



Lake  
Windemere B-7 School  
**Children's Centre**  
for Early Childhood  
Development and Parenting

# NEWSLETTER

13<sup>th</sup> March, 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Children are now demonstrating their growing understanding of the preschool routines. Over the first 6 weeks of term educators have continued to build learning opportunities around key routines with children supporting their self-help skills and independence. We are already noticing some children exhibiting leadership skills as they request to do jobs such as put out the mat for snack or lunch, placing the bins for rubbish, recycling and organic waste and vacuuming the floor after eating.



**Self-care** is a very important part of a child's development, as it is the 'stepping-stone' towards their independence and autonomy. (Parents, carers and educators) have an important role to supporting and encouraging the **child's** ability to learn and develop their **self-care** tasks such as feeding and dressing themselves, they practice their large and small motor **skills**, gain confidence in their ability to try new things and build their **self-esteem** and pride in their independence.

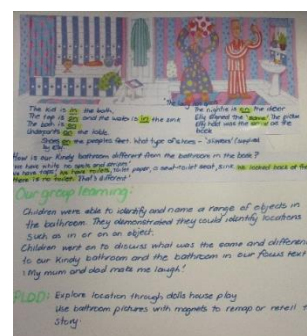
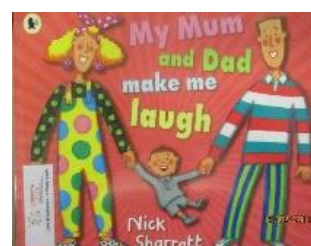
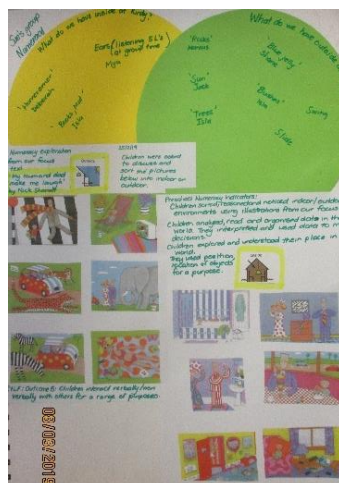
[www.supportingcarers.snaicc.org.au/caring-for-kids/self-care-for-the-child/](http://www.supportingcarers.snaicc.org.au/caring-for-kids/self-care-for-the-child/)

<https://articles.extension.org/pages/26436/ways-to-encourage-self-help-skills-in-children>

## Quality Area 1 Educational Program and Practice

### Focus text for term 1

Our focus text is providing literacy and numeracy opportunities to build vocabulary about inside and outside environments featured in the book and concept words such as in, on, same and different. Educators are linking visuals and key word signing into learning experiences.



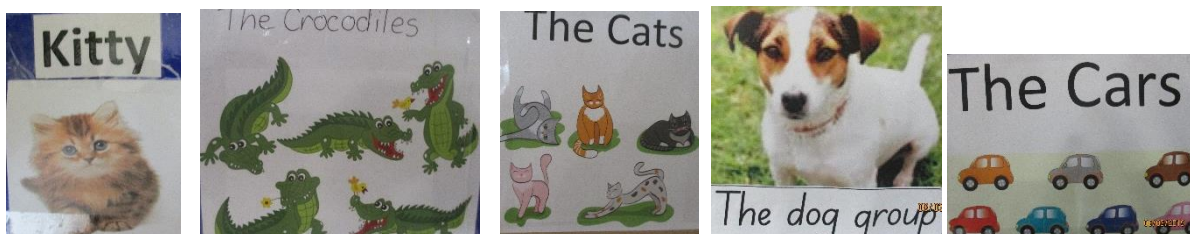
# Voting for a group name in Preschool

Children have used a democratic process to determine the name of their small groups

Children undertook a brainstorming activity to list the names they liked then using numeracy skills voted and counted each item to determine which item had the most votes.



The winners of the voting processes are:



## Reading tips

We can tell stories in lots of ways



Talking

Sharing books is beginning reading



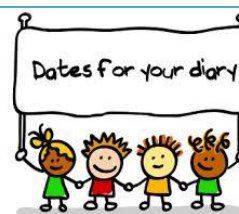
## Closing the Gap project

Early childhood educators in Preschool and Reception have been involved in the Closing the Gap project for 1 year. In our second year we aim to increase continuity of learning for children moving from Preschool into Reception at school by interacting with students and teachers in both the Acacia and Lily Reception units at school. The educators are using the PLC to explore literacy. In week 6 PLC the educators reflected on the first classroom visit by group 2 and planned the first classroom visit for group 1. They also worked collaboratively to use an emergent literacy in play experiences tool to map literacy in restaurant play which links to our focus text this term.





## Diary Dates



Week	Day and Date	Event
7	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Closing the Gap play</b> Some Group 1 children will visit Acacia Reception classrooms and some Reception children will visit Preschool
7	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Closing the Gap play</b> Some Group 2 children will visit Lily Reception classrooms and some Reception children will visit Preschool
9	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Child and Youth Health services</b> 4 year old health screenings- Group 1 children. Families will be approached by staff for an appointment.
9	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Closing the Gap play</b> Some Group 1 children will visit Acacia Reception classrooms and some Reception children will visit Preschool
9	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Closing the Gap play</b> Some Group 2 children will visit Lily Reception classrooms and some Reception children will visit Preschool
11	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Last day of term. Early dismissal 1:45pm</b>

## Quality Area 7 Leadership & Service Management

### Preschool banking

Our banking day is Thursday. For further information, please see Kim at the Reception desk. Children will be given a gift when they open an account.

### Fees

**Preschool Fees:** of \$65 are now overdue. We would appreciate you finalising your child's preschool fees.

**Occasional Care fees:** We request that all Occasional Care families please pay their child's session fees on arrival at the centre prior to moving into the learning space. All fees can be paid to Kim at the Reception desk.



## Illness and absences

If your child is going to be away or has been away from Preschool can you please notify Kim our Receptionist or your child's focus teacher. We are required to provide a reason for your child's non-attendance at Preschool. If you do not provide a reason for your child's absence your child's focus teacher will contact you.

## Carpark



**Parking for  
staff only**

**We wish to remind you that the Children's Centre car park is for staff and visitors.**

We ask families to please use roadside parking to access the Centre. Thank you in anticipation.

## Literacy Packs

Our Literacy packs have been very popular this year. We ask that you take care with our packs. A few packs have been returned with rips or missing pages from books. We understand that sometimes accidents happen, but please notify staff when returning it if you notice that a book is ripped or damaged. We want to ensure that all families have a chance to enjoy the packs, so we appreciate your care and assistance.

With the weather cooling down it is a good time to try one of our 'Nature Activity Packs'. These packs are located on the top rack of the Literacy packs rack. Each Nature Activity pack has different outdoor activities, information on local parks and fun facts about different aspects of nature. We also have a selection of parent Books / Audio packs for parents to borrow (also found on the top shelf).

We'd love your feedback on the book packs, so have a chat to Kim, Sue, Eliza or Caroline with ideas, feedback and information.

## *Community Corner*

### *Parent Pamper Night*

Parent Pamper Night was held on Monday, March 4. Attendees enjoyed a free dinner, massage, footbath and information session about 'Mindfulness and self-care'. Feedback received was very positive – who wouldn't want a night off with a free feed, kids taken care of, and a chance to relax, wind-down, and focus on yourself? Look out for the next one, in Term 3.

**Thank you!** to our presenter, Niki Koutroulis, and amazing massage therapist, Cindy Enthoven for your ongoing support!

