



Preschool News!

Term 2 2024

PRESCHOOL CHATTER

At this point of the term we have experienced what appears to be our opening rain for the growing season and the hope is that, for our farming families, your seeding programs are by now well underway, or just about wrapped up.

Over the last week we have obviously entered the Winter season which means that we become more prone to health issues associated with the cold weather. If your child is experiencing any symptoms (runny nose, etc), please refrain from sending them to preschool to stop the spread. A friendly reminder, that if your child is absent due to illness or any other reason, please make contact via the school mobile – 0409 684 164 or via email-

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At preschool this week, we have discussed the importance of using our nose blowing station, staying warm, staying hydrated, washing hands and visiting the doctor if you are unwell. We also brainstormed the things we can use to keep warm and dry during Winter. Our list included beanies, jackets, jumpers, scarves, gumboots, gloves, mittens and umbrellas. The children then enjoyed watching and joining in with the Three Little Kittens rhyme. If you can provide any of the items on our list, for your child, please don't hesitate to send them along, as we will be spending time outdoors as much as we can, based on what we know about outdoor play in Winter. As Alfred Wainwright says in his book A Coast-to-Coast walk, "There's no such thing as bad weather, only unsuitable clothing."

Finally, we have had some wonderful learning opportunities evolve this term and we are excited to investigate some of our child led wonderings and inquiries that appear on our Wonder Wall. Thank you to families who have been involved in developing these with the children. Looking forward to exploring these ideas and receiving other child wonderings that come up at home. Jane Forrest

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IMPORTANT NEWS

We are getting excited about our excursion with the R/1s to Port Lincoln to see the Windmill Theatre production of Grug. PRESCHOOL DAY SWAP APPLIES.

On Wednesday 12th June we will be holding our first Early Years Learning Committee meeting for the year at 3.45pm. Stacey Brace will supervise children. Families who have a child commencing preschool in Term 3 have also been invited as we will be discussing the updated Preschool Philosophy statement. Other agenda items to Jane Forrest or Stacey Brace please.

PRESCHOOL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN & NQS & COMPLIANCE UPDATE

In 2024 our Preschool Quality Improvement Plan goal is for children to show curiosity, share their thinking and ask questions in play. This is in line with our whole site purpose and vision as well as the Department for Education Early Years Strategy. This term, will involve a focus on design of purposeful play experiences through intentional planning of the environment and using open ended resources.

Much of the current work we have been undertaking around the National Quality Standards Framework involves working with consultant Jane Lemon, to develop our updated philosophy. We have developed policies, procedures and risk assessments for various aspects of preschool management, including excursion requirements, bush kindy, medication requirements, transportation of children, sleep and rest and preparations for transition to Preschool and Reception. A big thank you to Stacey Brace who with Emily Seaman's support has been responsible for the preparation of these documents.

PRESCHOOL DATES

WEEK 7: Monday 10th June- King's Birthday

Tuesday 11th June- Preschool

Wednesday 12th June- Preschool & after school EYLC meeting at 3.15pm

Thursday 13th June- Day swap- NO PRESCHOOL

Friday 14th June- K-1 excursion to Port Lincoln – Grug performance

WEEK 8: Tuesday 18th June- Mid year intake transition visit (morning)

Thursday 20th June -Preschool

WEEK 9: Tuesday 25th June- Mid year intake transition visit (until lunch)/whole school assembly- 9.05am

Wednesday 26th June

Thursday 27th June- Bush Kindy morning

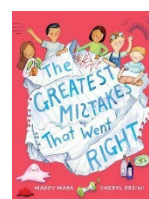
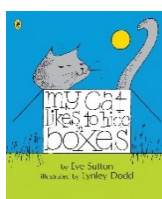
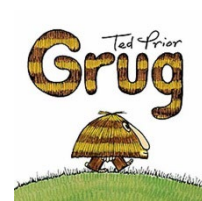
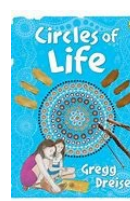
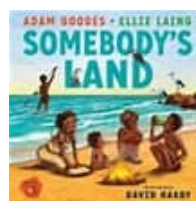
WEEK 10: NAIDOC WEEK

Tuesday 2nd July- Mid year intake transition visit (all day)

Thursday 3rd July- NAIDOC excursion to Streaky Bay- details to follow.

