



**Lockleys**  
**Children's Centre**  
for Early Childhood  
Development and Parenting

## Newsletter

Week 5 Term 2 2021

Dear parents, carers and families,

We are now halfway through Term 2 and the official start to Winter is not far away. This means the cold, coughs and flu season is also upon us and already we have had many children experiencing colds. We always appreciate it when you let us know when and why your child is away.

### If your child is unwell

If your child is unwell please keep them at home. If they are showing signs of an infectious illness such as cold and flu, diarrhoea and vomiting please keep your child home until symptoms have passed. If you are concerned about your child always seek medical attention.

### Immunisation History Statement

Following changes to the *South Australian Public Health Act 2011*, children will not be able to enrol in or attend early childhood services unless all immunisation requirements are met. To assist us to meet this requirement, please provide us with copies of your Immunisation History Statement when your child has their 4 year old immunisation.

Parents or carers can access an immunisation history statement via:

- [Medicare](#) through [MyGov](#)
- [Express Plus Medicare mobile app](#)
- contacting the [Australian Immunisation Register](#) general enquiries line on 1800 653 809 and requesting that a statement be posted to you

### Sign in / sign out

We have recently introduced new sign in sheets along with a new requirement to sign your child out. Both sign in and sign out requires the time and signature. We have now added a notes column to the sign in sheet so any changes to pick ups or any other information you want to tell us can go in that box. The notes column replaces the previous separate communication book.

### Collection Authority

Upon enrolment you provided collection authorities for your family members and carers who are able to collect your child from preschool. Please ensure that these remain up to date by providing us with any updated information. Before we allow anyone new to collect your child, we require photo identification to be shown to staff.

### Parent / Family Involvement

This week Cassowary mum Petra, is hosting a Knit and Natter session to get everyone knitting for our yarn bombing project—thank you Petra!

We always welcome and encourage our families to get involved in our centre and to share any talents and skills or to just be a part of our centre. Please let us know if you'd like to join in the fun!

### Schooling Destination in 2022

Reminder: Could you let us know of your child's intended school in 2022 so that we can support your child's transition.

Regards, Kathryn.



## TERM 2 DIARY DATES

### Week 1

**ANZAC Day Public Holiday**  
Monday 25 April

### Week 2

**Phonological Awareness workshop**  
Tuesday 4 May 6.30pm

### Week 3

**Governing Council Meeting**  
Tuesday 11 May 6.30pm

### Week 4

**Preschool fees are due**

### Week 6

**Immunisation Clinic Tuesday**  
1 June

**Building Vocabulary Workshop**  
Weds 2 June



**Knit & Natter**  
Friday 4 June

### Week 8

**Queen's Birthday Public Holiday**  
Monday 14 June

**Governing Council Meeting**  
Thursday 17 June at 6.30pm

### Week 10

**Last day of Term 2**  
**Friday 2 July**

### 2021 PUPIL FREE DAYS

**THERE WILL BE NO PRESCHOOL ON THESE DAYS:**

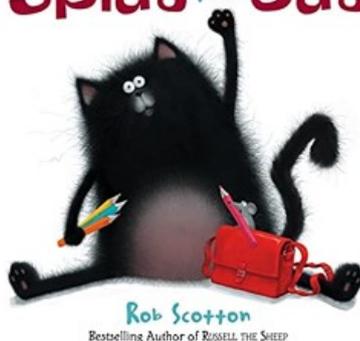
- **FRIDAY 20/8/2021**
- **FRIDAY 22/10/2021**

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/building-vocabulary-tickets>

## CURRICULUM UPDATE

Week 5 and 6 Focus Book

### Splat the Cat



Our focus book for week 5 and 6 is **Splat the Cat** by Rob Scotton.

This is the story of Splat who is feeling very anxious about his first day at cat school! What if Splat doesn't make any friends? Just in case, Splat decides to take his pet mouse, Seymour, to school in his lunch box! Splat meets his teacher and classmates and starts his cat lessons. All is going well until..... Seymour escapes at lunch time!

The children have enjoyed sharing this

humorous story with its beautifully detailed illustrations!

Our focus words from the story are **AMAZING, ANNOUNCED and RETURNED.**

### Numeracy

Our numeracy focus for term 2 is '**1 quantify my world**' and we have been collecting data in a variety of ways and recording and comparing our findings.

Fruit time data collection has shown us which fruits are the most popular each day and the children have eagerly placed stickers next to the fruit that they have. The children have loved comparing this each day to see which fruit 'wins'.... will it be apples, bananas or pears?

We have introduced the concept of 10 frames as a way of signing in this week and the children are learning to recognize that when the frame is full there are 10 names, you don't have to count you just know!

Each day we are using these frames as a way to record how many children are at preschool and how many are away.



