

Jumpstart 4 Kids

Newsletter No 1, 2013 FEBRUARY

STAFF NEWS FAREWELL AND WELCOME



On the 23rd January we farewelled Miss Micaela and Miss Ainslie at a staff night out. Both Ainslie and Micaela are heading to

up positions as nannies. We wish them the very best on their travels and thank them for their contributions in 2012.

We are equally pleased to welcome Miss Patricia (Trish) and Miss Chantelle as our new Trainees for 2013. We are already impressed with how easily they have transitioned into the centre. (NQA 4,5,6&7)

STAFF ENGAGEMENT:

We congratulate Miss Anita in the Possums room with the recent announcement of her engagement. We wish her and her fiancée Graham the very best.

OUR CENTRE PHILOSOPHY

Our Philosophy guides staff and encompasses our commitment to the Early Childhood industry. Our partnership with families and community is dynamic and works collaboratively to support the children in our care.

This has been updated in January through staff, family and children's feedback. We encourage families to view this document in the foyer.

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

STAFF TRAINING:

JumpStart 4 Kids is committed to ensuring that staff undertake continual professional development. During our February staff meeting staff will be in-serviced on Child Protection Legislation and will work through Mandatory Reporting guidelines and scenarios.

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



VALENTINES AFTERNOON TEA 15th February 4:00pm

We wish to invite all our families to our welcome and Valentine's Day afternoon tea at 4:00pm. The children have been creating special gifts for this event and we look forward to sharing afternoon tea with you. Children love the opportunity to share their gifts and show families their school room. Please take time to view your child Portfolio and speak with staff. (NQA 1,2,3,4,5,6&7)

JOIN US AT OUR FAMILY FUN DAY

SUNDAY 24th MARCH 12:00

FEATHERDALE WILDLIFE PARK



We would like to invite all our families to our Family Fun day on Sunday 24th March at Featherdale Wildlife Park. All tickets are \$11.00



with children under two free.

We will meet at the gates at 12.00pm and meet up for a picnic lunch together. An attendance list will be displayed in the foyer for families to nominate their interest. Payment for this event is due by Friday 15th March. We are thankful to Mrs Angela Humphries who has organised this event on behalf of the centre and our families. Last year was a great success and we hope to share this day with our new families and those families who were unable to join us last year.

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

SAFETY OF CHILDREN:

We ask all families to be mindful of children in the car park area. Please hold children's hands to ensure their safety at all times.

ASTHAM AND ANAPHALAXIS

All children with Asthma and Anaphylaxis must provide a plan to the centre from their treating doctor. Asthma plans are required to be updated every three months with anaphylaxis every six months. We thank families with supporting us in the care of your child. **(NQA 2, &7)**

ASSESSMENT AND RATING PROCESS - EARLY MARCH 2013

As many families are aware child care centres undergo an assessment and rating process to ensure that the Childcare Industry is delivery quality care to all children.

Our Quality Improvement Plan is positioned in the foyer and focuses on the following 7 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.

Last year at our Parent Forum meetings and through conversations with families we developed our goals for 2013.

We invited all families to view this document.

So What do we hope to achieve to improve our centre in 2013?

1. Linking our educational Program with theorists to develop staff learning so that we provide the best learning outcomes for all children
2. Continued staff participation in a variety of in-service experiences to promote value learning for all children
3. Focusing on your child as an individual through their portfolios
4. Developing Higher Order Thinking skills for all children through active questioning
5. Ensuring children have healthy and nutritious eating experiences
6. Creating esthetically pleasing outdoor spaces
7. Valuing parent input through our afternoon Parent Forums.
8. Parking Limit signs in front car park
9. Connect with local Primary schools to promote a Transition to school evening for families
10. Promoting sustainability
11. Continuing support to charities through fundraisers

Our Assessment will take place in Early March. We thank families in advance for supporting our centre. **(NQA 1,2,3,4,5,6&7)**

AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATIONS

On Friday the 25th January Jumpstart for kids celebrated Australia Day. The children and staff dressed up in their best Australia themed clothes and put yellow and green zinc on their faces. The Busy Bees made some delicious bread and had vegemite sandwiches for afternoon tea. **(NQA 1,2,3,5,6&7)**



HAPPY AUSTRALIA DAY



FRESH BREAD AND VEGEMITE YUM

UNDER THE SEA SHOW TUESDAY 12th FEBRAURY



On Tuesday 12th February we will be hosting an "Under the Sea Show" This is a hands on show where children experience touching sea creatures such as star fish, sea urchins and a variety of sand

and ocean creatures. This is a very popular show for all the children. We ask that families make their payment of \$8.00 by Friday 8th February.

