

Jumpstart 4 Kids

Newsletter No 4, 2016 APRIL

FAREWELL

Miss Nikki has accepted a Director's position and will farewell JumpStart 4 Kids on Tuesday 5th April. Nikki is a valued and well respected staff member who has been with JumpStart 4 Kids for 5 ½ years. Nikki commenced at JumpStart as a trainee and progressed to room leader and supporting Nominated Supervisor. Nikki has cared for numerous children and families over this time, and we sincerely wish her the very best as she embraces her new position. (NQA 1,4, 5, 6, &7)



EASTER RAFFLE WINNERS

Congratulations to the following families who won one of our beautiful Easter raffle prizes.

Bunyips - Charlotte & Arthur

Possums - Hudson

Bees Lorelai, Emily, Luke & Martya

EASTER HAT PARADE

From Monday the 21st to Thursday the 24th of March the children all took part in the Easter Hat parade. Each day the children wore either their hats which they made from home, or for those who didn't bring a hat they made a Bunny mask at Jumpstart. The children had lots of fun as they paraded their lovely hats and masks in front of their peers and educators.



GRANDPARENTS

NTS AFTERNOON TEA Friday 8th

APRIL 4:00pm

We remind all families to join us for our special Grandparents afternoon Tea. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to share their learning environment with grandparents or older people in the community who hold a special place in children's lives. We would be appreciative if parents **could RSVP with room staff by Wednesday 6th April** so that we can accommodate for this event. We look forward to seeing all our families at this very special afternoon tea. Children who may not have a Grandparent who is able to attend may choose a parent or friend to attend. All family member and friends are warmly welcomed.

MOTHERS DAY RAFFLE

DONATIONS

To celebrate our wonderful Mothers we would be appreciative if families could donate items for our Mother's Day Raffle. Please place donated items in the foyer by Friday 22nd April so we can organise this

display. We thank parents in advance for your continued support. (NQA 1,2,3,4, 5, 6, &7)

MOTHERS DAY AFTERNOON

TEA Friday 6th May 4:00pm



We invite all our Mothers to a Special afternoon Tea to celebrate our wonderful mums.

TRANSITION TO SCHOOL

NIGHT 5th APRIL

This night will be jointly presented by Mrs Elizabeth Devline and Educators at JumpStart 4 Kids. This night allows parents to clarify school readiness skills and opportunities to speak with educators to children as they begin their transition to school. This is a significant night and we strongly urge all families who have children commencing school in 2017 to attend. Please return your acceptance of attendance to Mr Simon and Miss Nikki by Friday 1st April. (NQA 1, 5, 6, &7)

FAMILY PORTRAITS \$20 per FAMILY FRIDAY 29th APRIL



We invite all families to participate in this fundraiser. Families will have their portraits taken by a professional photographer at the centre. Parents pay \$20.00 and allocate a time on the clip board located in the foyer. There are no obligations for parents to purchase the whole package, rather parents receive their \$20 family purchase with an option to purchase additional photos approximately 2-3 weeks after the initial photo session. This is a great opportunity for families to capture their loved ones and to provide photos to families and friends, we

encourage all families to take advantage of this opportunity. (NQA 5, 6, &7)

CELEBRATING IRELAND



During the month of March, Jumpstart 4 Kids celebrated Ireland.

Each month our focus country allows us to celebrate the diversity of cultures present at JumpStart 4 Kids. Each focus country is celebrated through active engagement in song, dance, stories and food experiences. Our Irish food experience included Irish Boxy, Irish soda bread and Irish Potato Candy. The children took great delight in making these dishes to share with each other.

IRISH BOXY

"Boxy is a traditional Irish dish made of potatoes. An old Irish rhyme goes: 'Boxty on the griddle, boxty on the pan; if you can't make boxty, you'll never get a man!'"

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups grated raw potatoes
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 cup leftover mashed potatoes
- 1 egg
- 1 tablespoon skim milk
- salt and pepper to taste
- 1/4 cup olive oil



Directions

1. Toss the grated potatoes with flour in a large bowl. Stir in mashed potatoes until combined. In a separate bowl, whisk together the egg and skim milk; mix into the potatoes. Season to taste with salt and pepper.
2. Heat the olive oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Drop in the potato

mixture, forming patties, fry on both sides until golden brown.



IRISH SODA BREAD

- 4 cups flour
- 2 teaspoons bicarbonate of soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 60g butter, cubed
- 2-2 1/4 cups buttermilk

Step 1: Preheat oven to 190°C. Line a tray with baking paper. Sift 4

cups flour, 2 teaspoons bicarbonate of soda and 1 teaspoon salt into a large bowl.

Step 2: Rub in 60g butter, cubed. Mix in 2-2 1/4 cups buttermilk to form a dough. Bring together on a floured surface to form a ball.

