

Tremendous

Toddler Task

Sem 2
Newsletter

We have been very creative this semester, using a variety of craft activities to help us recognise and name our colours. Outcome 4.3.3 Children make connections between experiences, concepts and processes.

Our centre strives for sustainability. The children utilise recycled materials for activities. Crafts are displayed around to build the child's sense of achievement and contributes to their sense of belonging.

We have grown some amazing vegetables in our children's garden. If you have any spare winter seeds or seedlings, we would really appreciate this contribution to your child's learning. Outcome 2.4.4 Increasing knowledge of natural environments.

Our children have been working very hard on their social skills. We have built strong friendships with each other and are displaying beautiful sharing skills. Outcome 1.4.2 Engage in and contribute to shared play experiences.

The Toddlies engage in mathematical discussion each day. eg: In the sandpit, we discuss size, shape, height. We measure ourselves once a month. We are growing so tall.

We have built obstacles courses both indoors and outside. This helps to extend our Gross and Fine motor skills as well as balance and coordination.

What would you like to see your child learning? Please share with us your ideas and thoughts.

Semester 2 Learning Focus': This semester we will begin to focus on "Caring for animals" as a link to our social learning. Outcome 1: Element 4 Children learn to interact in relation to others with care, empathy and respect. From our pet fish to the amazing creatures who live in our gardens outside. The children have already learnt that our fish need food each day; just as they themselves eat each day. Outside, the children are learning to care for the mini beasts they find in our gardens by first looking with their eyes, then asking an Educator if they are safe to touch (and also if it is safe for that mini beast to be touched). We then learn to handle our garden animals with care.

Play yard renovation: We are so keen to see our new nature playground. Works will begin on the Toddlers and Babies yards over the months of June and July. There are many amazing ideas which will be incorporated into these spaces – from a mud kitchen, complete with sink, stove and picnic dining area to a water feature where we will be able to access water for play and learning. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following families who have made personal contributions to this endeavour: Sid and Alison for their donation of our Toddlers water feature; Marco and Ann for the music wall and contribution to the cost of design; Dale and Paul for contributing towards solar pumps to operate our fountains, which will aid in promoting our environmental sustainability efforts.

Thank you so much, it is truly appreciated.

We have learnt about insects and plants from our outdoor environment. We examined what they need to grow – we even grew our own sweet potatoes which we enjoyed eating.

We are developing our manners and respect for each other and our shared belongings. We share equipment and all help to pack away. We care for our personal belongings.

We have explored our diversities, our differing colours, shapes, hair styles, eye colours. We respect and accept our differences.

Please let me take safe risks. Though we need to have limits to keep us safe, it is also important that we learn our bodies' capabilities and learn through our mistakes. We are learning to ask "Do I feel safe?" and adjusting our play until we do.

Our focus for next term is Sustainability – Caring for our Environment. Using the concepts of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle we will explore ways to minimise our impact on the planet. How can we create art/craft sustainably? Can we pour unwanted water on the garden instead of down the sink? Do I really need that extra piece of hand towel or toilet paper? We will use conscious thinking to explore these concepts.

Semester 2
Newsletter

Big Kid Banter

Outside Environment Inside

The children were sitting on the step waiting for the Educator to finish an outdoor check. The Educator asked "Why do I do this?" The children replied "To get the spiders away" "To make sure there's no danger to hurt us" The children answered correctly. This began a discussion on bugs in the garden and a Mum being brave with a caterpillar. We decided to construct an outdoor environment- inside- for bugs to live in. We hope you enjoy our *Creepy Crawly Palace*.

News from the Kindy

The Kindy room children have been practicing storytelling, character explorations and movie making. We have been exploring different narrative structures (beginning, middle, end) sequencing events in logical order, exploring new language patterns, use of story language and creating our very own stories for stop motion animation movie making. We have also used small world play to create story plots and used natural and built environments to explore ideas using our imaginations, creativity and play. We are hoping to be able to feature our movies on the centres Facebook page. Let us know what you think of them.

