

Jumpstart 4 Kids

Newsletter No 2, 2018 FEBRUARY

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN HEALTHY EATING CHAMPION



As part of our Quality Improvement Plan for 2018 we are encouraging families to reduce waste and focus on natural foods to support children's health. Fruits, vegetables, dairy, grains and water provide children with essential vitamins. We remind families that unhealthy foods will be returned to families as we encourage healthy food choices for children. This month we are sharing a picture of Hannah J's healthy lunch box! With yummy vegemite sandwiches shaped like bunnies, cheese, crackers and cabanossi for afternoon tea and delicious strawberries, apple, blueberries and yoghurt for morning tea, Hannah's lunchbox looked very yummy indeed! We will be taking photos of healthy lunch boxes and praising children and families for their creative and inspiring lunch boxes. Congratulations to all our families who support healthy bodies and healthy choices. (NQA 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, & 7)



Country of the Month- Australia

During the month of January we celebrated the diversity of Australia. The children sang traditional Australian bush songs and developed an understanding of our early settlement days as shearers and farmers. The children sang Click go the Shears, Waltzing Matilda and Give me a home Among the Gum Trees which was a clear favourite.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MLWzPQmd5sc>



We encourage families to view Youtube with your child so that you can sing along at home.

In celebrating Australia we acknowledge our traditional landholders, our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and their distinct culture that they share with us.

The Busy Bees explored Aboriginal symbols as they traced symbols in the sand box with their fingers on the science and discovery table.



Our discover table showcased, Australian eucalyptus leaves, bottle brush, gum leaves and stringy bark, that was used to create the children's very own Gum Trees.



Children across all rooms delighted in creating an Australian treat. The Busy Bees cooked traditional damper using flour, salt, and butter chives from our garden, cheese and milk. Our, vegemite and cheese scrolls were fantastic and the children were amazed that cream actually

makes batter if you beat it long enough. A delicious accompaniment to our damper. Simply delicious.



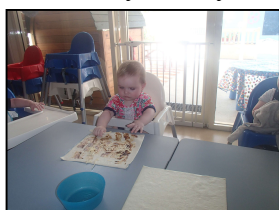
The Playful Possums had a lot of fun making lamingtons for Australia Day. They enjoyed exploring the different textures and tastes of the different ingredients; tasting was definitely a big hit! They all did a really good job at rolling the cake through the chocolate icing and covering



them in shredded coconut. The Possums and Bunyips created Australian animals using paper plates. Be

sure to take a look.

The Baby Bunyips made some yummy cheese and vegemite twists. The children were keen to sprinkle cheese and taste test along the way. Definitely a tasty afternoon tea treat.



In February we will be celebrating China. **2018 is the Year of the Dog.**

We would be appreciative of family support in respect to sharing your cultural songs, dances, foods and customs.



We will also celebrate **Valentine's Day with the children on Wednesday 14th February.**

The children will create some very special treats for their families to share. This is a great opportunity to express to families and friends how much they mean to us.

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

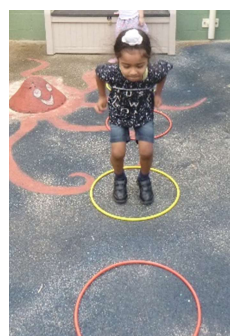


KEEPING FIT THE AUSSIE WAY:

What better way to practice the fundamental movement skill of running than having our own **Mr John's Thong throwing** competition. The children were eager the throw Mr Johns' Australian thongs to see how far they would land in the sand pit. Once thrown the children had to run as fast as they could and return the thong for the next person to throw. What an energetic bunch of children. We thank Mr John for his very large thongs.



In the month of February we will be practicing



the skill of Jumping by placing both feet firmly on the ground and bending the knees with both hands bent firmly by our sides as we stretch up and lift both legs in a smooth jump. We will be frogs, jumping beans and grass hoppers as we jump

our way indoors and outdoors. (NQA 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, & 7)

MUSIC MAN 8th February 10:00 am



On Thursday 8th February the children will engage in dance and explore a variety of musical instruments from around the world. Children will follow up from this experience by making their own musical instruments that they will use to create their own songs. Accounts will be automatically charged for this incursion. Children who do not attend on this day are welcome to attend with an accompanying adult.

