



# Newsletter Week 3 Term 1 2022

# Morning and Afternoon Routine and Being Covid safe.

It has been great to see that our families and children have been following the guidelines to be Covid safe during the morning and afternoon routine. Don't forget to use our QR code or sign in sheet and adults to sanitise your hands on arrival. Children are supported to wash their hands using the sinks inside.

Don't forget to support children to apply sunscreen, if this hasn't been done at home, prior to coming to kindy.



Children have been demonstrating their independence by placing their bottles in the trolley and then finding their name and locker to place their belongings.

Once they have finished doing this, they can then find their parent outside and engage in an experience together. Our mat times generally begin at 9am. This is when children say goodbye to their accompanying adult, put their hat away and make their way to the mat area. Educators are always on hand to support children during this transition. At the end of the day, our educators will dismiss children from the back door with their bags already packed. This is a process we do prior to our end of the day mat time.

We have seen our kindy children show great independence skills during this time. They are learning to keep their belongings to their designated locker and exploring the art of Tetris, when packing their bags.

Adults need to remember to social distance whilst waiting in our outdoor areas and always wear a mask. Thank you for your cooperation.

# Sustainability and Nude Food

We would like to take this opportunity to thank those families who are already engaged in sustainable practices and doing their best to not use soft plastics to wrap food in. We have seen a variety of washable pouches that have had sandwiches in as well as washable containers for fruit, veg and yoghurt. At Win Newby we do our best to be sustainable as we try to reduce the use of soft plastics, repurpose equipment where possible—especially our loose parts area and reuse items such as yoghurt containers for collage and creative experiences and recycle where possible. We have also noticed that some children are running out of food and are quite hungry. Feel free to pack more food. Some children have a piece of fruit or vegetable for both morning and afternoon snack and once they have finished this, they then go on to have a yoghurt, crackers/ biscuits or other snack that is substantial for their growing, busy bodies. Children are also able to have extra at lunch time. Please remember that we are a nut free centre and we encourage families to use other alternatives other than Nutella or Peanut Butter. We thank you for your cooperation.

## Getting to know you survey

Thank you to those families who have returned these to our educators. We have really enjoyed reading about your hopes and dreams for your child and we will continue to support you to guide them on their path to do so. We also appreciate those families who have included cultural considerations and how they would like to share these with us to celebrate. If you have not returned these, could you please do so by the end of week 5 (4th March) Thank you.

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Newsletter: Monday 14th February 2022

#### Diary Dates

- ◆ Group 1 Make up day—Friday 4th March from 8:30am-1:30pm
- ◆ Group 2 Make up day—Friday 11th March from 8:30am-1:30pm
- ◆ Annual General Meeting— Thursday 3rd March at 7:30pm—via Zoom

#### What is Nude Food?

Nude Food is food without excess packagina. This reduces the amount of 'stuff' that needs to go in bins to be sent to landfill. Durable, reusable containers are a great way to bring food, as they may last from pre-school through to high school and beyond, providing long term cost savings and environmental benefits.



Don't forget to join our Facebook page— Win Newby Kindergarten 2022

## **National Quality Standards**

2012 saw the COAG agreements introduction of the framework, as a part of Early Childhood Care and Education reform. This is a document that outlines 7 quality areas for services to follow. Each year the centre reviews a Quality Improvement Plan, which reflects these 7 areas and where as a site we strive to continuously improve. The areas are:

- 1. Educational Program and Practise
- 2. Children's Health and Safety
- 3. Physical Environment
- 4. Staffing Arrangements
- 5. Relationships with Children
- 6. Collaborative Partnerships with Families and Communities
- 7. Leadership and Service Management

The Kindy went through the assessment and rating process with the Registrations and Standards board of South Australia in 2017 and from this received a rating of Meeting National Quality Standards. A great way to understand this more is by joining the Governing Council. The Governing Council are very much a part of this process to help implement change in our site.

