NEWSLETTER NO: 8  15.10.2010

Kindy DIARY DATES

Parent Voice Meeting
Week 4, Tuesday 2nd November. 6.45pm at kindy.
Discussing the children's outdoor play area, Reggio influences, fundraising upcoming end of year Disco.

INCURSION- Sue Harris puppeteer, “I'm feeling fine, how are you
Week 5, Wednesday 10th November.
Cost $6.00. Puppets have been an ongoing interest with the children this year. Sue will be following up on our protective behaviour curriculum and focus on emotional self regulation and resilience. If your child doesn’t usually attend this day they can come for this performance please see Kerry for details and times.

Kindy end of year Family Event
BBQ & DISCO
Where: Christies Beach Sailing Club
Date: Week 9 Friday ( 2 discos )
Times 4.45- 6.15pm and 6.30- 8.00pm

Week 8
Friday 3rd December Last Day of Playgroup.
Join us for a Playgroup picnic party at kindy.

Week 9 Thursday 9th December
last day to pay kindy fees.
Last day of term.
Kindy Resumes on Monday 31st January 2011

Fundraising

Our two dollar squares are still available to purvhase to win your kindy fees back. We need all squares to be filled. Bring in your change; donations go towards purchasing the "you can do it" finger puppets that the children have been keen to use. Thankyou

Kindy Art Show Celebrating children’s individuality, creativity and curiosity
A huge thankyou to all of those families that supported the kindy art show. The funds raised enabled the kindy to fix up the dying lawn (have a look at it now!) and removal of the struggling old trees and some new pittosporums planted to form hedges for new play spaces and screening.

Interesting web sites

www.parenting.sa.gov.au
www.attachrelate.com.au (The Attachment and Relationships Centre)
www.beyondblue.org.au (National depression initiative)

Illness

It has been much appreciated that families are keeping their sick children where they should be, at home in bed and not at kindy when they are unwell. If has certainly reduced the spread of infections and germs. This term we have a child at kindy who is undergoing chemo for leukaemia. It is crucial that he not be subject to contagious coughs and colds/illness from others. So we ask families and staff to please be mindful of this and continue to keep unwell children/adults away from kindy until they are germ free. Thankyou.
End of Year Family Get Together.

Wow doesn’t it come around quickly. This year the children, staff and Parent Voice have decided to have a kindy disco to celebrate a fabulous year of fun, friendships and learning together. It will be held at the Christies Sailing Club, Esplanade Christies Beach. As we would love to see all families we have arranged to have two discos so that we can fit everyone in. The first beginning at 4.45 to 6.15pm and the second starting at 6.30 to 8.00pm. Tickets will go on sale next week. Keep Friday 10th December free to attend this special event.

What’s happening at kindy?

With thanks to families that supported the kindy art show we have been able to afford to get the grass area professionally tended to and it is now growing again and looking a lot more lush. We really value our outdoor learning environment and have missed not having our lawn to play on. We have also been able to remove the trees that were diseased and planted pittosporums that will form a wonderful border along our neighbouring fence. Our next plans are to redesign the bark area next to the swings and recreate some house ruins and a play space that enables children to engage in dramatic play- perhaps an old fireplace to cook their fish, a house that magically becomes a castle with imagination and a few sheets. It will be a space that the children can get back to nature and utilize sticks and pebbles in their play, where their imaginations are more deeply explored by natural materials rather than set plastic toys that can limit children’s creativity. We are also getting closer to having our grey shed removed and a larger blue shed erected. The digging patch is also being revamped with a new design and the whole area tidied up. Yipee, we are so excited, but as you know everything takes time and money. The plans are in with the planning approval through DECS and Phil Selby will be getting to work on that area as soon as he can (fingers crossed, before the end of this term).

Phil is renowned for his wonderful work in other kindy’s and private schools which is all constructed according to DECS regulations and policies. We thank those parents who offered to come in and help develop that area and were really hoping that we would be able to do that, but with the National Standards we must have everything built by a certified builder who knows all of the Departmental guidelines, which unfortunately we don’t. We are hoping that with fundraising from the kindy disco that we will be able to put it towards having a wooden stage built under our beautiful……tree. A stage is an area that the children have shared an ongoing interest in to play dramatic play scenarios and play musical instruments in their bands. It would also make a lovely space to have cushions and books as a peaceful place in the busy outdoors- so many options.

You may have noticed that the kindy environment has changed. We do this deliberately based on our observations and evaluation of how the children are interacting with the learning environment and the learning that is occurring. We also change the set up of the kindy as it is positive for children to experience change in a safe and secure environment to help them develop skills and coping mechanisms around change. Change is difficult at times but it is an inevitable part of life and we need practice to help us get better equipped for managing change.

The other things you may have noticed are that the vegetables are finally growing in the vegetable garden with this nice warm weather which has once again captured the children’s interest.

The indoor environment and learning experiences are beginning to take on more of the Reggio Emilia philosophies of learning with natural materials to further developing children’s sense of wonderment, curiosity and creativity. We have been providing materials/displays as provocations to also develop these skills and learning dispositions in children by focusing on inquiry based learning. What is this? Tell me what you know about this? …which eventually encourages the children to share ideas, knowledge and understandings and then go on to develop new knowledge and test ideas.
FOR SALE

1 galvanised garden shed approx (shelf not included)

Make us an offer.
You will need to dismante the shed and take it later this term either on a Friday or weekend.

Do you have..?

Baskets for storage
Natural materials e.g pebbles, leaves, seed pods, seeds