



### Dear Parents and Carers,

Term 2 coming to a close in ten days. It has been an extremely active learning time and we have had significant parent involvement over the past week and continuing until the end of term as parents participate in Child Parent Teacher interviews.

## Quality Area 1- Educational Program & Practise

### Inquiry based learning

Educator professional development on Inquiry based learning is continuing to evolve and grow. This term, the small group inquiries have continued to link child interest and opportunities for active inquiry into both formal group times and play based learning. The focus for each group continues until the end of term.

#### Group 1: Elephant and Tiger group: Inquiry on colours and patterns in nature



The inquiry has led to increased interest in print through the introduction of Book Boats, posters and big books. Children have demonstrated their curiosity in words, letters, copying print and reading illustrations. We are proud of children's growing awareness of literacy. The posters and content from the Eat a Rainbow nutritional food program conducted throughout term 2 has increased children's vocabulary using names of food, types of textures, shape and taste of fruit and vegetables.

Numeracy has also been extended through the inquiry with educators planning more formalised link of patterns into numeracy. This has resulted in children using unifix coloured cubes to create towers and lengths of cubes to either measure with tools such as tape measures or create repeating patterns using 2 colours known commonly as ABABAB patterns.

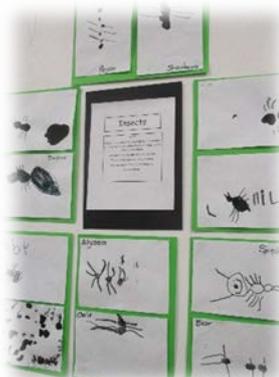
In week 10 children will be provided with an opportunity to reflect on their colour inquiry during terms 1 and 2 and determine whether they wish to continue to explore this interest or move to a new inquiry focus.

#### Group 2: Koalas and Dinosaurs groups: Inquiry on Minibeasts

*You may wish to watch a wonderful video of our Monarch Butterfly hatching via time lapse photograph. Our special thanks go to Kathryn Wall our SSO who filmed the video and uploaded it onto our Children's Centre Facebook page on 21/6/18.*

As part of our Inquiry we looked after two caterpillars, giving them milkweed to eat until they attached to the branch and the roof of the container to become a cocoon or chrysalis. It took about 2 weeks until the adult monarch butterfly emerged. We then found a bush in the front garden with leaves and flowers and let the butterflies go free.





The Koalas have continued with our Insect inquiry.

We have looked at features of insects, body parts and habitat.

We have learnt new vocabulary such as thorax and abdomen

We have sorted Insects and non-insects and looked at life cycles.

### You can't read too many stories



Talking Tips

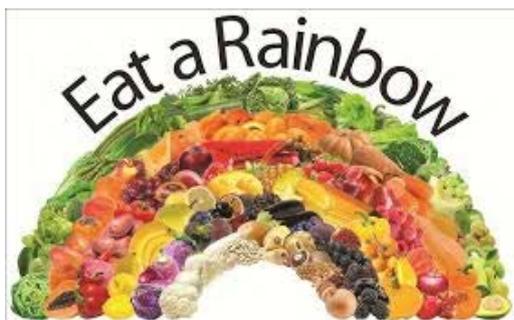
Our Allied Health Speech Pathologist has created a series of helpful tips to support children's speech and language development. We will feature new tips each newsletter.

## *Closing the Gap project: Update*

Reception and Preschool children and teachers in Group 2 shared a joint play session on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June and the final play session for these children will be Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June. Exchanges of staff and children between the Preschool and Reception spaces support ongoing relationship development between teachers and children. It also promotes increased familiarity with the school learning space for preschool children and opportunity for leadership in school students visiting the Preschool space. The key focus during our joint professional learning community (PLC) meetings is how to build strong relationships between educators and children to ensure children feel capable and competent to transition into school next year. Staff have reached agreement that they will video each other working with children. These videos can be shared with children to encourage child voice about the play session and staff can use these videos at PLC meetings to reflect on their practice and continue to refine and improve their work.

We will commence shared play sessions with Group 1 children commencing in term 3 on a Wednesday morning. We will advise you of more details in the first newsletter of term 3.

## Quality Area 2- Children's Health & Safety



Eat a Rainbow Program supports children to learn about the nutrition and healthy food choices. Children are given opportunities to touch, smell and eat a range of fruit and vegetables

Please take time to view our Lake Windemere B-7 School Children's Centre Facebook page. Recently a video of a small group of children key word signing the Sing a Rainbow song has been uploaded 21/6/18.

Our special thanks goes to Kristen Scrimshaw, teacher in the Speech and Language Program and Kathryn Wall our SSO who have taken leadership in the Centre to plan, print, display and film the key word signs for children, families and staff to learn to support us to build a more inclusive learning environment for all children regardless of age or special rights.

SA Dental Service

### Keep your kids smiling



Dental care is FREE for ALL babies, preschool and most children under 18 years at School Dental Service clinics.  
The School Dental Service is a Child Dental Benefits Schedule provider.