WELCOME AFTERNOON TEA



Friday 23rd February 4:00pm

We invite all our families to join us at our Welcome afternoon Tea. This is a great opportunity for families to meet, educators and families and share in your child's progress as they settle into their new surroundings. The children will share a story, song and a special gift with their families.



CRAZY HAIR DAYS

Wednesday 20th,

Thursday 21st,

Thursday 22nd.

Community support \$2



We ask that all children attend with their craziest hair yet. Accounts will be charged a 2.00 gold donation once, that will be forwarded to the Children Hospital Westmead. This is a fun way for children to raise money for such a worthy cause. The craziest hair creation in each room will receive a certificate for their outstanding efforts. (NQA 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, & 7)

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Parents are welcome to bring celebration cakes to the centre to celebrate children's birthdays. Cakes made from slices of watermelon, fruit skewers, apple slices with cream cheese offer healthy alternatives to cakes.



EASTER EGG DONATIONS



We ask that all families donate an Easter egg to our Easter egg raffle by Friday 9th March. These

Easter Eggs will be presented in Baskets for our Raffle. Money raised will go towards our outdoor refurbishment in mid 2018.

PANCAKE TUESDAY 13th February



Shrove Tuesday is the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday which is the first day of **Lent**. It's a day of penitence, to clean the soul, and a day of celebration as the last chance to feast before **Lent** begins. Many of our families observe this day in the lead up to Easter. The children across the centre will explore the meaning of Pancake Tuesday and the significance for different cultures and people in our community. We warmly invite families to share their culture and significant festivals and events with us throughout the year. (NQA 1, 5, 6, & 7)

WEEKLY EXPERIENCES



ROOM STIMULUS AREAS: BUSY BEES:

- 1) Our Families
- 2) Music
- 3) Chinese New year
- 4) Pets

Throughout the month of January the Busy Bees have been settling into the environment. We have been focusing on self-help skills- making our own beds, placing our own belongings in our bags-taking as we take responsibility for ourselves. The children loved taking part in new experiences focused around fine motor skills such as coloured pom pom sorting. Simple easy activities like this one helps develop colour recognition as well as hand eye coordination skills and fine motor skills.



BUSY BEES

PROGRAM FOCUS:

During the month of February, the Busy Bees will be focusing on music- looking at different musical instruments from around the world. The children will interact with the musical instruments having a hands-on experience during the music man show.

We REMIND PARENTS THAT

No juice poppers or cordial in lunch boxes.
Water and Milk ONLY. These will be
provided during all meal sessions. (NQA 1,2,3,4, 5, 6, & 7)

LITERACY FOCUS. THE SOUNDS THAT OUR LETTERS MAKE PHONICS :

The Busy Bee's will be focusing on the letters Ss and Tt to develop letter and their sound recognition throughout the month of February.
Ss as in Sspots



Tt as in Tower



The Busy Bee's will be looking at numbers 3 (Three) and 4 (Four) during the month of February to develop their number recognition and counting skills.



Focus on the colour GREEN.

Children learn colour by focusing on one colour at a time. They learn to identify a collection of

items that are GREEN and discount all items that are **NOT GREEN**

This broccoli is GREEN



This heart is NOT GREEN



Pre-Lit

During the month of February we will be reading:

- 1: Giraffes Can't Dance by Giles Andrede
- 2: I know a Rhino by Charles Fuge
- 3: We're going on a bear hunt by Michael Rosen
- 4: How to catch a star by Oliver Jeffers
- 5: Baby Broomsticks by Margaret Wild

We will be focusing on Syllables- counting them by clapping, Concepts of letters and blending onset and rime.

Parents may like to view these books on the internet or borrow them from the local library. We encourage all families to read for 15 minutes to their child each night to support their use of words, knowledge of word meaning and questioning skills.

