

Jumpstart 4 Kids

Newsletter No 3 - 2010 APRIL

STAFF NEWS

Recently we farewell Miss Michelle from the Bunyip's room. We wish Michelle the very best as she begins a new career assisting adults with disabilities to find and sustain employment options.

Miss Hayley will join us this week and we encourage parents to speak with Hayley over the coming weeks.



COMPLAINT HANDLING

Last year our centre was approached to take part in an initiative to report to the Minister through the Ombudsman's office in respect to complaint handling. Our Policy for complaints for parental concerns is quite simple. The following steps outline our procedures.



1. Parents are encouraged to speak with staff or Directors in regards to concerns on the day.
2. Staff record these complaints / concerns with notes of follow up actions provided to parents.
3. Complaints are addressed on the spot and if need be referred to John or Maree if required, who will then contact parents to discuss concerns.
4. Complaints will be addressed within a 24 hour time frame.
5. Complaints that are placed in writing will require a name and date.
6. Anonymous complaints are not able to be responded to and are disregarded.

(QIAS 1, 2, & 7)

DAY LIGHT SAVINGS TIMES CENTRE TIMES:

Our evenings are now becoming increasing cold and dark. Children become very distressed when they are the last child to be collected. Whilst we understand the constraints of working families it is a policy of the centre that all children are collected and exiting the centre by 5.45 pm. Non working families are asked to ensure that their child well before this time.

A late Fee applies to families for children who are collected after 6:00pm. This Fee is \$25.00 and \$2 for each minute after 6:00pm. (QIAS 1, 2, 5 &7)

PORFOLIOS: MONTH OF APRIL



During the Month of April Families will be provided with their child's portfolio. Parents are asked to spend some time looking through their child's portfolios and making relevant comments in their child portfolio on the parent sheets. Families are welcome to paste in a photo of their family and add comments about activities that your family enjoys.

We ask that all families return their child's portfolio on their next day of attendance as we will be providing these to families at the conclusion of the year.

Please allow us to take a photo of you with your child in the foyer area so that we can include this in your child portfolio. (QIAS 1, 2,3,4, & 7)

CHILD RESTRAINTS

NEW CHILD RESTRAINT LAWS



Recently staff has noticed that some parents are not following the new laws in regards to child restraints. These laws protect the lives of young children and we encourage all families to lead through example and care for their children whilst traveling in cars.

From March 1 2010, all children up to the age of 7 years must be correctly restrained in an approved child restraint, suitable to their size and age. All children less than 4 years must travel in the rear seat. Children between 4 years and 7 years can only travel in the front seat if all rear seats are occupied by children under 7 years of age. We have attached information for families to assist them in complying with the new child restraint laws. (QIAS 1, 2, & 5)

EASTER EGG RAFFLE

We were delighted and thrilled to have raised \$302.00 from our recent Easter Raffle. These funds have been use to Purchase an inflatable Dinosaur, 3 full body costumes and wooden food items. We will also use some of the reaming funds for our outdoor program. We hope that our Mothers day Raffle will provide additional funds to add to out outdoor area.



MOTHERS DAY RAFFLE TICKETS



Families will have Mothers Day Raffle tickets distributed this week. The centre will be purchasing outdoor equipment for the children from this fundraiser. We thank you in advance for your support.

WEEKLY EXPERIENCES

During the MONTH of MARCH the BUSY BEES room will be learning and exploring:

1. **Dinosaurs (2 Weeks)**
2. **Transport (2 Weeks)**

The PLAYFUL POSSUMS will be engaged in learning about:

1. **Zoo**
2. **Bugs**
3. **Dinosaurs (2 weeks)**

The BABY BUNYIPS

Over the next few weeks the Baby Bunyip's will continue to explore Sensory play. With the weather changing the children will be introduced to environmental elements such as hot and cold. Activities will include warm sensory activities such as warm play dough, warm water through doll play and warm finger painting. Children will be supported and encouraged around activities to simulate crawling and walking. Music will explore different cultures with a variety of tones and melodies.

(QIAS 1, 2,3,4, &7)

CHANGE IN WEATHER CARING FOR YOUR CHILD PARENTS NOTICES

Commencing in April Parents will be provided with slips if your child does not have a sun hat, sheets, or items labeled appropriately.

It is unreasonable to have children attend the centre who do not have these items for their care. We ask that all families check their child bag and ensure that these items ate correctly placed in your child's bag daily.

CHARGES FOR PARENTS FROM MAY \$15.00 if not provided.

It is a Health and Safety requirement that all families provide children with sleeping needs. this means all children in the **Bees and Possums Room** require :

1. **A Fitted sheets and Flat sheet.**
2. **A small comfort rug if required.**

NO PLASTIC BAGS: We ask that parents place sheet sets inside a pillow case or a **Recyclable shopping Bag.**

If families do not provide these we will charge families \$15.00 per week for use of sheets.

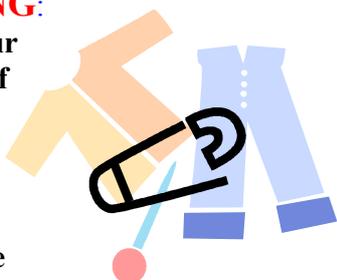
HYGIENE:

We ask that all families label tem correctly. This included bottles, lids, teats rims, dummies, drink bottles and lunch containers. Parents will be provided with a reminder slip and are asked to ensure that these items are correctly labeled on your child's return.

(QIAS 1, 2, 5,6 & 7)

SPARE CLOTHING:

Please ensure that your child has a spare set of clothing and underwear each day. It can be very distressing for a child when they do not have adequate clothing



THANKYOU TO OUR WONDERFUL GRANDPARENTS

We would like to thank all our grandparents who took the opportunity to visit our centre and share afternoon tea with us. It was unfortunate that the afternoon heat was so intense, but we certainly were thrilled with the response. We hope that our Grandparents enjoyed the book marks made by their grandchildren.

WE NEED YOUR HELP:

DONATIONS:

Please consider the centre when you are cleaning out your child's room.

Toys, Books, Magazines,

Dolls,

Wool, String, ribbon

Computer ,

Cardboard , coloured paper ,

Material ,

Key boards, etc are very much appreciated.

PARENT FORUM



Our First Parent Forum for 2009 was held on **Wednesday 17th**.

Attending parents were provided with information from each room explaining the process / routines and leaning areas for each room. Parents who were not able to attend the meeting are able to collect this information from the front foyer in the room information folder.

The minutes for this are included for all families. All families are invited to this evening and may make suggestions prior to the evening if they are unable to attend. We thank all families for their ongoing support.

OUR NEXT PARENT FORUM WILL BE HELD ON Wednesday 16th June at 6:00pm

(QIAS 2 & 7)

CALENDAR EVENTS FOR APRIL

Portfolios

5th April Mothers Day Raffle Tickets

7th May Mothers Day Raffle Drawn

7th May Mothers day Afternoon Tea

3.15pm

19th April Proposed Fire Brigade Visit.

A FINAL THOUGHT:

I am often touched by the thoughtfulness of parents at our centre. Recently Mrs. Irene Watti donated two white boards to the centre which were greatly appreciated. Our Families are always supportive and kind in their gestures and they never go unnoticed. Thank you to all our parents and grandparents who have shared the first few months with us this year. Your donations, loving gestures and verbal praise for staff is always appreciated. As I finish this newsletter I am reminded that our centre is a special place because of its open nature and constant willingness to make JumpStart 4 Kids a great place to be.