**Call us now for an appointment!**

Your local clinic is: Salisbury Community Dental Clinic  
Phone: 8250 9254  
[www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/sadental](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/sadental)

### Kidsafe Playgrounds

Vanessa one of our SSO's recently attended mandatory Kidsafe Playground professional development along with Christian the B-7 School groundsman. Vanessa has shared her learning from the day at a recent staff meeting and staff have been exploring how to implement some necessary changes to ensure our playground promotes adventure, risk and curiosity while ensuring the safety of all children.

Our Lemon tree which children love climbing has temporarily been sectioned off until we can provide a safe fall zone with soft fall. Currently our vegetable garden encompasses some of this safe fall zone and it needs to be remodelled. If you are a handyman or garden expert and would like to assist us with remodelling this space please speak with the Director-Sue. Thank you

### Nature play in Winter



We continue to explore nature play spaces such as the creek and the mud kitchen even as the weather gets colder. The Centre has gumboots for children to use to support them to move through wet muddy areas such as the creek.

We encourage all families to provide an extra set of warm clothing and 2 pairs of socks so that children can be changed after play if they become wet. Thank you!



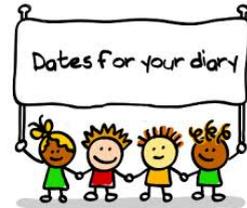
# Quality Area 4 Staffing Arrangements

We are currently awaiting notification from Department of Education Human Resources regarding staffing arrangements for the vacant Community Development Coordinators role.

We are currently also awaiting notification from state office Children's Centre team on the staffing for the Family Services Coordinator (Social Work) role. Until the Family Services role is active again if you require any support with family matters of safety, child behaviour or parenting please make a time to chat with Sue the Director.

We will advise you through the newsletter as soon as information come to hand. Thank you.

## Diary Dates



Week	Day and Date	Event
9	Friday 29/6/18	B-7 Fundraising event for SIDS Final Closing the Gap play for Group 2 9:00am -9:45am
10	Friday 6/7/18	Last day of term. Early dismissal@ 1:45pm

## Quality Area 7 Leadership & Service Management



### Preschool banking

Our banking day is Thursday. For further information, please see Kim at the Reception desk.

### Preschool and Occasional Care Fees

**Preschool Fees** of \$65 are required to be settled before the end of term Friday 6/7/18. Thank you.

**Occasional Care fees:** We request that all Occasional Care families please pay their child's session fees on arrival at the centre prior to moving into the learning space.

All fees can be paid to Kim at the Reception desk. Thank you.

**For children 0-4 years old**

**Monday, Tuesday and Thursday**

8.45am to 11.45am (Over 2's)

**Monday and Thursday**

8.45am to 11.45am (Under 2's)

**Thursday**

12pm to 3pm (over 2's only)

***Bookings are essential***



*Occasional  
Care*

Our Allied Health Speech Pathologist and Occupational Therapist have been meeting and planning with the Occasional Care staff Mel and Kathryn to redesign the morning routine and play space for Occasional Care children. Their ideas have also been shared with the wider staff team on how to build a more responsive environment creating a safer and more supportive routine on arrival at the session. Notes will go out to all Occasional Care families before the end of term to explain the trial commencing next term. We look forward to your feedback.

## Preschool sessions

We wish to remind families that sessions on full days finish at 2:45pm. On Thursday when we have half day sessions they end at 11:45 in the morning and 3:00pm in the afternoon.

If you are running late for any reason please ring the centre so we can inform staff and also your child and reassure them that everything is ok.

We also request that if any contact phone numbers or emails change that you update this information with Kim our Receptionist. Thank you in anticipation.

## Starting Preschool in 2019

Do you have a child old enough to commence preschool next year?

Do you have a family member, friend or neighbour who might have an eligible child?

We will commence the process of offering Preschool positions next term for 2019.

If you or someone you know would like to enrol a child at the Centre please ask them to contact Kim Smith our Receptionist or Sue Holecek Director on 8258-0666.



Going to preschool helps your child to learn new things, make friends and develop confidence.

Children who turn 4 before 1 May 2019 can start preschool at the beginning of the year before they start school.

**Families are encouraged to register for 2019.**

For more information  
[www.education.sa.gov.au](http://www.education.sa.gov.au)



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education

**Department of Education SA  
Preschool and kindergarten services**

In South Australia, 'preschool' and 'kindergarten' are the same.

At preschool your child will learn through play-based programs designed and delivered by qualified teachers.

**When your child can start preschool**

Your child is entitled to access one year of preschool.

If your child turns four before 1 May, they can start preschool at the beginning of the year. If your child turns four on or after 1 May, they can start the next year.

If your child is Aboriginal or under the guardianship of the minister they are eligible to start preschool after they turn three

## Starting School in 2019

If your child is eligible to commence school next year you are required to complete a school enrolment form. If your child is attending Lake Windemere B-7 School, enrolment forms can either be provided by Kim our Receptionist or from the School front office. For all other schools parents will need to contact their school of choice to organise the collection and return of enrolment forms.

Details about school transition will be finalised shortly and we will communicate this information as soon as possible.

**The Children's Centre timetable has been updated for Term 3.  
Copies are displayed in the foyer near the Reception desk.**