



CATH'S CHAT (Term 2 2015)

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Hi everybody and welcome to our first official newsletter for 2015. We are now going to break our newsletters into terms to coincide with school terms. We feel that we communicate frequently through emails and Facebook and that the newsletter can be more of an overview and upcoming diary dates. Just a few housekeeping things before we get started. As the weather changes please provide a variety of clothing to suit the conditions. Ensuring enough for accidents. A small blanket for rest time now would also be desirable. Please make sure you provide at least 6 nappies per day and include a hat and drink bottle. Soft bags for the lockers are advantageous please, particularly for our younger children whom are learning how to self-help. Please see if your child's bag doesn't fit into a locker, provide a smaller bag, the handled type wheel bags are too big and cause a hazard in the room.

Illness/Infectious Disease: As some of my new families are experiencing, child care is a way of your child building immunity, as they all share various things including germs. No matter what cleaning processes we follow and let me tell you there are many, your child, as they go through the ages of 1-5 will inevitably catch something. A lot of infectious diseases are contagious before they are visible. When we have an outbreak, the first thing I do after notifying parents, is call the local Medical Centres/hospitals and see if this is isolated or community wide. The Centre has an illness policy as well as procedures to follow which is located in the foyer for you to read. In the case of any infectious disease outbreak, notification occurs via the noticeboard in the foyer. Clearances from Doctor's are requested before a child can return back to Kindy after an infectious disease. We really appreciate a phone call also to advise us what the infectious disease is. If your child has had Panadol type medication overnight, please don't dose them up and send them to Kindy, not only are they miserable when it wears off, but it also increases the risk of infection. We follow a strict policy on toy washing and hygiene and this is practiced daily For more information on the procedures we follow please visit: <http://bit.ly/1zeSfpp> Please be advised that every precaution of your child's health and wellbeing and my team is always paramount, whilst I can't guarantee that they won't get ill, I can guarantee that we follow best practice to minimise risks. Your cooperation and understanding is greatly appreciated.

Laminating Thank You! I would like to thanks Sharday and Brad's Mother Maureen for laminating all of our posters. We want to reuse them, but from an affordability point of view, laminating these very large posters was too greater cost. Thank you so much we really do appreciate you doing them for us.



Face washers: Can I ask all Snails and Caterpillars parents if they could bring in a face washer labelled with their name each day. We are finding that the wipes irritate some of the children's skin and for a sustainable and hygienic practice we feel that individual face washers that go home daily like bibs and soiled items do would be the best idea to trial. You may have already received an email about this already.



Harmony Week: I really want to thank all of you with your continued support of Harmony Week. From the quilt in the foyer which the children absolutely loved doing, big thanks to Miss Jen for her tireless work on putting that together, to having families coming in and educating the children about their different cultures. Sandra, Hamish's Mum, Elizabeth, Marco's Mum as well as Sofia's Mum bringing in books with Olivia's Mum. Shakira brought in a cultural dress to show the children. This was just to name a few, apologies if I have missed anybody; it really was a wonderful week.

Medicare Immunisation Updates: Please be reminded that the "no job no pay" Government Policy is now in place. As soon as your child gets an updated immunisation, please bring in a copy. This is then put on a database and if there are audits, your CCB or CCR won't be affected.

Kiosk/Quikkpay: The introduction of Kiosk (electronic sign in/out) and Quikkpay with Ezidebit has been implemented, and after a few teething problems seems to be smooth sailing. Thank you to all of you for your assistance and cooperation through these newly implemented systems.

Kinderloop: I hope that you are all enjoying your Kinderloop portal. The team work tirelessly each day ensuring they capture your child's special moments and send to you throughout your day so that you can feel part of our "Kindy" family during the day and also to give you an opportunity to see what your child is getting up to. We would really appreciate some more comments coming through as this forms part of us striving to achieve exceeding standards under the ACECQA rating assessment.

Re Enrolment for 2016: Given our waiting lists and future growth in Wilton, we will be commencing the re-enrolment process in June so that I can ensure all of my current families obtain their required days before we extend to waiting lists. We have waiting lists for this year and for next year now due to the growth in the area. If you are looking to acquire additional days this year, we have very limited vacancies on some days, please ask Miss Karen or email me.

Diary Dates:



Anzac Week 20-24 April 2015: We have numerous books that we have borrowed from the library to discuss Anzac Day and also we know that there are numerous children whom march with their families and their sibling's local school. If you have anything you would like to share with us about your family or how you honour Anzac Day, please either email so we can print it out or bring it in. We would really love to share in your family's history.

Mother's Day Morning Tea will be held on 7 May 2015 at 9.30am to 10.30am. A morning where you can have a cuppa, participate in craft, chat with other Mum's and enjoy time with your child.

