

Jumpstart 4 Kids

Newsletter No 6, 2013 JUNE

STAFF CHANGES.

On the 21st June we will farewell Miss Amanda as she prepares for the arrival of her first baby. We wish Amanda the very best and look forward to her return in 2014. We are very excited to welcome back Miss Justine from her maternity leave on Monday 24th June. We farewelled Miss Anita on Friday 24th May due to her current family needs. We wish her and her family the very best.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT **ASTHMA TRAINING**

4th June 5.30pm

All staff will engage in a refresher course for Asthma management provided by the Asthma Foundation on Tuesday 4th June at 5.30pm. We would be grateful if parents could collect children prior to this time so that we can have all staff complete this training. With the winter months now upon us it is important that all staff are able to support children who experience Asthma throughout the colder months. We thank families in advance for their support.

LEADERSHIP & CARE

On 21st and 22nd May Miss Amie, Miss Nikki and Miss Maree attended a two day in-service on Leadership and Care. This in-service highlight the role of leadership positions in centres and the skills required for effective leaders. At Jumpstart 4 Kids room leaders have a commitment to maintaining the functioning of each room and to our centre Philosophy which is located in the front foyer for families to view. We invite all families to view our room programs , children's portfolios, day books and centre philosophy and to make suggestions and comments at any time .

(NQA 2,4,6&7)

SCHOOL READINESS NIGHT



We had a fantastic night on Wednesday 15th May as parents became aware of school readiness for children. We sincerely thank Mrs Elizabeth Devlin who is the Principal of St Bernadette's Lalor Park and Mrs Robyn Carruthers who is the enrolment secretary for their time on the Night. Ms Devlin highlighted the following aspects for parents when discussing their child readiness for school.

- **Can your child answer the "W" questions? What, when , who, where and why.**
- **Can they express their feelings and emotions?**
- **Can they initiate group activities and explain their thinking and investigation?**
- **Do they have a concept of number. Not counting but an idea of what a group of 5 , 10 , 20 looks like. Can they add on ?**
- **Can they sit and listen?**
- **Can they follow instructions (Receptive language)?**
- **Can they clearly express their ideas (Expressive language) ?**

Many children will commence kindergarten and not be socially ready for their compulsory years of schooling. *They may progress through their primary years and the effect of commencing too early will be highlighted when these children commence high school.*

It is better for children to be confident and involved learners from the start so that they can reach their personal success throughout their

schooling years and not be in a situation where they are struggling academically and socially. Many children are best prepared for this in the year when they are turning six.



We remind families that the Busy Bees staff have explicit understanding of the needs of children

beginning school and we wish to support all families so that children who commence school are ready and experience success from day one. This night gave many families the opportunity to rethink their child progress to kindergarten. If families wish to discuss any aspect of their child's learning please do not hesitate to speak with staff at any time.

Is your child starting primary school in 2014?

If your child is starting primary school in 2014, you need to know about the **Schoolkids Bonus**. It is a new payment to help eligible families with the costs of primary and secondary school studies.

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you may be eligible for up to **\$410 each year** for your child to help cover the costs of uniforms, stationery, sporting gear, school fees or excursions. Half is paid in January to help with back-to-school costs and half in July for ongoing costs. When your child moves into secondary school, the rate increases to \$820 per year, again with half paid in January and July.

Each November, Centrelink will write to Family Tax Benefit Part A customers whose child is likely to be starting primary school in the New Year and ask them to check and update their child's education details. If you're eligible, all you need to do is tell Centrelink when your child is starting primary school to activate the payment and it will continue to be paid into your bank account twice each year, for as long as you remain eligible. Please note that children in

preschool are not eligible as preschool is not part of formal primary education.

