



Government of South Australia
Department for Education



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Newsletter
29/1/2024

Week 1 Term 1

Welcome to Kindy for 2024, we are so excited for this year and all the experiences it will bring. Kathryn continues as our brilliant and caring teacher for this year, Bridget (me) continues as the director, Renee from our Occasional Care program will work on Mondays in the Kindy program and Bel will be here on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Di and Renee will continue their amazing work in Occ Care on Thursday mornings and Playgroup will be led by the very kind and generous Heather and Debra on Friday mornings. We are so lucky to have a team full of caring, devoted professionals.

For some children this will be their third term at Kindy and for others it will be their first term. To support the needs of every child the Kindy team is continually reviewing and reflecting on Kindy curriculum, practices, and routines. Please speak to Kindy educators at the beginning or end of the Kindy day if you have any questions or concerns. If your child is distressed when you leave them at kindy we will do our very best to send you a text message and photo as soon as they have settled into play. You are very welcome to ring the Kindy and check if you have not heard, please use the landline as the mobile can be hard to hear when we are busy at play.

Over the Christmas break we have had a sandpit up grade, the beginning of the shed mural and the removal of hazards behind the amphitheatre area. Some of these projects are still in process so please watch this space !!

Governing Council News:

Governing Council/ Annual General Meeting is planned for Monday February 12th at 3.30pm at kindy. With the Mt Pleasant show coming up quickly we need to get started with the year. Please consider joining Governing Council, we meet twice a term at kindy, usually 3.30 on a Monday around week 3 and 8 of term - dates can change due to public holidays, illnesses etc. We try to keep meetings short and on task. Very informal, and the children play in the yard while we meet. We would love people who are eager to help organise fundraising events, look at policies for review, plan outdoor upgrade projects and generally sort Kindy issues. No skills necessary. If you would like to be on the Council, as Chairperson, secretary or general member but cannot make the date of Feb 12th please let me (Bridget) know and I will nominate you at the meeting, simple as that.

We are already fast approaching the Mt Pleasant Show, which is one of the kindy's major fundraising events. Currently we are seeking donations for our "Money Trees" any vouchers, or donations are gratefully received. If you are happy to visit businesses to ask for donations please collect an official letter from Kindy to prove you are affiliated with the Preschool, many businesses require this proof. We will also be asking for volunteers to help on the stall

during the day, to sell lucky square or raffle tickets, set up/pack up stall or create prize packs prior to the day. All help and donations are very gratefully appreciated.

Connection to Community

Over the next few weeks we will be running several activities to help us build stronger connections between home and kindy, to support every child to feel that they belong in the kindy community. For the first activity we will be sending home a wooden bird shape, and a texta. We ask that you have a talk together and reflect on what you would most value from your child's experience with the Mt Pleasant and District Kindergarten and Occasional Care Program. Then write this word, or words, on one side of the bird, and your child's full name on the other. You might write something like *love*, or *friends* or *learning*, or whatever you feel is most important for your child's time with us. We will hang the birds on an indoor tree for display, and we will use these to continually reflect on what is most important to you throughout this year.

Diary Dates:

- AGM/ Gov Council Meeting - Monday Feb 12th 3.30 at kindy
- Proposed Family Tea - Pizza night- Tuesday 20st Feb 5.00pm to 6.00pm at the oval playground and wooden animal park.
- Public Holiday Adelaide Cup- Monday 11th of March - no kindy
- Mount Pleasant Show- raffle prizes required please!
- There will also be a Kindy closure day this term - date to yet be confirmed by the Dept of Ed.

Kindy Reminders and Information

Please remember to send your children in weather appropriate clothes, pack spares, bring a broad brim hat, label all your children's items including their lunch boxes, bags and drink bottles!

Don't forget to sunscreen before they come to kindy and bring their own roll on sunscreen as the children reapply at lunch time. Please give this to Kindy staff to label and store for the children's use.

Please be aware that the Kindergarten will close on Catastrophic Fire days in the Adelaide Hills area. Please ensure that you are happy for all persons listed on your emergency contact list (as part of the enrolment form) to pick up your child in the case that a fire starts in the local area. If you need to change these please speak to Kindy educators.