Road Safety Week 18-22.5.15: We will be doing some further training in this area shortly. If you would like to bring in your child's bike helmet, labelled please, that would be great.

World Environment Day 5.6.15 - stay tuned for further information regarding this day.

PJ Week to coincide with Red Nose Day 22-26.6.15 Red Nose Day being 26.6.15: stay tuned for further information regarding this day. Wear red on 26.6.15 and obviously your PJ's throughout the week!!!

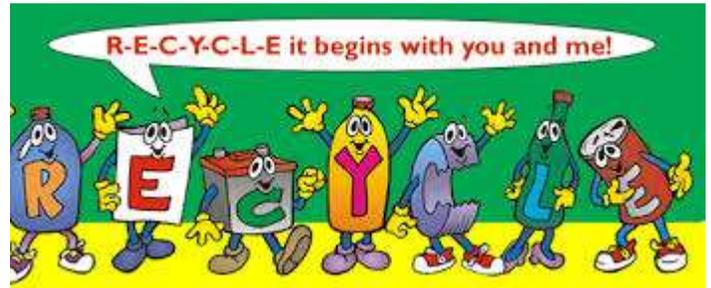
Naidoc Week 6-10.7.15 - stay tuned for further information regarding this, we have a special visitor coming to share the day with us! Dress in colours of red, yellow and black if you can.

National Tree/ Environment Week 20-24 July: stay tuned for more information regarding this week. Green and brown will be the theme.

If for any of the events above you can share something with us, whether it be a photo, book, craft items, really anything, please feel free.

Physical changes at the Centre: Over the last few months the team has been going through professional development. That has included training in environments, planning, EYLF, special needs and introduction training for our newer staff members. With that has come a greater emphasis on self-select, so you will see some changes in the rooms with shelving coming into play and more designed areas such as literacy, home corners, construction. From a maintenance point of view, we have new half doors with handles throughout the kitchen/snails area and will have a new modern front door attached shortly. Our home corner has just been given a good maintenance and tighten up with new doors and shelving, this area really does get used often! Stay tuned for some changes in our foyer with our Quality Improvement Area.

Nature/Sustainability: Under the NQS, there is a very big push for more nature and sustainable materials being introduced into early childhood settings. You may not know it but the children's scraps for mealtimes go into a bin purely for feeding the chickens that educators have at home. We recycle the water in our containers in our sink to water the garden. We have bins in the rooms with visuals as to what to put in them for the children to learn how to sort. We look at environment days such as National Tree Planting and World Environment Day. We teach the children small flush and large flush as well as one pump of soap and one paper towel. If you have any nature type things you may wish to bring in for the children to explore, do craft with or just for interests, please bring it in. Miss Karen is taking on a project to build a "rickety bridge" over the garden from start to finish with the help from Miss Kellie with her wood supplies. We will also be incorporating more of our outdoor environment indoors, stay tuned for that.



QIP (Quality Improvement Plan): The QIP is a tool from which we can identify our strengths and outlines areas that we would like to improve on. It's an essential tool that forms part of the assessment process and also outlines our annual changes to our Centre Philosophy which is now located in the foyer for comment (thanks to those who have taken the time to read and comment already). To get a further understanding of what the QIP is please visit <http://bit.ly/1E0H1fm> The QIP is updated regularly and will be in the foyer shortly for your perusal and comment.

STAFF: You hopefully have all met Miss Nat. Some of you know her from being with us previously. We welcome Miss Nat back into the Caterpillars Room. Nat as is Kaitlyn are our two ECT's in training both study degrees via distance education. These qualifications form part of the staffing arrangements under the National Quality Standards and we are grateful to have them both on board.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank my team, in particular Miss Karen whom has done a remarkable job in designing and guiding the educational program and practice at the Centre. Karen has been identifying training and assisting staff implement new practice into the service as well as guide learning stories. Thanks Karen, I can see from what the team are doing that you're valuable guidance is really paying off. To Kaitlyn, wow, all I can say is how lucky we are to have met you. You are not only a bundle of energy but also very conversant with EYLF and the NQS which is shown throughout your room. My team work tirelessly each and every day, documenting learning, writing learning stories, family input, art and craft blurps, kinderloop, all whilst looking after, building relationships and caring for each and every individual child. I am very grateful with the team of professionals that I have.

