

Jumpstart 4 Kids

Newsletter No 3, 2015 MARCH

WELCOME AFTERNOON TEA



On Friday 27th February the centre hosted a Welcome Afternoon Tea. This was a fantastic afternoon for parents to meet other families and for the children to share their environment with families. Many families viewed their child's portfolio and were significantly impressed by the number of activities and variety of experiences that the children are involved in during a typical day at the centre.

We thank all our families who attended and hope that you enjoy your gift over the coming weeks. Parents are reminded that they are welcome to view their child's portfolio at any time. Parents and educators play a significant part in each child's develop. We openly invite parents to discuss any concerns or challenges with Educators or Directors at any time throughout the year. (NQA 5, 6, &7)



UNDER THE SEA SHOW

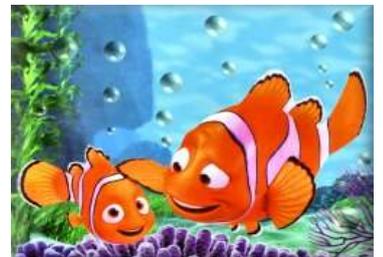
Monday 16th March 10:00am

COST \$10 per child payable by 12th March



This is a fantastic hands on experience for children to view animals that live in our water, beaches and rock areas along our coastal waters. Children will be able to hold a live star fish, touch real sharks teeth and understand why different animals live in a variety of habitats.

This is fantastic show that creates interests and investigation for children. Families who would like to attend with children who do not normally attend on this day are welcome. (NQA 1, 5, 6, &7)



EASTER EGG DONATIONS

Each Year we ask families to Donate an Easter Egg for our Easter Raffle.



We would be appreciative if families could Donate an egg by Friday 13 March. The more eggs the more prizes.

We thank all our families who have made a contribution .

Nominations open for Australian Family Early Education and Care Awards



ACECQA is proud to support the **2015 Australian Family Early Education and Care Awards** and encourages you to nominate outstanding early childhood practitioners and services in four categories:

- Early Childhood Educator of the Year – for all educators/carers who work directly with children
- Early Childhood Director of the Year – for those in charge of an early years' education and care service
- Early Childhood Service of the Year - for all early years' and out of school hours education and care services
- Rising Star Award – open to people who have worked in early childhood for five years or less, regardless of their age.

These national Awards celebrate the accomplishments, innovative practice and quality improvement of early childhood professionals across all areas of early childhood education and care. They are an important way of creating recognition for the work all early childhood professionals do.

As a way of acknowledging the care and dedication of JumpStart 4 Kids and staff we would be grateful if parents could consider taking a few minutes to nominate the Centre and/or staff for these awards. Nominations can be accessed by visiting

<http://australianfamily.com.au/earlyeducationandcareawards>. The centre website for confirmation of a nomination is kids@jumpstarteducation.com.au

We would certainly appreciate parental support in acknowledging the centre and staff for their dedication and support of each child's learning.

WEEKLY EXPERIENCES ROOM STIMULUS AREAS:

1. Sea week
2. Kindness
3. Multicultural week
4. Our Environment
5. Easter

BUSY BEES:

Throughout the month of March the Busy Bees will enjoy learning about the different cultures of the children here at the centre. We ask you to bring any items or recipes that you would like share with the children to help to teach them about your child's culture. We will also be focusing on our environment and how to take care of it. With this we will be learning about recycling and how to care for plants and animals around us.

Please remember that we are preparing for big school in the Busy Bee room so we ask that you pack things such as sandwiches or wraps and not things that need to be reheated.

SCHOOL READINESS FOCUS

The Busy Bees have been developing good Numeracy and Literacy skills during their School Readiness experiences.

During the month of March the Bees will be continuing on building their knowledge of Literacy by learning about the letters T, I and F as well as learning about the sounds these letters make. The Bees will continue to develop their numeracy skills by learning about the numbers 4, 5 and 6 as well as the shapes rectangle, oval octagon. The Bees will also be focusing on the colours yellow, orange and purple.





Pre-Lit

The Busy Bees are doing very well in our Pre-Lit program and enjoy reading a new book each week. The Pre-Lit program allows the Bees to be introduced to a new book each week, which builds on their interest in books and love for reading. It is important that literature is always part of a child's environment and we encourage that parents read with their child each night for 15 minutes to support our Pre-Lit program. (NQA 1., 5, 6, &7)

PLAYFUL POSSUMS.