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

WEEKLY EXPERIENCES

ROOM STIMULUS AREAS:

BUSY BEES:

1. **Chinese New Year**
2. **Under the sea**
3. **Weather**
4. **Beach**



We ask that if any parents have any resources at home that they wish to bring to the centre for us to use during our stimulus topics could they please ensure that they are labelled and given to an educator. The children always love having new resources and this helps to increase their interests as well as strengthen the home / school bond. Please ensure that your child has a hat

everyday as per our sun safety policy. We kindly remind parents to ensure they are packing enough food for their child's day at school. Children need morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea and an additional piece of fruit to be shared. We also remind you that food must fit into the healthy food guidelines and that no nuts or eggs are to be bought to the centre at any time.

SCHOOL READINESS FOCUS

This month we are focusing on a number of concepts. Our focus letters for the month are F, G, H and I, while our focus numbers are 5, 6, 7 and 8. We would be very appreciative if you could take the time to practise this with your child at home to help continue to reinforce their learning. Please see our school readiness program on our program wall to see what other concepts we will be focusing on during this time. In order for your child to reach their full potential we kindly ask that all children are present in the Busy Bee room by 10am so that they are able to participate in the school readiness program.

Miss Amie & Miss Amanda

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

PLAYFUL POSSUMS

1. **Chinese New Year**
2. **Under The Sea Show**
3. **Farm Animals**
4. **Weather**

During the month of February, will be having a visit from our under the sea show. This will be extended during our group times, learning what animals live in the sea. This will link to our theme of farm animals and show comparison of habitats.

We remind parents that all children's items need to be clearly labeled to prevent losing or misplacement of belongings, We have noticed that Possums are becoming less interested in their milk bottles and ask you to consider stopping bringing a milk bottle. Children are offered milk at every meal time which allows them to have milk if they wish.

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

Miss Nikki and Miss Anita

BABY BUNYIPS:

1. Chinese New Year
2. Under the sea
3. Families
4. Beach week

The Bunyip's have been busy getting to know their new environment and meeting lots of different people. It is nice to see bonds forming between the staff and children, but also between the children themselves. We would appreciate it if you could label all of your children's belongings and if you have any questions please feel free to talk to Miss Nirmika or Miss Kelly. (NQA 1,2,3,4,5,6&7)

PARENTS PLEASE ASSIST US.

We ask that all parents provide the following items each day.

HATS NO HAT NO **PLAY 11th February**

From Monday 11th February we will be having **check on HATS**. All children must have a clearly labelled hat. If your child does not have a hat they are not permitted to play beyond the shaded area. Parents will receive a slip in their child's bag asking for assistance with this. If children do not have a hat after two consecutive requests a hat will be provided to children at a cost of \$15.00 to families. We ask that parents check their child's bag daily. (NQA 1,2,3,5,&6)



SHEETS.

All children in the Playful Possums and the Busy Bees room must have a fitted and flat sheet that is labelled with your child's name each day. For hygiene reasons 2 sheets must be provided daily. (NQA 1,2,3,5,&6)



FOOTWEAR: NO THONGS



Thongs are not acceptable footwear for school. Please provide your child with covered shoes as children can slip and fall if they do not have secure footwear. (NQA 1,2,3,5,&6)

TOYS AT THE CENTRE

We ask that parents do not allow children to bring in toys to the centre UNLESS it is for a news event. This can cause great distress for children and it is best if special toys remain at home where they are safe. (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. We thank the following families who have recently donated to the centre.

Ms Katherine Checuti - Lily Bees Room

Mrs Bernadette Smith - Charlie Bees room

Ms Alethia Walker - Aiden Bees room

Ms Chloe Acompnado- Rafaela Bunyips room

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

FINAL THOUGHT

The expression "It takes a village to raise a child", is such a great thought. We all learn from each other and the opportunities to learn together and share interests between staff and families is a valued and respected relationship. We look forward to growing with you as we embrace the endless possibilities in 2013.

JUMPSTART 4 KIDS STAFF