I hope you enjoyed this Term's newsletter, keep looking on Facebook and emails for updates of interest and future events. Please see below from each of the rooms and what they have been doing and what they are doing for Term 2. Kind regards, Cath

SNAILS SPOT:

Welcome back to the Snails room for a busy Term Two, and a big welcome to our new Snail friends that are starting with us this term. During term 2 we will be focusing on a variety of experiences for the children including sensory experiences which include goop, water and sand play, cloud and play dough along with many other

fun and messy activities. By offering sensory experiences, allows for free exploration and assists with motor skills. We will also be developing their self-help skills through self-feeding, understanding more about helping to pack away and being an interactive part of the room. Focus on literature and language to encourage speech development and their love of books. We have also introduced a small gross motor activity area to provide opportunity further motor stimulation, strengthening core muscles. We will be providing an opportunity for the Snails to begin to initiate role play through home corner and dolls areas. We have numerous cognitive activities for the children to introduce problem solving and engage and extend on this development.

Just a friendly reminder to bring in a family photo for our belonging tree. We love it when you share something special we us to go towards our family input. As the weather starts to cool down could you please send appropriate clothing and a blanket for rest time. Looking forward to a fun filled messy term 2. Love Miss Shazzy, Miss Jen and Miss Kellie x



CATERPILLARS CORNER:

Welcome to the Caterpillars room! What a busy start of the year we have had and I would like to welcome our new families that have joined us at Cath's Kindy. As you know Term 2 is around the corner, you will be noticing lots of different changes around the room to incorporate more EYLF into your child's free play this will include more self-selected shelving for the children to engage and explore with fun natural sensory experiences such as bark, dirt, water, sand, shaving cream and many more as we know how the Caterpillars love to get their hands dirty! We will also be providing lots of different craft experience such as chalk drawing, gluing, cutting, painting and loads more.

I would like to thank the parents for all the family input that you have been writing in our parent input book in the foyer, the children really love to bring their home life into Kindy and sharing it all their friends and educators.

As we all know Backyard Bugs are visiting us on Thursday 16/4 leading up to this week we have been focusing on bugs, insects and the garden life through activities in the garden with the magnifying glasses to see what creatures we can find. Reading stories from our library and adding bugs and insects to our free play, this has been a large focus for April

In May we would like to see all our special Mums for our Mother's Day Morning Tea this is a special event for you to bond with your child in their kindy world and to see what they get up to.

During term 2 we will be focusing on more science and cooking experiences for our intentional teaching. This will develop your child's imagination, creativity, being part of a group, turn taking and learning about math and measurements. So if you have any recipes you would like your child to share with their friends this would be really appreciated, let me know if you would like to bring in the receipt with the ingredients and we will make and eat at Kindy. This also allows us to write family input stories into your child's portfolio. (Just no nuts please). We will be also focusing on teaching and playing more group games as this develops the children's social and emotional awareness and encourages them to be a part of a group, turn taking, sharing and building their confidence.

Throughout our daily program and play the Caterpillars are always learning about their basic shapes, colors and counting and at times you will notice our child's shape drawing on the white board, all the children love to get involve with this activity. This is also incorporated into their inside programmed activities such as shape sorters, counting, colored bears, and much more. We are also extending on our upcoming themed weeks through many craft actives and group times/games.

Please feel free to ask any questions about all the fun and exciting experience we will be doing in our Term 2.

Thank-you from the all Caterpillars educators

Miss Jess, Miss Nat and Miss Emma.



BUTTERFLIES BUZZ

Butterflies Newsletter

Hello to all!



Welcome to Term 2. As you have seen Term 1 was full of lots of fun and exciting moments in the Butterfly room and it does indeed continue, so let's see what's in store!

Firstly as Term 2 commences as does the implementation of the school readiness program. This is a crucial component for the Butterflies who will be attending school in 2016. Our program will comprise of essential knowledge and skills that are desirable before the start of the school year. Some of these include

- Correct pencil grip
- Name recognition
- Writing our name
- Letter and number identification
- Social skills
- Verbal capabilities
- Scissor use
- Basic math
- And lots more

The program will run daily usually around 9:30am, it will incorporate learning and the children's interests to ensure they are engaged and attentive. If you have any questions regarding the program or your children readiness for school next year please speak to Miss Kaitlyn.

For those of you who did not already know, we have commenced a Letter of the Week theme in the Butterflies room. It forms a small part of the daily curriculum and allows the children to participate in alphabet games, craft and experiences to refine their learning and understanding of letters and their sounds. This is furthered by Ants in the Apple song and book which we perform daily.

The arrival of Term 2 also brings a more in depth approach to literature. In the Butterfly room we teach respect of books and realise the impact they can have in a child's development. A child's language and literacy skills are necessary and forms part of their overall development. Each week we will introduce a new book and explore this book in new ways to review comprehension and discover our own creativity.

Of course we will continue to learn through play in the Butterflies' room while taking time to implement intentional teaching practices to foster a holistic child. So stay tuned and keep an eye out for all upcoming themes and events both planned and spontaneous that aid in fostering each child's learning. Thank You Miss Kaitlyn, Miss Rebecca, Miss Pauline, Miss Karen & Miss Jen