Step 3: Shape dough into a 20cm round. Place on the tray. Cut a cross in the top. Bake for 35-45 minutes. Serve with butter and golden syrup



IRISH POTATO CANDY



- 1/4 Cup butter
- 125g cream cheese
- 1 Teaspoon vanilla extract
- 4 Cup powdered sugar
- 2.5 Cup sweetened flaked coconut
- 1-1.5 Teaspoon cinnamon

In a large bowl with an electric mixer, beat butter, cream cheese and vanilla. Slowly add powdered sugar and continue mixing to incorporate - scraping sides when necessary. Add coconut and mix until combined. Roll mixture into tablespoon-size balls. Roll each piece cinnamon to coat. Once coated, roll candies into a potato shape. Set on a parchment or foil-lined cookie sheet and chill until set. Store candies in refrigerator until ready to serve.



CELEBRATING St PATRICKS DAY (NQA 1,,4, 5, 6, &7)

On the 17th March we also celebrated St Patricks Day. Mr Simon organised various Irish themed activities which included decorating pretzels to look like shamrocks, drinking green milkshakes and enjoying our own very special green pancakes. The children enjoyed learning the song Michael Finnegan and mastering a few Irish dancing steps.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT: A very special thankyou to Lorelai's parents Sarah and Justin for bringing in Irish Soda bread, chips decorations and activities for the children. We are extremely grateful for sharing your Irish heritage and cultural



celebrations with us.

UNDER THE SEA SHOW

On Wednesday 9th March, Larry from



‘Rangers on the run’ took the children on a journey to explore the wonderful creatures that live under the sea. Larry showed the children that some sea creatures can be found in the sand on our beaches and on ocean rock platforms. The children actively engaged in this hands on experience by touching, feeling and holding star fish, sea urchins, fish, and shark teeth’s and jaws along with viewing sand crabs and hermit crabs.



This experience lead the

children to discuss what types of pets we could support at the centre. The Playful Possums absolutely adored the hermit crabs and were fascinated



with how the hermit crab changes its house as it grows. Miss Trish, Miss Justine and Miss Shannon will support the Possums with investigating how Hermit crabs grow and live, along with discovering what things they like to eat. This will prepare the Playful Possums to care for a Hermit crab in the coming weeks as they welcome their new addition to their room. The Baby bunyips will explore the beauty of fighting fish as they care, view and enjoy the gentle manoeuvres of this beautiful fish in their room environment in the coming weeks. (NQA 1,2,3,4, 5, 6, &7)

HARMONY DAY 2016

On Monday 21st of March we



celebrated Harmony Day at Jumpstart. Educators across all rooms spoke to the children about the meaning of Harmony Day, allowing children to develop an understanding about the meaning of diversity. The Possums and Bees participated by creating Harmony Day Balloons and photographs depicting our shared friendships across different cultures, embracing harmony, acceptance and support for the uniqueness of all individuals. Children’s peers, families and educators engaged in celebrating their cultural



diversity and how our background, ethnicity and cultural celebrations enrich all our lives.



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

OUR VERY SPECIAL WORMS

Natures Recyclers

On March 10th the Blacktown city council visited Jumpstart 4 Kids to speak with the children about



nature's recyclers – WORMS... Sarah spoke to the children about the needs of worms and how to take care of our worms in their worm farm environment. Sara was very impressed with how healthy our worms were, which demonstrates that the children have been feeding our worms regularly, and emptying the worm wee trays for use as fertilisers on our gardens and for families to use at home. During all meals time at JumpStart 4 Kids the children are encouraged to place their food scraps in our worm farms bins. These food scraps are then transferred to our worms farms, for the worms to eat.

We remind parents that they are encouraged to take worm wee home for their garden. Please speak to staff to arrange a bottle of

worm wee, or simply collect a bottle in the foyer and return the bottle so we can refill this for other families.

POSSUMS ROOM NO BOTTLES



A reminder to all parents in the Possum's room that bottles are not required for children 18months and older. We ask that children

be provided with Sippy cups or a water bottle. (NQA ,2,, 5, 6, &7) **Cup INTRODUCED AROUND 6 MONTHS** is important as it helps to prepare for giving up the bottle at around 12 months.

AFTER 12 MONTHS children should reduce the amount of Milk and increase their Food Intake

Continued use of a bottle often results in toddlers drinking too much milk. Milk is filling, so drinking too much may lead to the child eating less food than expected/needed and being described as a 'fussy' or 'picky' eater. However, the problem is not the child's eating ... it's the excess milk that has taken the place of food in the child's diet.

FROM 12 MONTHS

milk should always be offered in a small cup after food. This also helps toddlers to learn a new habit of having milk from a cup after their dinner instead of expecting a bottle of milk at bedtime. Too much milk, combined with not enough solid food, increases the chance of iron deficiency. Iron deficiency can have a negative effect on the normal development of young children.



Settling infants by giving them a bottle to suck on for long periods, or allowing them to fall asleep while continuing to feed from a bottle have been identified as a major cause of early childhood tooth decay.

PARENTS MAY PROVIDE TODDLER MILK SUPPLEMENTS IN CUP ONLY.

