday advice to help parents and children starting school handle a year of changes and challenges. This book is available for order from www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au.
The children’s interests this term are leading us into “OUR BODIES” how do they work?

What’s been happening at Kindy?

The children have been planting in the vegetable garden.

Healthy Eating
Fruit smoothies and Savoury muffins with Peter Hill our local Nutritionist

Learning about our bodies.