- 1) Ireland
- 2) Feelings
- 3) Under the sea
- 4) Easter
- 5) Italy



Throughout the month of March the Playful Possums will be focusing on self-help skills. - placing their own items in their bags as well as putting their own shoes on. We are focusing on feelings, encouraging all children to express themselves using their verbal communication skills.



PLAYFUL POSSUMS.



During the month of February the Possums loved taking part in sensory experiences, using their 5 senses during play. The children took part in experiences such as making play doh, water play, sand play.

BABY BUNYIPS:

1. Under the sea
2. Dental Health
3. Colour green
4. Water
5. Easter



During the month of March, we will be introducing group times for the children 18 months and older. This will be focusing upon getting the older children ready for the routine of the Possums room as they have not quite reached the age to move full time. During these group times, children will learn to play in groups and learn to sit during an experience.

Our focus in the room will be to expose children to craft experiences and experiment with new textures. During the week beginning 16th March, we will focus on the colour green as part of our St Patrick celebrations. We ask that children wear something green during the week.

BUNYIPS FUN FACTS

I AM TURNING ONE.

I have worked out how to move my arms and legs together in a coordinated motion, and learned to use both arms and both legs equally.



BUNYIPS

READING

The Bunyips love reading stories and engaging in group times. We are beginning to look at first word books and using the pictures in the books to relate them with planned experiences on our program. Children gain many positive skills from reading. We encourage families to regularly read with their children.



(NQA1,2,3 , 5, 6, &7)

SUSTAINABILITY: EARTH HOUR MARCH 28th

Earth Hour was launched in Sydney in 2007, with 2.2 million people and 2,100 businesses participating in the 'lights off' event. Just one year later. Earth Hour draws attention to tackling global warming and gets people talking about what we can do to help. In Australia, Earth Hour really brings communities together, with 1 in every 3 Aussies taking part. In 2015 Earth Hour will support Aussie food and farmers. On March 28th 2015, thousands of food-related events and Earth Hour dinners will be taking place around the country.

Events will range from twilight picnics, to food fairs to night time farmers markets to paddock pop-up restaurants! At JumpStart 4 Kids we will be having picnics and eating session using natural lighting so that we conserve resources for our planet. We will actively have children in discussion about turning off lights to reduce the impacted of global warming.



(NQA1,2,3 , 5, 6, &7)

PANCAKE TUESDAY

Tuesday 17th February all of the children came together in the Busy Bee room to make pancakes for pancake Tuesday. All of the children loved watching Miss Trish make the pancakes before taste testing all of the pancakes. All of the children loved taking part in this experience. E rea



MUSIC MAN SHOW

On Tuesday 10th February *The Music Man* visited the centre to share a variety of musical instruments from around the world. The children were exposed to a broad variety of musical instruments from different countries such as the oud, lagerphone, bodhran. triangle and didgeridoo.



All the children loved watching how these musical instruments were played and listening to the variety of sounds.



MUSIC MAN SHOW



Dancing and singing along to the music kept all the children entertained and involved as they joined in a variety of dance moves. (NQA 1,2,3,5, 6, &7)



CHINESE NEW YEAR

On Wednesday 18th February each of the rooms celebrated Chinese New Year. The Baby Bunyips made noodles, the Playful Possums made fried rice and the Busy Bees made rice paper rolls.



All of the children loved helping their educators make their very special foods before coming together as a centre sitting down together sharing all of the yummy foods in celebration of Chinese New Year.



St PATRICKS DAY- FOCUS COUNTRY OF THE MONTH IRELAND

Each Month the centre focuses on a country to explore their customs, music and food and celebrations. During the Month of March the centre will explore Ireland as a Focus Country.

The children will celebrate St Patricks Day through a variety of food experiences. The children are asked to contribute to this celebration by wearing green on the day.



Families who have any Irish photographs, stories, music or food ideas are invited to share their ideas with staff as we prepare to explore this beautiful country.

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS WEEK 9th March



During this week the children will be exploring the importance of kindness to each other, their family and friends. (NQA 1,2,3, 5, 6, &7)

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

WEEK 9th March

It is really challenging for people to stop and think about the effect that our actions can have on people around us. By showing kindness we are actively listening to those around us and in doing so we become better people. We ask that parents speak with their children about the quality of kindness and praise them for their actions when they display this very important value.

