

# Jumpstart 4 Kids

Newsletter No 3, 2013 MARCH

## ASSESSMENT AND RATING

**19th March 2013**

As parents are aware the National Quality Framework was introduced across Australia in 2012. This Framework support 7 quality standards. The National Quality Standard sets a new national benchmark for the quality of education and care services. The National Quality Standard is divided into seven Quality Areas:

1. Educational program and practice
2. Children's health and safety
3. Physical environment
4. Staffing arrangements
5. Relationships with children
6. Collaborative partnerships with families and communities
7. Leadership and service management.

### **The National Quality Standard aims to promote:**

- the safety, health and wellbeing of children
- a focus on achieving outcomes for children through high-quality educational programs
- families' understanding of what distinguishes a quality service.

### **National quality rating and assessment process**

Approved Services will be assessed and rated against each of the seven Quality Areas of the National Quality Standard and the National Regulations. They will also be given an overall rating. The rating and assessment process aims to drive continuous quality improvement at services and provide families with better information for making choices about their children's education and care. **NQA 1,2,3,4,5,6&7)**

We thank parents for their support with this process. Parents will notice formal visitors to the centre on the day and we are appreciative to families for complying with centre policy by ensuring that your child has the following items each day.

- Hat clearly labeled for outdoor play

- Sheets for rest time. Flat and fitted
- A piece of fruit for the day
- Bottles / dummies and personal items clearly labeled.



## **WELCOME AFTERNOONTEA and VALENTINES CELEBRATION**

We thank all our families who attended our welcome afternoon tea on Friday 15th February. The children took a great deal of pride in creating a special gift with a Valentine's Day theme. We thank Mrs Angela McCartney our parent representative in welcoming all our new families to the centre. Angela highlighted the warmth and care that she has experienced from staff for her daughter Sydney and praised the management of the centre. She warmly invited all families to join the Parent Forums and to contribute actively to the centre. Angela invited all our families to our Family Fun Day at Featherdale on Sunday 24th March. **(NQA 1,5,6&7)**



## **FAMILY FUN DAY**

### **FEATHERDALE WILDLIFE PARK**

**Sunday 24th March 12.00pm**

**We invite all our families to join us on our annual Family Fun Day at Featherdale Wildlife Park**

- **Tickets Adults - \$18**
- **Child - \$12**
- **Children under 2 Free**

**Please place your name on the poster in the foyer by Friday 22nd March**

**This is a great way to meet families and enjoy a social day together. We look forward to sharing the day with all our families.**

## **WEEKLY EXPERIENCES**

### **ROOM STIMULUS AREAS:**

#### **BUSY BEES:**

1. **Road safety**
2. **Emergency services**
3. **Friendships/ Harmony Day**
4. **Easter**



**A reminder that children must bring a hat to preschool every day. We have quite a few children who have not been bringing hats and our sun safe policy clearly states that all children must have a hat to wear during outdoor play. Please ensure that all items are labeled. Can all parents please check the news roster located on the Busy Bee door and ensure that their children are only bringing news on their allocated day, as children become very disappointed if they are unable to do news they have bought when it is not their day.**

### **SCHOOL READINESS FOCUS**

**Our focus letters for the next four weeks are J, K, L and M, while our focus numbers are 9, 10, 11, and 12. We would be very appreciative if you could work on these with your children at home. Please see the school readiness program on the wall to keep up to date with the current focus of the week. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact us to discuss this.**

**Miss Amie & Miss Amanda**

**(NQA 1,2,3,4,5,6&7)**

## **PLAYFUL POSSUMS**

1. **Road Safety**
2. **Personal Safety**
3. **Colours**
4. **Easter**

**During the month of March the Playful Possums will be focusing on safety. The children will identify people in our community who are there to assist us and care for us. The Police visit will allow children to experience a safe environment where they can explore firsthand the role of a police officer and hear how they can assist us if needed. The following week will be an extension of this stimulus area as we explore Personal Safety for children. The children will discuss who cares for us and how we know we are safe. In our preparation for Easter the Possums will explore colours and create some fantastic crafts for our Easter hat parade.**