# **Curriculum Information**



Our learners are doing a wonderful job of settling into kindy and learning and following our routine of the day. Our goal for children is to become more independent for themselves and we have been encouraging them to look after their own belongings, including ensuring they are putting these away in their locker and not left lying around as well as being responsible for themselves and their own bodies in space. E.g. being safe for themselves and others by walking while inside, keeping hands safe and using them in an appropriate way while playing, being safe on equipment and using it safely. We have seen children make connections with educators as well as each other and this has enabled them to make friends, feel safe

and secure and help each other around the kindy. We have been discussing how to be caring and considerate friends and what we need to do in order to all play nicely together, e.g. sharing, cooperating, waiting etc. as we are a kindy family and we take care of each other. Our educators have really enjoyed watching our learners be confident and explore the environment. They are being self-motivated, being curious and being resilient—especially when it's time to say goodbye. What amazing learners we have!

# Every face has a place at Win Newby

Every face has a place at Win Newby and each one of us makes the Win Newby family complete. Our leaners have been busy making their own faces to add to our display on the wall inside (when Covid restrictions ease, we will invite you to have a look). It's a way that children are valued for who they are and see that they belong with us at Win Newby.

# **Scholastic Bookclub**

1-2 times per term, you will recieve a catalogue that has a range of early childhood books available for purchase. We encourage you to look through this brochure as some books are reasonably priced and it encourages some wonderful one on one time with your child through the joy of reading. You can either order these online or use the back of the catalogue and return this to kindy, along with the cash, and we can order it for you. Please speak to an educator if you require further information.

#### **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

For those families who are interested in joining our Governing Council this year, we will be holding our AGM on Thursday 3rd March at 7:30pm. Due to Covid, we will have to do this via Zoom. Please let Candice know if you would like to attend and please provide your email address. We would usually provide a light supper when in person, so we will have to do this another time when it is safer. Thank you to those parents who have already expressed their interest in being a part of our committee and have returned their nomination forms to our educators. We look forward to having you on board to help support our future directions for 2022.

# <u>Department for Education (DfE) Literacy and</u> <u>Numeracy Indicators of Learning for Preschool</u> Children

Literacy and Numeracy development is important for all children. What it means to be literate today has dramatically changed from the past. Computers, mobile phones, tablets and other digital technologies including the internet and social media networks, means children need higher-level skills.



- Children today need to be:
- Critical thinkers who can analyse and solve problems
- Capable of understanding the many sources of information available and using them wisely
- Creative and able to imagine and be innovative
- Able to work together to achieve shared goals
- ◆ And understanding of other cultures, languages and experiences beyond their own immediate family and community.

This results in a need to have effective numeracy and literacy skills that enable each child to play, learn and participate in community life and work. The Literacy and Numeracy indicators help support and extend these skills and are also used to report on children's learning and progress through our play based learning environment. You may see in children's Portfolios over this year learning stories which will reflect the 4 areas of literacy and numeracy development, and they are as follows:

#### Numeracy

- 1. Explore and understand my place and space in the world
- 2. Measure and compare my world
- 3. Analyse and read my world mathematically
- 4. Quantify my world

## Literacy

- 1. Use language to connect with my world
- 2. Understand the language of my world
- 3. Engage with texts and make meaning
- 4. Represent my world symbolically.



# Introducing Kimochi's. (Key-mo-chee's)

This week we will begin our journey into the social and emotional learning program called Kimochi's. Kimochi means 'feeling' in Japanese. Sometimes kids (and adults) have strong feelings that can fuel challenging behaviours.

Sometimes it's hard to know how to communicate when you are in an emotional moment. Kimochi's® are a playful way to help children (and adults!) learn how to identify and express feelings. When kids can communicate their feelings effectively, they develop positive social skills that lead to long lasting friendships and success in all aspects of life. Relationships are the 4th R (Reading, wRiting, aRithmetic) this R is the foundation of success in all areas of life.

This week we will be introducing the character Cloud. Now Cloud is a bit moody and unpredictable, just like the weather. When cloud is happy, he spreads sunshine, but when you

turn his head, his sad face signals that he might rain on your parade! Cloud's favourite number is 9. His favourite colour is grey because there are so many shades of it—just like his personality. These are feelings that our kindy children (and adults) experience daily and we look forward to providing children with strategies of how they can deal with these emotions in a positive way. We have the plush toy of Cloud on hand for the children to see, as well as the 3 emotions that come with it including happy, sad and angry. Children will be immersed in stories, songs and pretend situations that will help provide them with strategies of how Cloud can help them in situations where they will have these feelings. It's ok to be angry, but it's not ok to be mean.