We have been practicing holding pencils and scissors appropriately and to make controlled marks on and with paper. We learn to write our names and to recognise our names in written form on objects and our own art works. We draw our own illustrations for our storytelling. All these feats are preparing us for the transition to Primary School in the coming years.

News from the Office

IT'S HALF TIME in the 2017 year. Can you believe it already??? And what a busy half year it has been already.

Fundraising: We have many fundraising opportunities for you to take advantage of right now. The ever popular **Cadbury Chocolates** are back. All your favourites are just waiting for you to indulge. Pop into the office to collect your box or even to just buy one or two at a time. Chocolates are \$1.00 each.

We are also selling the WA Edition of "**The Entertainment Book**" now available in a user friendly digital format with *Near Me* mapping technology, business search and menu viewing all from you smart phone. Of course, the traditional hard copy version is also available. Simply call into the office to purchase your hardcopy or head to www.entbook.com.au/8b5305 to order online. Both versions cost \$70.00 and now include a fantastic BALL section.

Jude and Cath have been busy making many versions of **Playdough, Scented dough, Moondough, Magic Dinosaur Eggs** and many more of the cool tactile experiences your children enjoy. These can be purchased (for way cheaper than shop price) from the trolley outside the office.

Charity Bin: We have partnered with Ashronia Community Services who have supplied us with a charity bin, now located on the entry veranda. Please feel free to *feed* our bin with all your unwanted clothing and shoes. Ashronia will even do unwanted furniture pick up if you require. Call them on (08)94345002.

New Fee Structure: As the new financial year commences, we will be increasing our fees. This will take effect from Monday 03.07.2017. The new fees will be:

Babies (6 weeks- 2 years): Daily: \$97.50 Weekly: \$437.50 Casual: \$105.00

Toddlers/Big/Kinder (2+): Daily: \$95.00 Weekly: \$427.50 Casual: \$102.50

We encourage all families to take a moment to complete a review with the FAO to ensure you are receiving the maximum benefits you are entitled to. Having Child Care Rebate paid to the service can significantly decrease your out-of-pocket expenses.

Play yards: Thanks to a generous grant from Lotterywest and all your tireless efforts in fundraising, we will be making some exciting changes to the Babies and Toddlers Play yards. Work will begin in the last week of June as we remove large amounts of synthetic/man-made surfaces and replace them with natural products – logs, boulders, gardens, mud kitchens, water features, timber bridges, living tunnels.... The possibilities are endless. We can't wait to see the final product and watch the children learn and grow in nature.

Vacation Care: Did you know.... We now offer a Vacation Care Program for your older children up to (and including) 8 years of age. The Program is run by Shalini in the Kindy room and offers age appropriate, fun and interactive activities throughout the day. All this for the same price as their younger sibling. CCB, CCR and JET still qualify. Contact Jude on 97807267 to find out more and/or book your child in.

Bouncing Baby Babblings

*Sem 2
Newsletter*

Please let us know if your phone number or other contact details change. It is vitally important that we be able to contact you throughout the day – especially in an emergency or if your child becomes unwell.

Please ensure you bring sufficient nappies to last your child for the whole day.

As a rule, we change nappies a minimum of 4 times a day. (On arrival, before sleep, after sleep and late afternoon)

Parents, please empty your child's lunches into the basket in the fridge when dropping your child off to keep them fresh.

The babies will continue to practice their personal care skills as we focus on hand-washing in Semester 2. Some babies have even shown signs of interest in toileting. Please let us know when you would like us to assist you with your child's toileting efforts.

Over the next few months, the babies will be introduced to languages other than English. We will sing songs in other languages. We have already started with Nora sharing a Malay song called "Rasa Sayang" which is a song about love.

We would like to welcome Nora as the new assistant into our babies' room.

We encourage you to share your ideas for activities and learning focus' to promote our children's development.

We will continue to promote our development through creative, fine motor, sensory, manipulative and gross motor activities with support from our Educators.

We can't wait to see and experience the changes coming about in our play yard as it undergoes a "Nature Transformation" What could be better than babies playing in nature???