Some books we have read so far

Books we have read so far this term have been based on children's interests, confidence, growth mindset, friendship, rhyme and calming our bodies as well as many for enjoyment.



Positive Living Skills – Information for families

Has your child arrived home from preschool and mentioned anything of their 'happy highlight' of the day? At preschool we use a Highlight Clicker as part of the Positive Living Skills Program which is a great way to learn how to click on a happy channel and click off an unhelpful or stressed channel. If you would like to learn more about the happy Highlight Clicker or some 'highlight' ideas that can be applied at home, follow the link: <https://www.early-childhood.positivelivingskills.com.au/family-resources/highlights> The children have also been introduced to the Possa Bill character puppet who is used to support children and educators to navigate through the modules of highlights, feelings, focus, relaxation, co-operation and self-esteem.

If you are still to join the family link sign up, you can do so by visiting the Positive Living Skills website and click on the family link sign up tab. Here, you can access the family newsletters. If you have any difficulties doing so, please reach out.

To connect with our PQIP goal and children's individual learning goals this term, we are learning about elements of the program which connect with building children's sense of agency and confidence, encourage positive energy, and build positive focus and supporting children to change their focus.



CURRENT LEARNING



Reconciliation Week at Preschool

During Reconciliation Week, we held yarning circle group times to connect with country, talking about the features of the First Nations flags and reading Somebody's Land and Circles of Life. Reading the books led to us painting handprints and making our own thank you circles using paints made from crushed rocks.

Each morning as part of our routine, we say our version of the Acknowledgement to Country. Last week we participated in this ritual, sitting around the edge of the sand pit.

**Here is the land. Here is the sky.
Here are my friends, and here am I. We thank the
Nawu and Bangarla people for the land
on which we learn and play.
Hands up, hands down.
We're on Nawu and Bangarla ground.**



We have recently been practising our fine motor skills through painting, drawing and gluing. The children are becoming familiar with writing their own name as well as the names of other preschool children, using a variety of writing media. We have also been enjoying the rhyme Bippity Boppity Brew Let's Make Alphabet Stew at group times, practising our initial sounds.

SNAPSHOT ON CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR CHILD

Have you ever wondered about how to approach a conversation with your child about their day at preschool, so that you get more than a one-word answer?

The infographic includes some tips and questions to ask to promote conversation and help to develop children's conversation skills. This is an important stage in a preschool child's oral language development and will strengthen our work around our PQIP goal of children showing curiosity, sharing their thinking and asking questions in play.

The links to the communication resources for preschoolers and families provide further reading and the link to the flyer sent home this week can be found by clicking on or entering the URL in your browser.

ACT

PRESCHOOL PATHWAYS

Tips for talking to your child about their day

Your child might not feel like sharing their experiences, thoughts and feelings at the end of a long day at Preschool. Try not to ask them too many questions the minute you pick them up if they don't feel like talking. Bed time is a great opportunity to share a conversation with your child about their day. Try to avoid asking "yes" or "no" questions to help develop their conversation skills. Here are some conversation starters you can try. Don't forget to share about your day too!

Did you help anyone today? How did you help?

Was someone kind to you today? What did they do that was kind?

What was the hardest part of your day?

What was the best part of your day?

Who did you play with today? What did you play?

What are you looking forward to doing at Preschool tomorrow?

What made you laugh today?

Communication resources for Preschoolers and families:

Preschoolers: connecting and communicating - <https://bit.ly/3vnj4g5>

Talking is teaching - <https://bit.ly/3AYNfep>

Helping you to support your child's learning - <https://bit.ly/3pfZt00>

Another useful link:

<https://sies.sa.edu.au/wpcontent/uploads/2019/04/Talking-Literacy-Conversations.pdf>