

June 2017 Newsletter

Hello everyone,

Can you believe the end of term two is nearly upon us!



Welcome to our newest children and their families.

We have had another fun and busy term here at Pre-Kindy with the children learning and developing many new concepts and skills. Jacqui and I are delighted with how engaged and enthusiastic all the children are at Pre-Kindy.

First of all I would like to thank all of our Mums who attended our Mother's Day Morning Tea. What a wonderful morning we all had and your beautiful children did an amazing job of preparing the morning tea and painting your nails. Thank you for coming along and being active participants on the day creating precious memories for you and your child.

Program

This term the blocks continue to be a popular free play centre. Block play provides the children with opportunities to become confident and involved learners as they construct, evaluate and discuss the



buildings they create. Throughout these play experiences the children are learning basic scientific principles such as balance, gravity, cause and effect as well as mathematical concepts of symmetry, shape and geometry, all while developing small muscle skills and hand eye coordination.

Our focus over the last few weeks has been developing the children's inquiry and communicating skills through our "Mystery Egg Project." One egg was provided for our Tuesday group and one for our Thursday group. We started by using our senses to look, touch, smell and talk about the two eggs. We then discussed which animals hatch from eggs. Birds, turtles, snakes, ducks, fish, chickens, caterpillars, crocodiles and of course dinosaurs were some of the answers the children gave.

Once all the children had predicted what animal they thought was in the egg, we put the egg in a container of water to watch it grow and eventually hatch. When the children next arrived at Pre-Kindy they were very excited to discover that the eggs had expanded and had started to hatch. Many of the children spent the day observing them. The following week could not come quick enough for the children, the first thing many of them asked was, "Has the eggs hatched?" They had and in keeping in tune with our Australian wildlife theme we now have a class Emu and Clown Fish.



Parent Help Roster

Parents are an important part of our Pre-Kindy program and we encourage parent involvement and interaction. This week I will be putting up a roster sheet for parent help commencing next term. We will have one parent each session and you are welcome to attend at least once each term. In regards to younger siblings it is best that they do not accompany you on roster, however they are welcome to come along if no alternate arrangements can be made. Additionally Grandparents are also most welcome to attend as a helper in your place.

Portfolios

At the end of this term your child will receive their portfolio along with a progress profile which is an indication of your child's responses to some of the play and intentional learning outcomes for semester 1. You will notice that many of the portfolio items represent tasks used to make judgements within the profile. Please enjoy viewing your child's portfolio over the school holidays and then return it to Pre-Kindy at the beginning of next term.

Please note the profile outcomes are based on Kindergarten skills and behaviours. As we are a Pre-Kindy, one of our goals is to adequately prepare and assist each child for their transition into formal schooling; socially, emotionally and academically, hence the reason why the outcomes are Kindergarten based.

Please remember that each child is unique and all children develop differently and should not be compared. Be assured that your child's progress is developmental and does not necessarily indicate your child's future school success. However if you are concerned about your child's progress in any area or you would like some advice on ways to assist your child please do not hesitate to make a suitable time for a chat with me.

Save the Date

On Thursday 31st August which is week 7 of next term, the children will be hosting a Father's Day Activity Morning from 9:30am till 10:30am. I wanted to give the Dads or Grandads enough notice to organise time off work if possible. More information will be provided next term.

Thank you all for your ongoing support this term.

Jacqui and I wish you all a safe and relaxing mid-year school break.

Kind regards

Lesley Gurner (Early Childhood Teacher)