**We remind families to provide healthy foods for children at all times. Chips and junk food will not be provided to children at the centre. Sandwiches with healthy fillings, fruits, cheese and yoghurts assist children in developing healthy food choices. A reminder to families that heated foods are to be limited as the Possums develop self help skills during meal times.**

**Miss Nikki and Miss Anita**

### **BABY BUNYIPS:**

1. **Numbers and counting**
2. **Emergency services**
3. **Multicultural week/ Harmony day**
4. **Easter**

**(NQA 1,2,3,5,6&7)**

**The Bunyip's will be celebrating various cultures and celebrations throughout the week beginning Monday 17<sup>th</sup> of March. These will include St Patrick's Day- Ireland. We encourage the children to dress up in green. We will also be focusing on the message behind Harmony Day which is all about kindness and togetherness. On this day we invite children to wear orange to symbolise our support of this message. We invite all our families to contribute in any way, such as sharing stories, music or clothing from your culture. You are welcome to come and speak with the children or simply bring the items in for us to show.**



## WORM FARM VISIT

On Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> February we had a visit from Blacktown city council who provided us with some new worms for our worm farm. The children learnt about what food the worms eat and how we can use our food scraps at home and preschool to feed the worms. The children enjoyed the hands on aspect of the presentation and some had the opportunity to become involved in selecting the types of food that the worms would eat. During our meal times at Jumpstart 4 kids, bins are placed on the table for the children to put their food scraps into. Once all the scraps have been collected the children then take the scraps out to the worm farm and place them inside for the worms to eat. We then collect the worm wee at a later date and use it to put on our gardens around the centre. (NQA 1,2,3,5,6&7)



(NQA 1,2,3,5,6&7)

## SOCCER FOR TOTS

On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March we will be hosting a soccer tot day for children to learn about the importance of physical activities and to develop ball skills. The Busy Bees and



the Playful Possum will be shown how to kick correctly and the importance of playing as a team. Parents who would like to find out more information about this activity are welcome to speak to staff or to collect an information pamphlet in the front foyer in the Parent corner area. (NQA 1,2,3,5,6&7)

## BLACKTOWN POLICE VISIT TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> MARCH 10:00am

On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March we will have Constable Nathan MacDonald attend the centre to speak with the children about his role as a Police officer. The children will learn about the importance of the police in our community and how they are our friends. The children will explore the police car and will be delighted to use the police siren.



(NQA 1,2,5&6)



## under the sea

On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February, Jumpstart 4 Kids had the Under the Sea show. We focused on three tables presenting water, rocks and sand creatures. Jess our speaker discussed where and why certain sea creatures live in specific areas. Jess taught us about being safe around the ocean and correct ways to hold sea creatures. Between talking about each table, children were able to get hands on with creatures, touching, looking and smelling them. Children were fascinated with the squid and how we can write with the ink inside its body. It was a lovely show in which we became more familiar with sea creatures.



## EASTER RAFFLE

We encourage all families to donate an Easter egg to our Easter raffle by the 14<sup>th</sup> of March. The Easter raffle will be drawn on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March. The centre will use funds raised to purchase outdoor games to develop team skills for the children at the centre. We thank all families for their continuing support.



## PORTFOLIO WEEK 25th March - 29th March

Each child has an individual Portfolio that comprises of craft, group and individual observations undertaken by your child during their time with us. These activities are reflected against the Early Years Learning Framework outcomes, which is the curriculum document used in the early years settings. A copy of these outcomes is pasted in the front cover pages of your child's portfolio. We invite all parents to view their child's Portfolio and discuss with staff their child's progress at any time. Throughout the year we will be formally inviting parents to view these portfolios and to take them home to share with extended family.



During the week commencing the 25<sup>th</sup> March all rooms will have Portfolios openly displayed on tables in your child's room. We invite families to bring in a family photo and to complete an insert page to be placed in your child's portfolio. We hope that all families are able to participate in this activity and take a few valuable minutes to look at the exciting activities and works of art that your child has created. (NQA 1,2,3,5,6&7)

## CAR PARK DISABLED PARKING



We thank families who do not park in the disabled parking space near the front door. At the centre we have a number of families who require this space due to a disability.

