

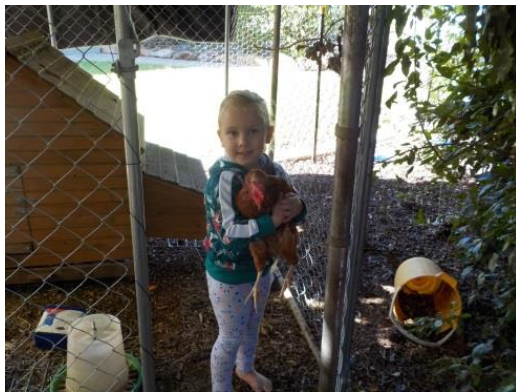
MADISON PARK KINDERGARTEN

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2019

We've had a rewarding start to the school year as children familiarise themselves with their new kindergarten environment, their peers and educators. We strive to build trusting relationships with both families and children – please feel free to come and share any new developments about your child with us as we endeavour to get to know you. Educators strive to make time in the mornings or afternoons to share something special that has caught your child's interest during the day.

The chickens have proved very popular with the children and they are involved in caring for our living creatures, by making sure they have fresh water, feeding them the food scraps and giving them lots of hugs. The chickens are very soothing to unsettled children in the morning or during the course of the day as we involve them in their care and they become distracted and empathetic to the chickens needs.



Numeracy

One of the main learning areas the year is improving numeracy outcomes for children which is also a Department for Education and Salisbury Partnership initiative.

Educators are required to implement the Preschool Indicators of Numeracy and Literacy.

The Indicators of Preschool Numeracy and Literacy describe children as they are becoming literate and numerate.

Educators use the Indicators to plan for learning and provide a focus for observations. They help educators to recognise the way children develop numeracy and literacy understandings, skills, behaviours & dispositions.

Children's dispositions play a key role for developing children's numeracy learning.

Dispositions such as being curious, showing initiative, being persistent when faced with a challenge, being flexible and resilient, feeling confident taking risks are valuable lifelong skills that will assist children but are important for everyone -adults as well.

I can think back to the past week and know that if I had used 1 or 2 of these dispositions it would have made a difference when faced with challenging/ troublesome situations.

As a staff team we will be working on the Numeracy Indicators- developing an understanding for the language and principles of the Indicators as it describes children's numeracy learning.



The Indicators will be the basis for our planning, assessment and reporting processes and we are observing the numeracy that children naturally use in their play and the language they use to describe their thinking.



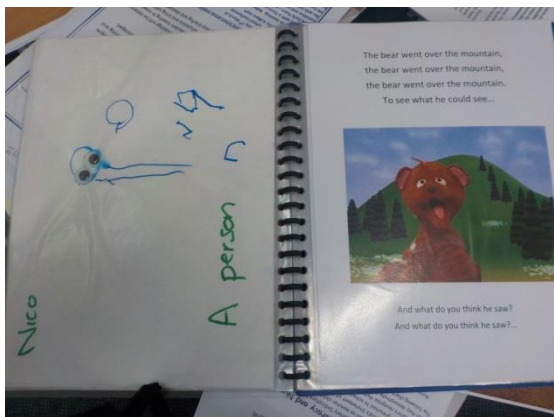
Children are sorting, matching, comparing, noticing and communicating.

What is Numeracy?

Numeracy is the capacity, confidence and dispositions to use mathematics in daily life.

Educators are:

- Noticing the mathematical language in play
- Educators modelling mathematical language
- Reading books with a numeracy component
- Setting up cooking experiences
- Playing numeracy games in our small groups
- Singing and acting out songs with a numeracy component
- Asking open ended questions



Jo sang the song ***The Bear went over the Mountain*** and from this we made a book with the children asking them to say and then draw what they could see. We plan to use this format to build on children's vocabulary over the course of the year. Children will be drawing pictures and building vocab to describe what they see in their own book!

Up Coming Events

PUPIL FREE DAY: Thursday March 28th.

Fire Fighter visits: Tuesday. April 2nd. and Wednesday 20th. March to support Keeping Children Safe: Child Protection Curriculum

Police Visits: TBA

Governing Council Meeting: all welcome on Thursday 21st. March @ 12 noon

Thursday 14^h. March: **Reporting Abuse and Neglect Training** for Governing Council members **and volunteers**

Child and Youth Health checks on Monday April 8th. Catherine will be organizing the visits according to children's chronological age.

End of term: Thursday 11th. April as Thursday

We have a Facebook account! *Madison Park Kindergarten* is our Facebook name- if you would like to join our friends group please do so.

Please remember to pay TERM 1 FEES