



Minlaton District Early Learning Centre Newsletter

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Week 5 Term 1 2020



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

What's been happening

We have been very busy learning the routines and expectations of being at Kindy. We have been unpacking our bags and following the morning routine, packing bags after lunch, and remembering to keep our shoes on our feet or in our lockers. Signing into Kindy with our faces near our hat hooks has been good and assisted children in learning where their hat belongs when inside. Gabby Get Along has been teaching about how to get along with other people. We have learnt to say "Stop I don't like it when ..." when someone does something we don't like. Gabby has also taught us about sharing the equipment, areas and taking turns. The inside area has been popular with the 'chill zone' where only 1 person can be relaxing; looking at books on the couch; drawing pictures in the literacy area; using the horses and fairies; building with the mobile and blocks; manipulating the playdough; exploring the clocks and timers; and using props with a story. Outside we have been using the puzzles; design area for construction and painting; trains in the gazebo; police in the cubby; cooking in the mud kitchen; riding bikes; trucks and water in the sandpit; using the loose parts for building; jumping on the trampoline; and playing 'What's the Time Mr Wolf'. Wondering group times have started with stories, so children can choose which group they would like to participate in. Now the children are confident to choose a group, this week we are starting our inquiry questions and look forward to the learning and conversations with the children.

Thank you to all the families who have participated in the family conversations last week, it was great to be able to talk to families and the information shared was amazing. As educators we have looked at the information and have started to include it into our programming, especially the learning goals.

Mobile Junk & Nature Play

Tuesday 3rd March, Glenn will be bringing his loose parts and nature play equipment to our centre. He will be here from 9:30am – 12:30pm if you would like to come along and participate in the session with your child. This session allows the children to experience using the loose parts and give them ideas of things they can do with the loose parts we have already here. We are always looking for more loose parts to add to our collection.

Gum Flat Visit

On Wednesday 11th March we will be walking to Gum Flat to explore the nature area. We will be meeting the PAC boys who will join and lead our groups in the exploration of the area and then building cubbies. We will be taking our lunch with us to eat at Gum Flat, please pack lunchboxes with an ice brick in them as they will be in the trolley for the morning. After our explorations, building and lunch, the PAC buses will transport us back to Kindy.

We require adults to assist with supervision during the walk and in the small groups. As we have 30 children we would like to have 6 groups so need at least 3 parents to assist in facilitating this. We leave Kindy at 10:00am and walk to Gum Flat. Please let Louise know if you are able to assist us during this excursion.

Meet and Greet

We are inviting all families to our Meet and Greet night on Thursday 12th March, 5:30pm-7:00pm. This is an opportunity for families to meet other families and educators in a more informal gathering. We enjoy getting to know families. It is also a chance to meet the other children that your child may be talking about as someone they play with. Please RSVP using the separate note for catering. We look forward to seeing you all.

Bakery Visit

The Minlaton Bakery have kindly allowed us to visit them this year to learn about baking hot cross buns and other foods. On Tuesday 31st March, children will be walking to the bakery in 2 groups to experience the preparation and cooking. We would love to have parents join us on the walk. The first group will be leaving at 9:00am and the second group at 9:30am. Lisa also kindly brings back some hot cross buns for the children to eat during the afternoon.

Southpark & Melaleuca Visit

Each term we visit the residents in Southpark and Melaleuca to talk to them, sing some songs and read a book. The residents really enjoy the visit from the children. Families are welcome to come along on the

walk and join us. Please also let us know if there are residents that your children know so we can assist them to meet and chat with them. We will be walking to Southpark at 10:10am and Melaleuca at 1:10pm.

Fundraising

Throughout the year we hold fundraisers to be able to purchase resources for the centre. Please be supportive of these and ask friends and community members to participate too. Our first fundraisers are **Hot Cross Buns and Easter Raffle** these are attached with the newsletter. We are wanting to purchase a new set of musical instruments (approx. \$600) to be able to use with children during group times and also a set of bongo drums (approx. \$700) so there is enough to use during group times.

