

PARENT FORUM

WEDNESDAY 11th April 2018

We thank all our families who supported us for our first Parent Forum. WE had over 22 families represented.

Please take a copy of the minutes from this meeting. Parents are free to discuss any additional areas that they would like at any time

AGENDA:

1. Rooms Goals
2. Parents connection to Programs - Clouds - heart rainbow
3. Healthy Eating - Healthy eating Champions
4. Sun hats for children - Purchase
5. Community support \$2.00 events cross the centre donations to support charities - extended community.
6. Staffing - Educators for 2018
7. Changes - Child Care Subsidy - Fees July 2018
8. Electronic Sign in
9. Assessment and Rating - What this means
10. Quality Improvement Plan 2018 focus wall Display
11. Speech and language assessments -Feedback - follow ups for families - consent.
12. Outdoor restructured - Feedback suggestions family - Support.
13. Pose questions feedback fortnightly process ongoing

Rooms Goals - Directors expressed that collectively staff complied a few reminders for families and invite families to speak with educators daily to ensure that all children needs are meet. A major element for rooms was speaking with children; families reading to their children at home and encouraging repetition of the skills and concepts that are presented in our monthly newsletter. The capacity to work together and speak with children and repeat learning experiences in the home and care environment mean that children can have opportunity to remember skills nade learn more accurately form a number of support networks.

Busy Bees Parent Forum

The Busy Bees are focusing on their self-help skills. The children are asked and encouraged to place their own belongings in their bags. We ask you to help your child at home by having them take part in simple activities such as get dressed on their own, place their own shoes on and off as well as packing up after themselves.

Each week the children will focus on a letter/sound, sight words, number, colour and shape. These can be found outside of the Busy Bee room on display for you to see. You will also find some questions you might want to ask at home. In addition to this, there are some helpful handouts that you can take home, should you choose to, to develop your child's learning outside of the setting.

Over the course of the year, the school readiness program will focus on the following aspects:

- Accurate counting of objects
- Number recognition and formation
- Recognising shapes
- Problem solving skills
- Identifying various features of a book, such as author, illustrator and blurb
- Recalling stories, talking about what happened in the beginning/middle/end
- Identifying the sounds in words, particularly the first and last sounds
- Letter recognition and formation

We please ask that you help your child in recognising and writing their name independently. We would also encourage you to read a story at home with your child every night to promote a love of reading.

Please view the wall Display

Playful Possums Parent Forum

The Playful Possums will be focusing on their self- help skills.

The children are encouraged throughout the day to take part in a variety of different self-help skills such as:

- Taking their own shoes off placing them on the shoe rack.
- Feeding themselves
- Placing their food scraps in the worm bin and normal bins
- Placing their dirty dishes in the dirty dish bucket
- Placing their drink bottles in the drink bottle carrier
- Placing sheets back in bag after rest time
- Putting hats back in bag after being outdoors

It would be a great help if families could assist us in encouraging their child to do more things for themselves at home. We have also been placing children on the toilet during nappy change time to help them to be comfortable on the toilet, getting them ready for the toilet training process. If you are ready to begin toilet training your child, please let their teachers know and we can help with this process.

Each fortnight the children focus on a different numeracy, literacy and concept skills these are located on the program window and are embedded in the weekly programs. Our programs are very important to each child's learning and development. If you could please assist us in adding to our programs on the section provided or approach an educator talking about the program and any ideas or suggestions you may have this will be greatly appreciated.

Baby Bunyips:

We are focusing strongly on social skills in the Baby Bunyips room, this includes:

- Sharing and turn taking
- Interacting with other children in a nurturing way
- Language development
- Reinforcement of positive behaviours toward other children

Please bring sheets if your child is over 1 and a half years old as they are getting ready to transition to the Playful Possums room. They are currently sleeping on pull out beds to get ready for this.

Please make sure you bring a water bottle for your child each day and this is filled and placed on the water bottle shelf. This should be taken home daily, cleaned and filled with fresh water.

