Government of South Australia
Department for Education

Newsletter

WEEK 5 TERM 3: 16th August 2021

Hawthorndene KINDERGARTEN

Remember, no nuts at kindy please

Hi Everyone,

In the last couple of weeks the children have enjoyed visiting Hawthorndene Primary School to have a lesson with first the Physical Education teacher and then the Performing Arts teacher. The Monday children on both visits had a relieving teacher as the permanent teacher was on sick leave. All of the teachers were impressed with the way the children listened and responded to the instructions and showed their enjoyment of the lesson content. It is a great opportunity for our kindy children to have an experience of a much larger learning environment and will help them with transitioning to school life next year even if they are not enrolled at this school. After our first visit the children had an opportunity to think back on their visit and draw a memory in their work books which you may like to pop in and view when you come in to the kindy. There are two more visits arranged for this term and next term all of the local schools will be arranging for children who are transitioning to their site in 2022 to have special visits. You will be notified by the school about these visits later in the year.

Our pretend Science Laboratory has supported children to learn more about bone structures of humans and animals while looking at special photos with the light table, as well as building 3D models using translucent magnetic shapes. A different aspect of science is investigated in the laboratory every couple of weeks. A start has been made with the children's experiments and the staff team are supporting the children to ask questions and give comments to the presenter at the end. The use of scientific language has also been a focus with the staff team modelling its use. The data collected from the rainwater gauge has been displayed on the pinboard and the children have been working out what it means e.g. which days and months had the most rain or the least rain. Following on from this they were asked to estimate what the rainfall might be in the following day and then to discover who was closest in their estimation. Perhaps you might like to try estimating how much rain you would collect at home if you still have your green buckets from lock down activities.

Kind Regards, Cynthia Meredith

Diary Dates

Visiting Specialist Teachers at Hawthorndene Primary School
Japanese
Mon Aug 23rd & Thurs Aug 26th
Library
Mon Sept 6th & Thurs Sept 9th

Friday August 20th
Time to be announced shortly
'Science of Sound and Music'

Outdoor Week
Aug 30th Mon---Sept 2nd Thurs

Kindy Photo Days
Monday Sept 6th
Thurs Sept 9th

Regular Events

Playgroup 9:30am----11:15am

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recent Governing Council Meeting on Webex

Last week our meeting was held virtually and apart from initial frustrations this went well with our Chair Claire Trewartha guiding us through.

- The most recent renovations to the library have now been finished and when the weather improves we hope to have work started on the outdoor area at the back of the kindy which will give a space for the staff team to use for their breaks.
- The kindergarten children will be shortly doing self-portraits for the souvenir tea-towel which is planned to be available in Term 4 for parents to purchase.
- The director shared information about the Quality Improvement Plan progress and how this is being implemented to improve the opportunities for children's learning in Literacy and Numeracy (maths). If you would like more information about this please speak with the director.
- Another working bee is being planned in spring.
- The next meeting will be on Wednesday September 15th at 7:30pm please put this date in your diary.

Kindy Science Night Friday 20th August this week

Have you booked your child to come to our special Science of Sound night, book in soon so that you can have the time which most suits you, there are still spaces at each time----5:30pm or 6:30pm. If you are unable to stay, you can leave your child and collect them at the end of the Science Night. One adult per child may attend due to health restrictions.

Week 7 Outdoor Week---Mon August 30th -- –Thurs Sept 2nd

Our second outdoor week is coming up soon and although the weather may be a little warmer it will probably still be cold at the start of the day so the children will need to bring extra layers for being out of doors for the whole day. Boots for use in the mud patch and other footwear as per normal. A change of clothes in case of water and mud accidents would also be appreciated by the staff team. The fire pit will be in use again and risk assessments with the children will be undertaken prior and during the week.

Kindy Photo Days—Monday 6th Sept and Thurs 9th Sept

Each year we have a photographer attend kindergarten to take a group photo and 3 individual photos of the children. The photos taken by Simon and his business partner Ros have always been of high quality and they have been our photographer for many years. If you would like to have individual photos of your child at kindergarten or purchase a group photo please return the envelope which will be sent home shortly with the details of your order and payment as soon as possible. You may pay online but Simon and Ros the photographers have asked that you send back your envelope even if you are paying online. The photos are started quite early and we like to have the group photo taken by 9:30am so please could you make sure you come no later than 9am on those days.

Literacy kit borrowing

It has been great to see how many families have been borrowing the Literacy Kits which are available on the verandah but please return them to a staff member so that we can ensure they are cleaned before being put our for borrowing again. We have also noticed that many items have been left out of the bags when returned, please check the list for items when you return them. If some items have been misplaced at your home, just let the staff team know so that we can replace the items before putting them out for others to borrow.

Experiments for show and share

A hard copy letter and email has been sent home recently but if you would like further information or ideas please speak with the staff team. We have found that this activity has supported many children to become more interested in how science is all around us and can lead to improvements in our society. Some of the children from our kindy have begun a life-long interest in science and we hope this activity will be a chance for you to have some fun while discovering more about your child's interests.

Rosters for the borrowing Charlie

There are several blank spots on the borrowing roster for Charlie, don't miss out on your turn to have this cute bird to visit your home. The rosters are on the outside window of the door.

Face Masks and movement when at kindergarten

A mask must be worn when on the kindy grounds unless you have an exemption. Spare masks are available from a staff member if needed and remember to cut off the tags before disposing of it to protect our marine life. Please leave the grounds as soon as possible when leaving or collecting your children. Children can be left and collected from the gate.

Best Wishes from Cynthia, Louise, Tess, Crystal and Lenka.