

MADISON PARK KINDERGARTEN NEWSLETTER

February 2019

A warm welcome to all our new children and families- we look forward to getting to know you and your child this year!

ROUTINES

In the first few weeks of kindergarten children learn many routines.

Everyday routines and rituals are important in supporting children to manage transitions, to develop control and social skills. They guide positive behaviours and may support the development of health and safety skills. For example, children must wash their hands before food or know to hold their parent's hands when they cross the road.

Routines offer the chance to build self-confidence, curiosity, social skills, self-control, communication skills, and more.

A typical day at Kindy involves the following routines:

Morning routines:

- Being responsible to hang their bag up
- Putting lunch away in lunch crate
- Putting their photo pop stick in the sandbox or finding their name cards.
- Choosing activities that interests them
- Small group work occurs in the morning with support workers or a teacher.

After small group work children wash hands ready for snack followed by outside play. Children have a choice of outside /inside play. However if children are seeking something to eat earlier they are permitted to do so as this encourages self- regulation and awareness of their bodily needs.

At about 12:30 children come indoors for large group where we sing songs, read a factual book or a story.

Between September and April children with adult supervision are given sunblock followed by hand washing.

All children are seated and **'Buon appetito'** signals the start of lunch which means ***enjoy your meal*** and as the year progresses we introduce this saying in other languages.

Once children finish their lunch they have several options available to them to promote rest and relaxation. They may select books to read, play quietly with construction sets or even watch a short educational DVD of interest.

With the hot weather policy in place in first and fourth terms children are able to access the outdoor area early and have no outside play after lunch unless it is under the Verandahs.

It's always helpful to ask children specific questions about their day such as what book did you read? , did you help make the play dough, what song did you sing?

How can parents help?

- **Ensure snacks and lunches are in separate containers and labelled**
- **Encourage your child to put their lunches **ONLY** in the lunch crates **SNACKS STAY IN BAGS.****
- **Drink bottles GO in the drink crates.**
- **Ask children to hang up their own bags**
- **Settle them into an activity**
- **Ensure their hats are in their bags**

WEEK 1 Highlights

The Pirate boat with the pirates looking for treasure and running from the crocodiles in the water.



Kitchen play where some children cooked and others took the orders



Loose parts play was a favourite as children learn to share equipment, space and create their own endless possibilities for experiences and learning.

When children play with loose parts, they enter a world of 'what ifs' that promote the type of thinking that leads to problem solving and theoretical reasoning. Loose parts enhance children's ability to think imaginatively and see solutions and they bring a sense of adventure and excitement to children's play (Daly Beloglovsky, 2015)



Madison Park Kindergarten Fees

Payments can be made in the following ways:

- Cash
- Eftpos
- Direct Transfer

However last year our accountant also applied for Centre Pay through Centrelink's free automated bill paying service for parents receiving Centrelink payments? This has yet to be finalised but Invoices and the Options payment will be available soon and placed in your child's communication pockets. Fees for the each term are \$95.

Email addresses: Please ensure that you have given your email address to Lucia so that we can email newsletters to families. If you would like a paper copy please inform staff.

Please collect your child by 2:45 if you need to pick your child up early.

The small room will be CLOSED UNTIL 2:55 to enable educators to run uninterrupted group time and dismiss children safely.