BUSY BEES NEWS

The busy bees have all been assigned a set day for news. This is a time where the children can bring in a photo, special item or a favourite toy where the children can stand in front of their peers and talk about their item. This is a time for the children to develop their self-confidence and their communication skills. Please remember no toys on days that are not your child's day.

Sign In Station

Please remember to help sign your child/ren in

before leaving them for the day. This is located at the entry door of the Bus Bee room. Please help your child find their name before assisting them to write their name.

COMPANION BEARS BUSY BEES & PLAYFUL POSSUMS



WAYNE WINCH



TOMMY TENNIS

During the month of January Wayne Winch loved visiting Azaleigha, Isabella and Kaiden he loved going on adventures with them and their families. Wayne Winch will be visiting Esma, Cash and Zahlia in February.

Tommy Tennis will be visiting

A REMINDER TO ALL FAMILIES THAT THE COMPANION BEAR MUST BE RETURNED AT THE END OF EACH WEEK. (NQA 1,3, 5, 6, & 7)

PLAYFUL POSSUMS

1. Body (Health)
2. Valentine's Day
3. Chinese New Year
4. Feelings



Throughout the month of January the Possums had a great time getting to know each other and developing friendships. These friendships have developed through music and movement, group times and programmed play time.



They really enjoyed using different recycled materials to create drums; in these they also added rice, pasta and corn kernels

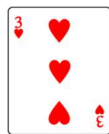
making them into shakers too. As a class we all had fun learning to play them fast, slow, loud and soft.



The playful Possums really enjoyed learning about Australia in the lead up to Australia Day. Their favourite story was *Aussie, Aussie, Aussie* and *Australia at the Beach*.

During the month of February the children will be focusing on keeping healthy and they will explore different ways to do this. As a class we will practice different types of exercise and look at healthy food options and why they are important. Feelings is another area we will focus on and we are going to learn what our emotions are and good ways to express them.

Week 5 and 6 we will be learning about the letter S, colour red, shape circle and number 3.



Week 7 and 8 we will be learning about the letter T, colour blue, shape square and number 4.



PLAYFUL POSSUMS - WHAT TO BRING FOR YOUR CHILD

Please remember to bring in a photo of you and your family.

Don't forget set of sheets and hat for each day; please make sure everything is clearly labelled.

BABY BUNYIPS:

1. Musical Instruments
2. Valentine's Day
3. Celebrations
4. Farm animals



During the month of February the Baby Bunyips are going to be focusing on instruments. They will experiment with many different types of musical instruments and through their hands on experience with the music man show they will learn how to play them and listen to the various sounds they make. The children will also explore farm animals using books, songs, sensory set ups and, art and craft experiences to learn where animals live and the sounds that they make. We will also be learning about a variety of celebrations including Valentine's Day.

The focus words for literacy in February will be YES and NO and for concept and numeracy the Bunyips will be focusing on the shape SQUARE and the number 1 ONE.





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

IMMUNISATION SCHEDULES:

A reminder to all families that it is a Government requirement that all children must be immunised prior to commencing care.

Parents are responsible to provide an updated immunisation register after each scheduled vaccination. Parents will be approached within the first week of February to supply updated immunisation schedules. We ask that families are prompt in providing these to the centre. (NQA 2, 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.

- ✚ Gifts for our Mother's Day raffle
- ✚ Easter eggs for our Easter raffle
- ✚ Books
- ✚ Newspapers
- ✚ Paper cylinders
- ✚ Old cake tins
- ✚ Ice-cream containers
- ✚ Margarine containers
- ✚ Bottle tops
- ✚ String
- ✚ Stones

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Playful Possums - Chloe 20/2
Busy Bees - Dominic 22/2
Kaiden 24/2
Emiliana 27/2

FINAL THOUGHT

I have come to understand that life's deepest purpose can be found in relationships. It is our connections with our parents, our children, our spouses, our siblings, and our friends that provide us with lasting joy.

We thank all our families for taking the time over the last few weeks to connect with educators as we develop engaged play activities to support children's development, growth and exploration.

JUMPSTART 4 KIDS

STAFF