PARENT FORUM 2015

TUESDAY 17th MARCH

Session 1 4:15 -4:45pm

Session 2 4:45 -5:15pm

We invite all families to join us to discuss the centre developments and improvements during these short sessions.



Parents Forum are a way that parents can easily express ideas and discuss concerns to ensure that the centre is providing the best care, programs and engagement for all children at the centre. We welcome all expressions of interests and ask that any parents who is unable to attend on the day to forward comments so that we can include all families in the ongoing planning and improvements for the centre in 2015. Please speak to Mr John, Miss Maree or staff in relation to adding items to the agenda.

EASTER HAT PARADE

30th March - 2nd April



During this week parents are asked to spend time with their children at home creating their own very Special Easter Hat.

EASTER HAT PARADE

During this week the children will showcase their Easter Hats across the centre with certificates provided to all children who enter into the parade. We ask that parents support children in showcasing their creative talents.

FUNDEMENTAL MOVEMENT SKILL (FMS)

FMS Focus: Hopping

What is Hopping?

A locomotor skill that involves standing on one foot and lifting off the ground by leaning slightly on the hopping foot side and moving the bent arms out and in for balance.

Does it look right? Detect and Correct:

- Start with balancing on one leg and bending the non-support leg.
- Swing the non-support leg forward like a pendulum to produce swing
- Keep the non-support foot behind the body
- Keep the arms bent and swing them to produce the forward momentum.
- Try to take off and land four consecutive times on the non-preferred foot.

Practicing the Skill - here are some ideas:

- Setting up hopscotch
- Lay out 3 small soft animal toys in a row and ask the children to hop over each of the animals, using their arms to help them swing forward
- Hopping during transition times such as from indoors to outdoors and vice versa

Ensure that you are tracking each child's skill development and provide opportunities for all 12 skills to be attempted. Check your USB for more ideas.





**HEALTHY
EATING FOR
CHILDREN.
NO JUNK
FOOD FRESH
FRUIT IS
BEST**

Packaged Foods The NSW Cancer Council found that processed food and drinks that carry fruit and vegetable claims on their packaging contain **as little as 13% real fruit**. Almost half of the products they analysed carried a claim about their fruit and vegetable content, however, these products were found to contain **more energy, sodium, saturated fat and sugar and less fibre than fresh fruits and vegetables**. For example, Uncle Toby's Roll Ups, which proclaims among its "nutritional benefits" that it is "made with real fruit", contained only 25% fruit!

Children are encouraged to eat fresh fruits and vegetables and other healthy options as snacks for children at child care centres.

WE REMIND ALL FAMILIES TO BRING A PIECE OF FRUIT EACH DAY.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT 2015

PARENT HELP REQUIRED

Creating inviting and aesthetic room environments is a focus of our quality improvement plan for 2015. Each room has a focus to create inviting spaces for children to engage in play based learning activities, **but we need parents HELP.**

We would like to create a **Sensory board for the Bunyips room.** This will be made from a variety of different textures and placed on a

PARENT HELP REQUIRED

board that comprises of a number of canvas picture frame. If parents have different textures material or canvas frames of varying sizes we would be grateful.

For our outdoors we are looking for plumbing pipes used for bends that can fit tennis sized balls to allow children to place coloured balls in that fall into our outdoor trough. Your assistance with these projects would be gratefully appreciated. (NQA1,2,3, 5, 6, &7)

GOOD FRIDAY: 3rd April CENTRE CLOSED

A reminder to families that the centre will be closed.

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.

- ✚ Easter Eggs for our Easter Raffle
- ✚ Gifts for our Mothers Day raffle
- ✚ Books
- ✚ Fabric for our Bunyips sensory board.
- ✚ Plumbing pipes and bends for our outdoor sensory wall.
- ✚ Thin Electrical conduct sections for our outdoor abacus.
- ✚ Margarine containers
- ✚ Stones / Shells/ Dolls/ Dolls clothes Barbies

FINAL THOUGHT

Play is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning. But for children play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood. (Fred Rodgers)

JUMPSTART 4 KIDS STAFF