We remind all families that this space is reserved for those entering the centre with a disabled parking permit.

## PARENT FORUMS

All parents make valuable contributions at JumpStart 4 kids. Your contributions can be made through daily conversations, placing a suggestion in the suggestion box in the front foyer and through your attendance at our quarterly Parent Forum Meetings.

These meetings are held in two repeat sessions to accommodate working families who may be unable to return to the centre after the collection of their child. These sessions enable us to develop ideas collaboratively and to share with families the goals and planning for the centre.

## PARENT FORUM DATES for 2013

<b>Wednesday 27th March</b>	<b>Session 1 4:15- 4:45</b>
	<b>Session 2 5:00 -5:30</b>
<b>Wednesday 12th June</b>	<b>Session 1 4:15- 4:45</b>
	<b>Session 2 5:00 -5:30</b>
<b>Monday 2nd September</b>	<b>Session 1 4:15- 4:45</b>
	<b>Session 2 5:00 -5:30</b>
<b>Friday 29th November</b>	<b>Session 1 4:15- 4:45</b>
	<b>Session 2 5:00 -5:30</b>

We look forward to working with all our families in providing the best care and educational experiences for all our children throughout 2013. We thank families in advance for their support and suggestions. (NQA 1,2,3,5,6&7)

## **PARENT CORNER INFORMATION**

**(NQA 2,6&7)**

Northcott Early Start Diagnosis Support Services

Northcott Early Start Diagnosis Support NEDS is an innovative program that provides short-term support for families who have a concern about their child's development. Family support workers will provide information and assist families to access mainstream and disability specific services within your local area. Please view flyers in the front foyer in the Parent corner area. Eligibility

Services will be available to families with a child up to 6 years who have an identified concern about their child's development. This includes:

- Families who have a child with a recent diagnosed disability.
- Families who have a child with an identified developmental delay and are in the process of obtaining a diagnosis
- Families who have a concern about their child's development and are seeking support.

Penrith Office

9/28 Coombes Drive Penrith NSW 2750

Ph (02) 4723 0400

Parramatta Office

1 Fennel street Parramatta NWS 2024

Ph (02) 9890 0100



## **YEARLY CALENDAR**

We invite all families to take a copy of the 2013 Calendar for your convenience. The Monthly newsletter will highlight events and also include additional events as the year progresses. We hope that this advance notice will allow all families the opportunity to share in events that are planned throughout 2013. **(NQA 1,2,3,5,6&7)**

## **DONATIONS**

We are always appreciative of donations for our Raffles. If families have received any unwanted gift over the Christmas period please consider the centre.

**A Big Thank you to**

**Mrs Katherine Checuti - Lily Bees**

**Mrs Bernadette Smith- Charlie Possum's room**

## **WHAT'S ON IN MARCH**

**4th - Easter Raffle tickets distributed to families**

**6th - Soccer Skill experience**

**12th - Police Visit**

**18th - St Patricks Day Wear Green**

**21<sup>st</sup> - Harmony Day Wear Orange**

**25th - 28th Portfolio Week**

**29th March - Centre Closed Goof Friday**

## **WHAT'S ON IN APRIL**

**1st - Centre Closed Easter Monday**

**10<sup>th</sup> - Kindi Farm visits centre 9:30 -11:30**

**15th - Language assessments Screeners for Busy Bees Commence**

**22nd - Reports Busy Bees commence**

**25th - Centre Closed Anzac Day**

## **FINAL THOUGHT**

***"There are no seven wonders of the world in the eyes of a child. There are seven million."***



***What a wonderful quote!***

***Each day children learn so many things. As adults we often get caught up in the day to day grind. Take a moment to share the wonders of your child's day and perhaps think about something wonderful that has happened in your day. It only takes a minute to share our thoughts, which creates a lifelong relationship of love and support.***

**JUMPSTART 4 KIDS STAFF**