For more information, including the full eligibility criteria, visit australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus.
(NQA 1,2,3,4,5,6&7)

WEEKLY EXPERIENCES ROOM STIMULUS AREAS: BUSY BEES:

1. **Extinct animals**
2. **Celebrations**
3. **Experiments**
4. **Winter**



During this month the Busy Bees will be learning about lots of new and interesting things. As we learn about extinct animals we will focus on environmental factors that rendered these animals extinct, and animals that are facing extinction today. Celebrations will consist of learning about celebrations in our culture and those of the cultures around us. The Busy Bees will put their scientist hats on this month and perform a variety of experiments, encouraging thinking and hypothesising skills and the use of "w" questions. As the weather begins to get colder we are learning about winter and what it means to the world. We will explore winter activities and features of the season.

This month we farewell Miss Amanda who finishes on Friday the 21st June to begin her maternity leave. We wish her all the best and look forward to announcing the arrival of her baby.

SCHOOL READINESS FOCUS

We thank the parents who attended our Transition to school, night on Wednesday the 15th May. This evening went into great detail on the expectations of children for school and listed many social and emotional aspects of school readiness for a child. We hope that parents took valuable information from the evening and will use this to make their decision on whether to send their child to school.

Our school readiness program is on display and we ask parents to please check the focus for the week and work on these skills with their child at home. If you have any questions please see a Busy Bee staff member.

Miss Amie & Miss Amanda

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

PLAYFUL POSSUMS

1. Ocean
2. Dinosaurs
3. Science
4. Pet Week

During the month of June we are encouraging self help skills as children are learning packing away and putting on their shoes. We encourage you to keep practicing these skills at home to ensure a similar learning pattern. Beginning Monday 24th June, we are celebrating Pet week in the Possums room. We ask that families bring a photo of their family pet as we create our collage of our favourite pets. We remind parents that children who are bringing toys to school may lose these or have those toys broken. We ask that children keep their toys at home to prevent this from happening. We will be putting our investigation skills to the test as we focus on science and prepare for our science show.

Miss Nikki and Miss Anita

BABY BUNYIPS:

1. Colours.
2. Sea Week – World Oceans Day 8th.
3. Pet Week.
4. Winter.

As winter is now upon us, please remember to pack sufficient clothing for your child. Accidents other than toileting ones, such as spilling food or drinks, can mean children need to be changed throughout the day. It is also acceptable and we recommended that you pack warm head wear such as a beanie for your child to wear outdoors.

Throughout the week beginning Monday 17th of June, the Bunyip's will be focusing on pets. We would love it if you could bring a photo or picture from a magazine etc of your pet or a pet you would like to own.

We can then use this as a visual display and as a discussion point with the children. It also provides a link between family life and here at Jumpstart. Thank you Miss Nirmika and Miss Kelly.

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

EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES FOR JUNE. All children

SCIENCE SHOW 18th JUNE \$8.00

All children will be involved in a hands on Science experience on Tuesday 18th June . All children who are enrolled as attending on this day will be charged \$8.00. If children are absent for the day families will still incur an \$8.00 fee. Extra curricula activities are capped at \$8.00 for all families and are based on 40 children in attendance. This is part of our centre policy. (NQA 1,6&7)

YOGA CLASS with Mr Martin

On Thursday the 23rd May we were lucky enough to have a visit from Kim Martins Dad who ran a yoga class in the Busy Bee room for the Bees and Possums. During this class the children learnt a variety of stretches and yoga poses and ways to breathe during these. The Busy Bees engage in yoga daily after rest time and really enjoy this experience. It has been great to see their skill levels improve. We thank Mr Martin for taking the time to share his knowledge and enjoyment of yoga with us.



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

Fire Brigade Visit

Today the children at Jumpstart 4 Kids were very excited to have 4 members of the local fire station come and teach the children about fire safety. They began by showing the children their uniform and they explained why they need to wear each different item. They then went through the procedures 'get down low and go go go' and 'stop, drop and roll' and the children got to practice these with some of the fire fighters; these are great to practice with your children at home so that this is something that they remember in case of an emergency. They also spoke frequently about the number which you ring when there is an emergency which is '000'; please take some time to practice this number with your children at home as it could be very important one day.

After this the children then moved to the front yard where the big fire truck was parked, each child had a turn at going inside the fire truck to have a look around, this was very exciting! They then watched a fire fighter use the hose from the truck and then they each had a turn at spraying it in front and up in the air to see how it works. This was a fantastic experience to teach the children about what fire fighters do and more importantly about fire safety, the children really enjoyed this.



