

## Parent Forum Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August: 2009

**Minutes:** Present: Mrs. Sheely, Olivia, Mrs. Langau, Mrs. Checuti, Miss Kelly, Maree and John Ley.

### PHILOSOPHY.

- Changes made: To invite parents at any time to make changes and comments to the philosophy. Relate the Emergent Curriculum to our Themed / Stimulus approach.
- Highlight that the children's portfolios are for parents to view at all times and that families are welcome to comment about the centre programs and procedures at any time. Mrs. Sheely and Mrs. Checuti commented on the ability to view their child's work regularly and as a family.
- Highlight the need of social awareness skills for children. Maree
- John made amendments at the meeting. These were then relayed back to families for approval. Final copy will be framed in the foyer ASAP with amendments recorded. The policy reviewed Aug. 2010.

### HEALTH AND FITNESS

- This was an area that required attention in the accreditation process – What have we done to improve this area? : Colgate packs for each room resource attained. *Bright smiles resources*. Oral hygiene.
- Newsletter – awareness for families.
- Dental talk from 'Little Grinners' – Dentist. This will be a yearly event for children provided by the centre. This was a very good talk that related a lot of awareness for children about how to brush teeth and healthy food. These practical hands on approach really appealed to the children.
- Fitness Talk from Blacktown Fitness Centre for active bodies and Healthy eating.
- POLICIS- Updated the Dental and Healthy eating policy inline with these events as a continual part of the centres improvement for children and family awareness. Mrs. Langau expressed the need for her children to be encouraged to be healthy in their food choices. Miss Kelly explained the room routines and the food types provided at morning and afternoon tea. ( Fruit)
- Placed information in the Parents corner for families to view. Maree
- Room leaders included these areas to focus on in their programs and activities with the children on a daily basis through morning afternoon tea.

### INSERVICES:

- The last two staff in-services were conducted by Sue Hastings these focused on Programs/ Observations/ Portfolios. Miss Kelly expressed that this provided all staff with a clear direction across the whole centre and that observations could be use in a group setting and allowed a more realistic appreciation of a child's strengths. Mrs. Sheely commented on seeing this approach in her daughter's portfolio and that she liked the idea of knowing how her child was relating to other children.

### FEEDBACK TO FAMILIES:

- **Portfolios:** Maree explained that the process had changed and that the portfolios were then provided to families over a week for each room. Time was taken with each family to explain what we would like to have recorded from families in the portfolios. Families were happy with this new approach and expressed that this was a more personable approach. Each family had a photo taken with their child viewing their portfolio in the foyer.
- **SCHOOL REPOTS.** Last year we shared a template with families for reports on children progress. We have decided to go with the new format with a tick a box approach and with Room leaders making a comment under each developmental area. We will extend this approach across all rooms to reflect developmental areas and will expand on this with staff on the 15<sup>th</sup> September at our staff meeting.
- **DAY BOOKS.** Mrs. Checuti suggested that we needed more writing as some days there were only pictures. Hard to know what happened. John expressed that we would raise this at our staff meeting.

### FUNRAISING

- Ryan's Toy warehouse – a great night. Need to encourage Families
- Christmas Party booked 8<sup>th</sup> Dec. Sausage sizzle / salad / Chips
- Conclude 2009 24<sup>th</sup> Dec Early collection 3.00- 4.00pm
- Commence 2010. 11<sup>th</sup> Jan