



Phone 8388 4141
Mobile 0419 506 872
Email
dl.4645.leaders@schools.sa.edu.au

NEWSLETTER

Dear Families

It's been a good start to the year considering the impact of Covid restrictions and changes. Thank you for being so supportive of the protocols to keep everyone safe. Please keep your child home if unwell. SA Health guidelines recommends all adults/ children to get a PCR test if they have cold like symptoms. Please keep us informed promptly.

The children have come with varied experiences and are starting to learn the routines and expectations. There have been many special connection moments enjoyed together already. Please know that any separation anxiety is well supported by staff: we try to send a photo a little later to the parent to show how their child has regulated and now playing.

We are learning about how our bodies tell us how we feel. Soon we will bring in a visual tool called the "Hand Brain Model" to use to help with emotional self regulation. (at some stage I would like to have a parent seminar to share the concept so it can be used at home as well)

We look forward to sharing with you their learning growth, development and joy of exploration at our beautiful site this year.

Kiri is excited to be back in this truly wonderful learning environment and is relishing the opportunity to take on the teaching role alongside Julie. She brings a continuity for the site as she was a regular relief teacher in the first half of 2021. The children have been quick to build relationships with her. Thank you too for the warm welcome as it has been lovely meeting many of you again as you have supported your child in their transition into kindergarten life.

We also welcome Suzy Hunt and Haylie McKay as early childhood worker's who are supporting some

of the children in their learning each day this year.

This is a wonderful community to work within and we all look forward to an amazing year.

Please see Julie if you have any questions and if you ever need a lengthy chat she is always available to find a convenient time.

Regards

Julie, Kiri, Suzy and Haylie



Governing Council meeting

The Annual General Meeting was cancelled due to Dept for Education guidelines. The new date for it will be on **Wednesday March 30th, 6:30pm** at kindergarten followed by a short general meeting with the newly elected Governing council for 2022. Have your say and be a part of the kindergarten governance. Please consider this important role. Thank you to the parents who have already responded! We look forward to working with you this year in managing and improving the learning outcomes for all our children.

Communication

We will often share information with you about the curriculum (all the experiences that support your child as a learner) and your individual child's development, verbally and in their Learning Journals. Please check emails, texts and our private facebook page for general information. Child-care children may have notes placed in their bags at times too.

Sometimes you will receive community organisation's leaflets as we love to support our local community.

Allergy Alert

As we have a child enrolled with Anaphylaxis, please **DO NOT** send any Nuts or Nut products (eg Nutella) to kindy, even bars that state "may contain traces of nuts". A note will be placed in the child's bag and a text message sent home if this does occur.



Toys

We ask that children do not bring their own toys e.g. matchbox cars, dolls etc to kindergarten. They can be lost or broken and sometimes cause conflict. We have great resources here so please explain to your children that they are best left at home.

Parent help

- Spiny Leaf Insects:

At the end of every kindy week each family will be rostered on to have a turn to be the nature carers for our two resident Spiny Leaf Insects. All the equipment is sent home and they are very easy in that the eucalypt leaves are to be sprayed twice daily. That's it! Then return them the following Tues. Thanks to Kiri, Henry, Jack and Cody-James' families so in helping us with this already.



- Laundry washing: we will also ask a family each week if they are able to take home our laundry bag to wash and return the following week with the clean items.
Thank you! We do appreciate your support!

Curriculum News - What we are learning

Educators plan a fortnightly program that is led by the emergent ideas of the children, as well as the strengths, needs and interests of each child. It is continually being modified and adapted each day based on observations and responding to teachable moments. We strongly believe in listening to the children's voices when formulating our focus for learning.

We will be recording the children's learning through photo's / children's drawings each fortnight in the 'Big Book of Learning'. We will send photo's of it via our facebook page to encourage you to share their joyful discoveries with them. We welcome any parent input on ideas or involvement to further enrich our program.

In our first week of kindergarten it was wonderful to see the children engage in a range of experiences. We have some keen engineering problem-solvers and budding artists - evident in our many paintings.

The children have relaxation time straight after lunch, where they lay or sit and we encourage them to calm and still their bodies as they listen to quiet music and/ or stories. Sensory additions, like candles and soft squishy objects, to hold help the children to focus.

After this we have implemented a whole group activity time together where we focus on fine motor strengthening activities, listening to instructions, learning how to paste / cut etc and providing the time and place to be creative using a variety of materials.

We have started our family tree display. So continue to bring in (or text/ email) a family photo which they will talk about at 'Sharing Time'. We will laminate it and keep it on this tree display board all year. It is a great discussion point and children can also take the photo down when they are sad and missing their family and hold on to it until they are ready to play.

For mathematics the children have been enjoying numeracy in songs (such as 3 jellyfish), puzzles, stories, bathroom hop (jumping to the bathroom to wash hands on number spots), cooking and counting children / bread rolls. These experiences allow children to grow in their mathematical understanding of concepts such as 1:1 correspondence, measuring and representing data.

This year we will have a strong focus on literacy development through music. Staff have noted a real musical talent and enjoyment within the group, particularly dancing! We have had a great start to the year and are excited to see where this year's learning journey will take us.



Fees

Fees were sent out last week, they are due by Thursday March 29th 2022. If you pay on line please key in your invoice number and your child's name as the reference. Payment envelopes are on the bench if you are paying by cash. Please place them in the fees box on the staff office door. Receipts are only issued for cash payments.

As we do not receive funding from the Dept for Education for resources for our children, we rely on fundraising and do value the prompt payment of these fees to help us.

Please remember

- Arrive at 9.00 am and pickup at 3.00 pm.
- Sign in & out each day. Add CC in notes if going to childcare at the end of the day
- Apply sunscreen to your child before arrival - if you forget please use ours
- Provide a bottle of water each day that has a lid easy to access independently: we are concerned that they are not drinking enough through the day, so please reinforce this at home.
- Ensure your child has a broad brimmed hat. (no cords attached)
- Pack an ice brick in your child's lunch box
- Pack extra set of clothes in child's bag
- Name label everything
- **Family Photo** and **Philosophy Leaf** returned asap

Diary Dates

- March 9th Bush kindy visit for clean up Australia day
- Adelaide Cup Holiday March 14th
- Harmony Week March 21st
- Parent Conversations March 29th - April 7th (further details to follow)
- AGM March 30th at 6:30pm
- **PUPIL Free Day April 5th** This is a non-kindergarten day for children as approved by the Governing Council of 2021. It is where staff spend focussed time on professional development & reviewing our Quality Improvement Plan.
- Good Friday 15th April
- Last day of term Wed April 13th
- Holidays 14th April - 2nd May
- Term 2 starts Tues 3rd May