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

Parents may have read in the Daily newspapers and on the news that Children could be banned from childcare centres under changes to the law planned by Health Minister

Jillian Skinner. The "No Jab, No Play" campaign which was launched to stop the rise in the number of children succumbing to preventable diseases because parents are failing to have children fully immunised. Our centre Policy support immunisation of children and parents upon enrolment must provide evidence of current immunisation. We will continue to support this campaign and ask parents to be vigilant in vaccinating children for their safety and the well being of all children . Exemptions may occur for medical reasons and these are managed on an individual basis.



EVIDENCE OF IMMUNISATION

JUNE 2013

NO MORE BLUE BOOK

The Blue Book has previously been used to identify immunisation records. From 1st June 2013 the centre policy will state that the Blue book will not be sufficient as an accurate record of immunisation. Parents will be required to produce the Department of Health Immunisation registry sheet as evidence. Children will not be permitted to commence at the centre without this documentary evidence. (NQA 1,2,5,6&7)

COMPANION BEARS BUSY BEES ROOM 1 Week VISITS ONLY

EDDIE

WAYNE



Children nurture , care and share experiences with our Companions Bears within their home environment for 1 week. Sharing their experiences with the class through photographs and conversations with teachers and peers allows children to build their language and social skills in a supportive and caring environment .Parents as you would imagine the children are very eager to care for our Companion Bears.

We ask that parents support us by returning the Bears at the end of the week. Children are allocated each term and are aware when their turn nears. It is heart breaking for children who are so excited to host a Companion Bear if they are not returned promptly. By keeping the Companion Bear for more than a week limits the experience for other children at the centre. We thank

families in advance for their support of all children at the centre. Enjoy your experiences with our Companion Bear. We ask that you take a few photos of the Companion Bear with your family to highlight activities that you enjoy with your child and place these in the book provided.

We know that each family will take the best possible care of our Companion Bears so that all children can enjoy this very valuable experience. (NQA 1,2,3,&7)

DAYS ABSENT CCB PAYMENTS

All families are allowed 42 days of unexplained absences in a financial year. Absences are recorded on parent statements that are located in the front foyer. When parents attain 42 days of absences in a financial year they must provide a medical certificate for the 43rd day of absence and all other subsequent days of absences for the child care benefit to be active. Without supporting documentation parents will not be able to attract the Child Care Benefit and will be charged full fees.

CCR PAYMENTS

All families attracting payable CCR payments to the centre may begin to reach their cap of \$7500. Please check your fees, as meeting this cap and having unexplained absences over 42 days may change your weekly fees. Fee notices are provided for all families on a monthly basis and are located in the front foyer. Families are welcome to ask for a fee statement at any time.

FEE INCREASES 1st JULY 2013

Fees at the centre will increase by \$3.00 from 1st July in line with the CCB increase of 4.5%. This increase in fees represents an increase of approximately 3.4%. This increase is due to the increase in wages, superannuation for workers and the rate change in CCB. We have not had a fee increase at the centre for over 12 months and have minimised this increase to support all families. (NQA 6&7)

Room Rates from 1st July

Fees Bunyips room	\$82.00 per day
Playful Possums room	\$77.00 per day
Busy Bees room	\$72.00 per day

PARENT FORUM 12th JUNE

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.

Wednesday 12th June Session 1 4:15- 4:45
Session 2 5:00 -5:30

(NQA ,6&7)

JUNE LONG WEEKEND 10th JUNE

A reminder to families that the centre will be closed on Monday 10th June.

CARING FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT SUSTAINABILITY

We remind families to donate yoghurts tubs, icecream containers and cardboard rolls for our craft activities as we use recyclable material for a variety of different learning activities.

DONATIONS

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

FINAL THOUGHT

School readiness is about building success for each child. Take time to speak with staff to ensure your child begins school in a positive and supportive environment.

JUMPSTART 4 KIDS STAFF