

Jumpstart 4 Kids

Newsletter No 1, 2011 January

WELCOME

Early Learning Years Framework.

We are thrilled to welcome back our families from 2010 and warmly welcome our new families for 2011. This is an exciting year for the child care industry with the implementation of the Early Learning Years framework, a national curriculum from birth to 5 years. As a centre we have spent a great deal of time in 2010 reviewing and looking at this document and we have made several changes to our centre in respect to programming, portfolios and policies to bring this document to life. We look forward to getting to know all our families in 2011 and know that by sharing connections we will create the best possible learning environment for your child.

STAFF NEWS

Baby Bunyip's Room: Miss Kelly & Miss Elizabeth

Playful Possums Room: Miss Justine & Miss Kimberley

Busy Bees Miss Amanda and Miss Amie

All staff are keen to know your child and work with them throughout the year, so please take a few minutes each day to ask room staff about your child's day and share any concerns that you have. We believe that it is through day to day conversations with families that we can make a significant difference to the learning and lives of the children in our care. (NQS 4, 6&7)

WEEKLY EXPERIENCES

For families who are new to JumpStart 4 Kids, each room develops a program on a weekly basis that focuses on a particular stimulus area that develops skills and interests for children. Spontaneous activities are included and are reflected by the daily program evaluation sheets that are displayed in each room. We invite families to view room programs and evaluations and make comments.



FAMILY FOCUS Make you child a star for the week

Parents, children and family play a significant role in our programming at Jumpstart 4 Kids. We ask all families to complete a family focus sheet for their child expressing their interests and activities that they enjoy during their time with family. By completing this sheet we can make your child a star of the week.

During the MONTH of January each room will be getting to know you child and your family.

Please support us by providing us with a family photo and speaking with staff so that we can get to know the needs of your child and family. (NQS 1.5. &6)

PORTFOLIOS

Each child has an individual portfolio that captures developmental skills, observations and a variety of craft and activities that are completed by your child during their time with us.

We ask all parents to complete a brief question sheet for their child so that this can form part of their portfolio. Parents are welcome to view their child's portfolio at any time.

Parents will be formally provided with their child's portfolio three times year so that they can take it home and add family photos. Each child will have an individual observation inserted on a fortnightly basis with group observations and craft inserted to showcase your child strengths, abilities and skills. (NQS 1, 5, 6, &7)



INCURSIONS FOR 2011

Throughout 2011 we will be inviting a variety of different organisations to present shows and activities to the children. We wish to notify parents that these will be at an additional cost to families of \$8 throughout the year. (NQS 1, 5, 6 &7)

WHAT CHILDREN NEED TO BRING EACH DAY

Baby Bunyip's 0-2 yrs

- Bottles labeled, caps included
- Food Requirements
- Dummies labeled
- Special toy
- 5-7 Nappies - Daily
- Baby wipes
- Sheet sets if sleeping on Beds (Please speak with staff)
- Sun hat



PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT ALL ITEMS ARE CLEARLY LABELLED

Playful Possums & Busy Bees

- Sheet sets for rest time labeled
- Fruit
- Lunch please minimise items that require heating
- Sun hat (NQS 1,2,3,5,6,&7)



SHEETS MUST NOT REMAIN AT THE CENTRE

We ask that all families take sheets home with them and return them on a daily basis as we do not have adequate space to store these and lockers are used by a variety of children. All sheets must be stored in your child's bag or a pillow case for hygiene purposes.

MUNCH & MOVE DAILY FOOD REQUIREMENTS.



Children will be offered fruit platters at morning tea and crunchy vegetable platters at afternoon tea times. Children will only be offered their healthy snacks during lunch. Children may bring another drink for lunch time. Water is available at all times for children.

NO, NO, NO AT ALL TIMES

NO NUTS, NO EGGS OR SHELL FISH ARE TO BE PROVIDED TO CHILDREN AS SOME CHILDREN HAVE SEVERE ALLERGIES TO THESE FOODS.

NO HAT NO PLAY CLOTHING

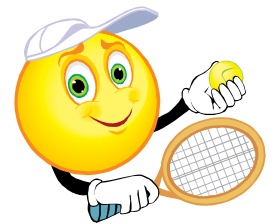
Children are required to wear Sun Safe clothing at Preschool this means:

T shirts - NO SHOE STRING STRAPS

Covered in shoes – NO THONGS

SUN HATS FOR OUTDOOR PLAY

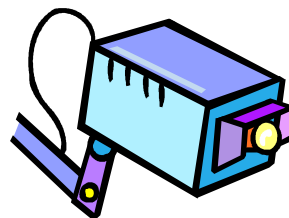
(NQS 1, 2, 5, 6, &7)



SECURITY CAMERAS

We have installed CCTV camera in the centre for the security of children, families and staff.

Parents will need to speak into the intercom to identify themselves for staff prior to entering the centre. We have appreciated the positive comments from parents



with this improvement to the centre. (NQS 2, 3, &7)

CHILD ILLNESS

We ask that parents make other arrangements for their child when they are ill. We have a duty of care to all children and children are not permitted at the centre when they are ill. If a child is unwell at preschool a staff member will call parents to collect their child immediately. We would ask that parents are vigilant in this matter so that we can reduce the spread of viral diseases. Our policy requires children to be away from the centre for 24 hours after an illness.



Vaccinations Blue book evidence

Please ask your doctor about your child's current immunisation or Contact the Blacktown Community Health Centres Unit 1, Cnr Marcel Crescent, Blacktown (02) 9831 7855 or (02) 9881 8700 Fax (02) 9671 6360. (NQS 2, 5, 6&7)

NO TOYS

WHAT CHILDREN ARE NOT TO BRING TO THE CENTRE?

Items for News are welcomed but we ask that children do not bring cars, toys or Nintendo games. These items distract children from group activities and cause unrest. We would be appreciative if parents could assist us with this. Children bringing items from home will have them placed in a bag and returned to them at the end of the day. Parents may collect these items at the conclusion of the day. (NQS 2, 3, 5, 6&7)

FEE INFORMATION

ALL LATE FEES WILL INCUR a \$20 late fee per week.

Parents are reminded that they are required to pay their weekly Fee on the first day of attendance each week.

We would ask all families to be respectful of this request. (NQS 6&7)



PARENT'S

CORNER



Many of our families seek information from staff about their child's development and health issues. In the foyer we have created a special space for families to view articles that may assist you in attaining information to support your child and family.

Please feel free to take pamphlets from this folder for your information at any time. If we do not have the information that you require please do not hesitate to speak to one of our staff and we will do our best to accommodate your requests. (NQS 2, 3, 5, 6&7)

DONATIONS

UNWANTED CHRISTMAS GIFT

Like many of us, Christmas is a time when perhaps we receive items that we may not need. If you would like to donate items for our Mothers Day / Fathers Day or Christmas Raffle we would be very appreciative. Craft items, paper books or toys are always appreciated. (NQS, 6&7)

A FINAL THOUGHT



With so many people losing their homes in the recent flood in Queensland it really does make you stop and think how important family is. We can replace a home and possessions, but never those we love.

Let's take a moment to tell those we love just how special they are. A hug can do wonders and "I love you" can never be said too much. May all our families be cherished in 2011.