



# Sturt Street Children's Centre

for Early Childhood  
Development and Parenting

## *Newsletter*

**Volume 01 - 2021**

**February 2021**

## *Welcome All*

*Welcome to Sturt Street Children's Centre Newsletter*

I do hope you are all feeling comfortable and settled! If you ever have concerns (or feedback) please speak to your child's primary carer/teacher, Jill (Assistant Director) or myself. Open communication allows us to work in partnership with you for the best possible outcomes for your child. This year educators will be documenting and sharing your child's learning via Seesaw, and of course you can speak with your child's primary carer any time - you are also welcome to make a specific time to chat if required.

It has been lovely to see all groups so settled and new friendships being made. The ELC has also taken advantage of the weather and had excursions to the Adelaide market which has been a very positive experience!

## *Staffing 2021*

Ali Wells – Director – [Alison.Wells569@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:Alison.Wells569@schools.sa.edu.au)

Jill Richardson – Assistant Director – [Zeroto3.Admin275@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:Zeroto3.Admin275@schools.sa.edu.au)

Claire – Administration (Bookings) – [sscelc.admin532@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:sscelc.admin532@schools.sa.edu.au)

Suzie – Finance (Accounts) – [Suzie.Andrews898@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:Suzie.Andrews898@schools.sa.edu.au)

Group 1 – Shirley, Dona, Gill & Leah

Group 2 – Ike, Hannah, Carmody, & Jagruti

Junior Preschool – Kylie, Nadia & Meg

Preschool – Prue & Ali (preschool teachers), Silvana (early childhood worker)

## **COVID Update**

Families are now required to sign in by using the QR code or recording their name on the forms provided. Apart from that, the Department for Education's directive regarding COVID has not changed since last year:

- It's important that children stay home if they are unwell.
- Adults must continue to physical distance wherever possible i.e. pick up & drop off
- Keep time at the Centre minimal
- Additional cleaning at the Centre continues

We also have hand sanitiser at each sign in area and encourage families to use this when signing their child in/out.

Thankyou for supporting us in trying to keep our children, families and staff safe

## **Important Dates To Remember**

- Mon 22nd of Feb – RAA – Street Smart Preschool Program
- Tues 6th of April – CaFHS 4 year old health checks (another T3, date to be advised)
- Fri 9th of April – last day of preschool for term 1 (please email [sscelc.admin532@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:sscelc.admin532@schools.sa.edu.au) if you require any child care during the school holidays or for preschool closure dates)

## **SunSmart**

Please support us in adhering to our Sunsmart policy by applying sunblock to your child every morning (we reapply during the day), by ensuring your child has an appropriate hat (bucket or legionnaires), and clothing with sleeves (please no singlet tops/dresses – shoulders should be covered).

## **Sub Committees**

We have a few Committees you are welcome to join. Committees provide the opportunity to be involved and also provides the 'family voice' within them which we value highly.

We have an ELC Advisory Committee which meets twice a term; a Reconciliation Action Group responsible for developing a plan to ensure Reconciliation and Aboriginal Culture is embedded into our programs and we can be a culturally safe environment to share; and our BEYOU group which considers how we can best be aware and promote good mental health for children, families and our staff.

If any of these groups interest you, please email me directly – [Alison.Wells569@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:Alison.Wells569@schools.sa.edu.au)

## Reminders

- Please do not park in carparks at the front of the school these are reserved for staff only
- Please remember to sign your child in & out on the attendance sheets each day

## Rooms 1 & 2

Kicking off 2021, the 0-3 children embraced the New Year with our term focus: **Exploring Our World**.

We wish all the best to Junior Pre-Schoolers who graduated from 0-3 and we welcome some new friends into our Sturt Street family.

On Australia Day, we hosted an Indoor Beach Party at the school hall. Children enjoyed water play and then a sandwich for lunch.

Despite the unpredictable weather at that time, we managed to have an 'Indoor Beach Day' in the school hall and more water play during hot sunny days.

In the 0-3 yard, the children explored a 'cave' through 'Going on a Bear Hunt' activity.

We showed respect to our world through a 'recycling' activity and explored our community through the 'Central Market Excursion'.

This week, our exploration continued to China, Vietnam and Korea to say 'Happy New Year' on Friday, the Year of Ox.















## Junior Preschool

We have been very busy in Junior Preschool. This term our focus is '**Belonging**'. We have been talking about our families, homes and pets, getting to know each other and learning how to work together in

our space. The children are enjoying the different play spaces, and are learning how to use the different tools and equipment.

**Junior Preschool Team**



## Preschool

### Welcome to all new and old families to Preschool 2021.

Over the past few weeks, we have enjoyed getting to know you and your child/ren as they have started to settle in and become familiar with their new Preschool environment. It can be a challenging but exciting time for children as they find their sense of belonging whilst developing new friendships and relationships with peers and staff and navigate the new routines and expectations of Preschool.

Our learning inquiry for this year is linked to literacy and our Preschool Quality Improvement Plan (PQIP) is 'To develop children's ability to represent and make meaning of their world symbolically' and more simplistically for children 'How do symbols represent us and our world?' So far, children have enjoyed learning through play as they explore provocations, are part of various experiences and engage in intentional teaching moments with an identity and belonging focus linked to our inquiry. Some highlights from the first few weeks have been: getting to know ourselves and each other, visiting the Library, music with Kat and having the Reception children come to play. Over the upcoming weeks we look forward to continuing to delve into getting to know each other and ourselves, and on the next two Mondays, exploring and celebrating Chinese New Year whilst cooking with Di and participating in an Incursion from RAA Street Smart Preschool Program (road safety focus).

### Notes and reminders:

- Please bring in a family photograph if you have n't already to display in our Centre (promoting a sense of belonging) and for the children to share during group time.
- Please, no toys to Preschool, however a soft comfort toy or blanket to help with separations or during relaxation is acceptable.
- Especially in the warmer months, please remember to sunblock your child/ren each day before arriving or on arrival (we will reapply later in the day), provide a broad brim hat and drink bottle.
- Please remember each day to pack a spare change of clothes (head to toe) for water/mud play and/or accidents. We have spare clothing available here, but this is often limited. Therefore, if your child ever comes home wearing something that you know is not theirs, please return this washed the next time you're in.
- 4 Year Old Health Checks 6th April. Please fill out the required forms located near the 'sign in' sheets. There is ONE spot left! Alternatively, you can always arrange an independent time with your local CaFHS nurse.
- Parent Teacher Meetings Week 6 1st-5th March with Prue and Ali. Note to be sent home soon!
- Please continue to look at children's learning documented by them in the Floorbook located near the front entry of Preschool (green wooden door). This is in addition to learning that is showcased on Seesaw.
- Are you on Facebook? Why not 'like' our Facebook private group page: Sturt Street Children's Centre and Preschool.

-A big THANK YOU to all families who have already signed up and are accessing, contributing and connecting through Seesaw. Learning is a three-way partnership and this platform ensures you are always part of your child's learning journey.

Thanks again for working in partnership with us during the past few weeks and helping to make your child/ren's transition to Preschool as successful as possible. We have really loved getting to know you all and will continue to do so as we continue on our Preschool journey together.

***Prue***

***Preschool Teacher and Educational Leader***





## **Quotations**

***"Every child deserves a champion - an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists that they become the best that they can possibly be"***

***- Rita Pierson***