Bottles will not be offered to children in the Possums rooms.

Extract from

<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/health/Publications/caring-for-children-manual.pdf>

Parents may view this publication in our Foyer.

WEEKLY EXPERIENCES

ROOM STIMULUS AREAS:

BUSY BEES:

1. Emergency Services (police)
2. Nature
3. Transport
4. Pets

During the month of April we begin by focusing on emergency services. This will be highlighted by our Police visit on Monday 4th April. Children will learn the importance of emergency service men and woman in our lives. At the beginning of the month, we ask children to go home and spend some time with their pets. Educators ask children to bring a photo of their pet as we prepare our focus discussions about pets. Our objective for our programmed experiences, supports



children learning how to learn care for animals, as pets and how to keep safe around animals. Mr Simon and Miss

Nikki

OUR NUMERACY snake

The children in the Busy Bees were focusing on ordering numbers ascending numbers. Educators encouraged children to work together to organise, discuss and investigate the correct number sequence. The children demonstrated the ability to visually identify written numbers and then, place them in ascending order from one to ten. This experience was undertaken by piecing a floor through puzzle together that formed a snake. Once the children had created their number snake, each child was given a number and



asked to locate their number on the number snake by standing behind beside the number, creating our own number snake made of people. (NQA 1,2,3,4, 5, 6, &7)

SCHOOL READINESS FOCUS

LITERACY FOCUS:

The Bees will be focusing on the letters D and R, developing their knowledge on the sounds these letters make and their letter recognition skills.

D as in Dog

R as in Rainbow



Numeracy Focus

This month the Bees will be focusing on the number 7 and 8, developing their number recognition and counting skills.

Concept

Focus on the colour **PINK** and **GREY**.

Children will learn to identify a collection of items that are orange and purple and discount all items that are **NOT PINK AND GREY**.

This is a **PINK** ball



This is not a pink ball



COMPANION BEARS FOR REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS.

WAYNE

EDDIE



- 1) Hannah
- 2) Charlotte

- 1) Sia
- 2) Alexis

PLAYFUL POSSUMS.



- 1) Emergency Services (Police)
- 2) Nature Play
- 3) Space
- 4) Pets

Throughout the month of March the Playful Possums focused on fundamental movements



using our gross motor skills to jump, hop and leap correctly. The children took part in various experiences such as jumping through hoops, hopping over bean bags as

they explored and practised .

During the month of April the children the Possums will be learning about the different emergency services within our community and how they can help us. The Playful Possums are certainly looking forward to our **Police visit on Monday 4th April.** Our focus on pets will support children to develop care and respect to living things as we discuss how to care for pets. We would be appreciative if families could provide us with a photograph of family pets so we can use these in our focus area on Pets as part of our display.

Numeracy:

Number 7 & 8



Concept:

Colours – Pink



Orange



Shapes:

- Star



- Heart



Literacy: Letter D & R

D is for Dog



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

R is for Rabbit



BABY BUNYIPS:

- 1) Police
- 2) Nature Play
- 3) Transport
- 4) Space



During the month of April the Baby Bunyips are going to be focusing on the numbers 4 and 5, they will do this through using visuals of the number as well as singing songs with the numbers in them. They will be learning the words 'shoes' and 'hat' through simple picture books, discussions during routine tasks and songs. The Baby Bunyips are also going to learn about their

environment through various types of nature play including sand, water, soil, rocks and leaves. We will also be focusing on transport and learn the simple types of transport including car, bus, boat, aeroplane and train.

Throughout the month of March the Bunyips enjoyed exploring play dough; they then made their own play dough with Miss Amie which was lots of fun. They enjoyed using their senses to explore the different ingredients and were very excited to then play with the end result.



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

DONATIONS

We are always appreciative of Donations for our Raffles. If families have received any unwanted gifts please consider the centre.

- ✚ Gifts for our Mother's Day raffle
- ✚ Books
- ✚ Paper cylinders
- ✚ Old cake tins
- ✚ Ice-cream containers
- ✚ Margarine containers
- ✚ Bottle tops
- ✚ Stones / Shells
- ✚ Barbie dolls

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

FEBRUARY Celebrations

POSSUMS Room

Rachel 13/4
Aarush 14/1
Isabella 23/4

BEEES Room

Tahaney 3/14
Delwyn 9/4
Aidan 12/4
Sia 26/4

EVENTS FOR APRIL SNAP SHOT

Monday 4th Police Visit 10:00 am
Tuesday 5th Transition to school Night
7.00pm
Friday 8th Grandparents afternoon Tea
Tuesday 12th Space Flight Day
17th -22nd Innovation week
Friday 22nd Earth Day
Monday 25th April Anzac Day Centre
Closed
Thursday 28th Pay it Forward Day

FINAL THOUGHT

*As the children begin to celebrate
Mother's day may we remember this
very simple quote.*

*We look forward to celebrating with
all our special mothers at our
Mother's Day afternoon Tea*



JUMPSTART 4 KIDS
STAFF