Governing Council

A huge thank you to all those who attended the meeting and became part of the committee. We welcome: Kristy May (chair), Malaina Petan (vice chair), Sarah Preedy (secretary), Kelly Gibson (treasurer), Jess Clift (occasional care rep), Kym Smith (WHS rep), Amy Honner (playgroup rep), Shae Hender (staff rep) and the general committee consisting of: Kylie Cook, Karen Spiers, Karen Shearer, Karmel Cook, Felicity Kemp, Lauren Kokar, Megan Mahar and Rebecca Thompson. We look forward to a productive year.

Early Closure

Thursday 9th April will be an early closure as the last day of term. Kindy and school will finish one hour earlier. Kindy finishes at 1:45pm, buses leave at 2:00pm. Please remember to be at your child's bus stop one hour earlier than usual time.

Facebook

The Centre Facebook page is used as a reminder of centre happenings and requests for family help. Please send a request to join the Facebook page if you are not already a member, it is a closed group. Please don't use this as a place to ask questions about Kindy or to make Occasional Care bookings. Please contact the centre and speak to an educator about these things.

Occasional Care by Tracey & Donna

Session Times: Under 2/Over 2 8:45-11:30am or Over 2s 12:15-3:00pm

Bookings: Please remember to either write your child's name on the list each week, or contact us by phone or SMS, **88532301** or **0437789348**. The centre mobile phone is checked regularly so you can use this to message us for bookings or cancellations.

Charge: \$5 per session or \$1.50 for health care card

Reminders:

- Please cancel your booking if your child will not be attending so we can use the space for another child on the waiting list
- Waiting list phone calls will be made from 3:30pm on Thursdays. If you miss the call we will go to the next on the list so please don't phone us back.
- Please label all of your child's belongings
- Pack a hat (with no cord around the neck) and apply sunscreen to your child, if you need sunscreen please use the sunscreen station.
- Pack a snack that stays in your child's bag.
- Pack a change of clothes as they may become wet from the water pumps!

Our Kindy Agreements 2020

As part of our getting along discussions with Gabby (the puppet) we have been talking about having safety rules and expectations to keep us safe as well as respecting the environment while we are at Kindy. These are the Kindy agreements we have made for this year:

- No fighting – don't hit, kick, punch or bite people
- Look after the toys / equipment and keep them inside the fence
- Bikes on the bike track not the verandah
- Running outside, Walking inside
- Use the equipment in its area, if you move it take it back when you finish
- People only on the slides
- 1 person only in the chill out zone
- Shoes and socks in your locker or on your feet
- Wear hats on head outside, hats on hook when inside
- Use sunscreen and hats if UV is 3 and above
- Eat snack at the snack table
- Wash hands before eating and after the toilet

- Use the toilet not outside
- Flush the toilet when finished
- Listen to the teachers, follow their instructions
- Group times – legs crossed, hands in laps, looking to front, listening to person talking, 1 person talking at a time
- When bells ring go inside
- When whistle blows go to the large gates at grass
- On arrival: lunchbox on bench; note pocket in basket; water bottle on trolley; sign in
- Leave the teachers things on the easel

From all the educators at MDELC, Louise, Alicia, Tracey, Meagan and Donna

TERM 1 OVERVIEW 2020

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 5	24	25	26	27 Louise at State Leaders Day	28 Louise at State Leaders Day
Week 6	2 March	3 Mobile Junk & Nature Play Session 9:30am	4	5	6
Week 7	9 ADELAIDE CUP HOLIDAY	10	11 Gum Flat Visit 10am	12 Meet & Greet 5:30pm - 7:00pm	13
Week 8	16	17	18 MDS R/1 class visiting us Governing Council 7:00pm	19	20
Week 9	23	24	25	26	27
Week 10	30	31 Bakery Visit 9:00am	1 April Southpark 10:30 Melaleuca 1:30	2	3
Week 11	6	7 Admin	8	9 Early Closure Kindy finishes 1:45pm	10 GOOD FRIDAY