



Newsletter

TERM 2 WEEK 5: 25th May 2015



Remember, no nuts at kindy please

Hi everyone,

Can you believe we are in the middle of Term 2 already! Cynthia has been away for a week and we have had an email telling us of her adventures and sending a few photos of the play spaces the children in Ireland enjoy. The children have been tracking the time Mrs. Meredith is away through counting down the days using paddle pop sticks and a calendar. When we have a few more photographs we will be sharing with the children and seeing what they noticed and can compare with their play spaces at kindergarten.

We have been having some fun sharing in African activities during our Alioune Market week. Tulasi our student, brought in some lovely artefacts from Kenya which the children enjoyed looking at. We used her African drum during a group session which the children really enjoyed. Has your child shared about our fantastic activities we did last week relating to Arica?

We have introduced the concept of fair turn taking especially during group times. This has given those quieter children the opportunity to develop their 'voice' in a group and those that are confident in this area are given the opportunity to use self-control (self-regulatory skills), a necessary executive functioning skill for life. It has been difficult for some children in both groups but they are rising to the challenge ☺

We also welcome Chloe Peachey and her family to our kindy community. We look forward to getting to know you and hope your time with us is enjoyable.

Enjoy the week.....*Louise Montesi* (Acting Director)

Diary Dates

This week

Lift the Lip- SA Dental

Monday 25th May

Reconciliation Week

Next week

Pet Week – wk 6

1st June- 4th June

Visit to HPS School Assembly

11.50am- 12.50pm

3rd June

Cynthia Away on overseas study tour

18th May-15th June 2015

Regular Events

Tuesdays

Afternoon:

Visits from Mrs Waters
Reception Class HPS

Wednesdays

Morning:

Shared
fruit / funtastics

Afternoon:

Visits from Reception classes HPS

Thursdays

Morning:

Shared fruit / funtastics

Fridays

Playgroup

9.30-11.30am

Zoo Excursion in Week 9 of this term

On the 23rd and 24th June we are having our Zoo excursion with both groups. Some parents have already expressed an interest to be involved in this day of which we welcome. We would like to separate the children into smaller groups with an adult supervisor so that we all can get the most out of this experience of exploring the zoo. Every volunteer needs to have completed the RAN training (Responding to Abuse and Neglect training). Just let one of the staff know which day you can join us. If you have a Zoo Pass an added bonus to us!

Pet week at Kindy- Week (6)

The staff team have decided that having a pet week at kindergarten will add to our 'Creatures of the World' curriculum with the children. Many of the children have already discussed the fact they have a pet at home and love talking about them. This week we are going to talk about Questioning. What are good questions? What questions do we need to use to find out more about the pets that visit. We will begin by sharing the kindy pets and help develop suitable questions this week that we can ask the following week when the pets from home visit with their owners. If you are interested in sharing your family pet with your child's group please see a staff member to make a time and day. We plan to share the pets for 10 minute segments with the children.

Parental Drop Off

Some tips that might help with drop off. Sometimes 'lingering' with your child in the mornings can make the transition more stressful, for both of you! Some steps to help might include; explain the drop off procedure with your child so that they are clear of the steps, negotiate with your child to read a book or do a puzzle together before you leave, give them a warning that you need to go, "In 5 mins I need to go" and enlist a staff member to help with the transition, always say goodbye as this builds trust. We also have transition cards found on top of the piano with pictures of many activities inside and outside that your child can be involved in. Staff have found these to be effective in engaging children or initially getting them to think of what they would like to do. Another way to spend some indirect time with your child at kindy is volunteering your time for something that needs to be done around the kindy or sharing in a specific talent you have that can enhance our program i.e. birthday card making, cutting the shared fruit, cooking, art, cultural activity etc.

Parent Information Session on Calming Children

On Wednesday 17th June Hawthorndene Primary school is hosting an information night relating to 'Calm and Confident Kids' conducted by Kirllie Smout, Child Psychologist. This will be a parents guide to helping children manage worry, learn to calm themselves and cope in tough times. Cost is \$10 per person. Please book by ringing Maria on 0417889456.

Grandparents/Special friends Visiting morning 16th and 17th June

The staff are looking for one or two volunteers from each of the groups of children to cook our barbecue lunch for the visitors for us. It would need to be started around 11am. We appreciate your assistance in making this a very special day for everyone involved.

Kindy Pets holiday visiting at your place!

We would like you to start thinking about whether you would be able to have one of our many kindy pets (Rabbits, birds, hopping mouse—sorry she's been taken already!, turtles and Spiny Leaf Insects) come and stay with you over our two week holiday in 6 weeks time. This provides your child the experience to care and observe another living creature that you may not have considered as a pet before. Our birds can be taken on a weekly basis during the term...please let us know as they currently don't have a home to go to for the rest of the term!! ☺

Kindy Fees

Thankyou to everyone who has already paid, please settle your bill as soon as possible. Concerns or questions: Please speak with us soon.

Cheers from the staff team, Cynthia, Louise, Tess, Crystal and Lenka.