Please make sure to bring age appropriate food and there is enough for the entire day including a meal/sandwich for lunch, remember if they do not eat it the food will be placed back in their lunchbox and returned home unless it has been heated. It will not be wasted.

Each fortnight the children focus on different numeracy, literacy and concept areas. These are written into the program and displayed on the program window. It would be great if you could have a look at these each week and focus on these with your children at home too.

We have our parent input clouds on the wall. It would be great if you could write something on your child's cloud each week. By doing so, it gives the educators an indication of the strengths, needs and interest of your child and we can program accordingly.

Please check your child's nappy/wipes supply each week to ensure they have a sufficient amount. Educators will write on their lunch slip in the additional comments section when their supply is low so please make sure you check this each day.

It is essential children have shoes on when playing outdoors, please ensure they have shoes every day. Educators will put them on and take them off at the appropriate times.

2. Parents connection to Programs - Clouds - heart rainbow

Maree explained that each room has a display to promote families to share experiences that you may have had with your child on the weekend or during the week. We would encourage families to place their thoughts / insights on these displays in all rooms so that your child interest can form part of the spontaneous and planned activities for each room. Just take a white board marker and tell us about your family and your your child enjoys. SIMPLE.

Families responded well to this with many suggesting that they had written on these displays.

3. Healthy Eating - Healthy eating Champions

Directors explained that as a centre we are encouraging healthy eating. We would like to reverse this with families and acknowledge the families that are supportive in providing children with healthy options that include fruits and vegetables. Displays are up all rooms and these have been in the monthly newsletter. We will be making a display for all families in the foyer so that parents may pick ideas from others families. Maree reminded families that there are a number of brochures in the front foyer that families can take if they are struggling with healthy food option. Maree reminded families about our centre recipes book that is available for purchase for \$2.00. This was compiled as part of our country of the month when the children create and share food experiences from the cultures that are represented at our centre. This book was shown to families and they were pleased that all the cooking experiences at Jumpstart were vegetarian

4. Sun hats for children - Purchase Reminder to families that all children must have a hat .After 3 consecutive reminder. Provided hat - Charge \$15.00 to accounts.

5. Community support \$2.00 events cross the centre donations to support charities - extended community.

To ignite children and families to be supportive of charities we have introduced approx 4 events throughout the year for \$2 gold coin donations - discussion last year.

6. Staffing - Educators for 2018

John explained the staffing for 2018 and the additional staff for supporting children with additional needs. **We have kept a previous staff member to assist with this transition Miss Sophie is our Early Childhood teacher along with Miss Justine and Miss Trish.**

7 .Changes - Child Care Subsidy - Fees July 2018

These changes will take affect from 1st July 2018. Parents will receive information in respect to these changes in April. Parents ill need to make the transition sooner rather than later. John and Maree encourage families to follow the advice provided to them. As a centre we are also slowly becoming aware of these changes. The change from physical roles to electronic roles was part of this transition. We are aware that parents will need to use the my child government website to acknowledge that their child is enrolled at our centre.



8. Assessment and Rating - What this means

Our centre will be assessed by ACECQA between 7th May - 11th June. An external assessor will visit the centre and we will inform parents when we are aware of the date. The assessor may or may not speak with families, but we thank families in advance as we progress towards this assessment.



9. Quality Improvement Plan 2018 focus wall Display Foyer

Each year the centre generates a plan for continuous improvement. This plan is aligned with the 7 Quality areas for educational practice, Health and safety, Physical environment, Staffing, Relationships with children, partnerships with families, connection with the community and the management of the centre



10. Outdoor restructured - Feedback suggestions family - Support.

Chloe Rae's dad, Tim has provided contacts for the outdoors. Families expressed that they liked the outdoors, but would see a benefit in having the soft fall covering the existing concrete.

11. Pose questions feedback fortnightly process ongoing

Foyer display question to get feedback from families

Ideas suggestions. Aspects that parents may like to have raised. Parents expressed that they feel comfortable asking questions.

Mats in rooms was raised as a hazard. Maree expressed that these were being replaced on the holidays after carpets were cleaned.