### Bella the Blue Tongue!

After the excitement of 'Scooby', the bearded dragon, we welcomed 'Bella', the blue tongue lizard, in week 5. The lizards, on loan from the Nature Education Centre, provoke great interest from the children... some love getting up close and touching them, others are more comfortable observing from a distance. The conversations, questions and wonderings that have evolved from the children's observations have been amazing, as have the beautifully detailed drawings that have been produced by many.

### Isabella

Sadly, we said goodbye to our lovely student teacher, Isabella at the end of week 5. Isabella has completed her 5 week teaching placement with energy and enthusiasm and the children have enjoyed the experiences that she has brought to us! We are confident that Isabella will be a fantastic teacher and we wish her all the best as she continues her studies!

### ARTICLE: TOO MUCH SCREEN TIME DELAYS SCHOOL READINESS DR KOBIE BOSHOFF, UNIVERSITY OF SA

New research from the University of South Australia is showing that too much screen time is affecting school readiness, and that modern screen-based lifestyles are contributing to the prevalence of developmental delays.

The research has found that overuse of screen time in lieu of quality play is substantially impacting children's development and putting them behind their peers as they start school.

In South Australia, nearly a quarter of all children are developmentally vulnerable at school entry and display lower than average abilities and competencies in areas such as physical health, behaviour, emotional maturity, language or communication.

**Australian guidelines recommend no more than one hour of screen time per day for children aged 2-5 which includes television, computers and smart devices.**

Young children need to spend more time playing including:

- being outside
- playing with traditional toys such as blocks, puzzles and cars
- positive play time with parents and peers
- participating in daily routines

These kind of activities ensure children have a positive early childhood experiences that build strong foundations for learning from day one.

\*Extracted from the above article. If you would like a copy of the full article please see Kathryn.



### SCOPE

This procedure outlines roles/responsibilities of staff and parents regarding immunisation and management of infectious diseases. It also covers use of Department for Education documents relating to infectious diseases including 'Staying Healthy in Childcare' and recommended hygiene practices.

### IMMUNISATION

Following changes to the *South Australian Public Health Act 2011*, from 7 August 2020, children will not be able to enrol in or attend early childhood services unless all immunisation requirements are met (No Jab, No Play).

Upon enrolment, a parent or carer must provide either:

- a copy of their child's current immunisation record that shows that the child's immunisation is up-to-date or on catch up schedule with a future end date
- evidence that their child has an approved exemption from the Chief Public Health Officer.

Parents or carers can access an immunisation history statement via:

- [Medicare](#) through [MyGov](#)
- [Express Plus Medicare mobile app](#)
- contacting the [Australian Immunisation Register](#) general enquiries line on 1800 653 809 and requesting that a statement be posted to them

The centre's system that we use for administration will send alerts to parents when their preschool child is due for an immunisation and parents must provide updated proof of immunisation to us.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Lockleys Children's Centre will take precautions to prevent or minimise the spread of infectious disease. Basic precautions include:

- following good hand and respiratory hygiene including regularly washing hands and covering nose and mouth when sneezing and coughing
- leaning and disinfecting contaminated items and increasing the cleaning schedule for contaminated areas
- treating all blood and body substances as potential sources of infection and use personal protective (eg gloves, glasses, face masks)
- using waterproof coverings over any break in the skin
- Ensure children, young people and employees with symptoms and signs of an infectious disease such as fever, cold/flu, vomiting or diarrhoea:
  - have limited contact with others
  - are encouraged to seek medical attention
  - follow appropriate exclusion period outlined in 'Staying Healthy in Childcare'
  - stay at home until symptoms have passed.
- If a vaccine preventable disease covered by the Childhood Immunisation Program has occurred at an early childhood service, exclude all children recorded as non-immunised in accordance with exclusion period requirements.
- The centre will offer annual flu vaccinations for staff.

### ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

#### Families will:

- Ensure their children's immunisations are up-to-date
- Provide the centre with an Immunisation History Record prior to enrolment and updates as required
- Inform the Centre as soon as possible if their child is diagnosed with a contagious disease.
- Collect their child from the centre if requested by staff.
- Seek clearance from a medical professional, if requested, before returning their child to care.
- Keep their children home from the Centre (including events and programs) until the appropriate exclusion period outlined in 'Staying Healthy in Childcare' has passed.

### Educators will:

- Inform the Director if they believe they have contracted an infectious illness and remain home for the recommended exclusionary period.
- Support children to wash their hands before eating, after messy play and toileting.
- Follow the Centre's Toileting and Nappy Changing Procedure and ensure a high level of hygiene practices to avoid spreading infectious diseases including washing their hands before handling food, before nappy changes, after assisting children with toileting or changing nappies, after sneezing, going to the bathroom or handling dangerous materials (cleaning materials, soil etc.)
- Notify other staff if advised by a parent their child has been diagnosed with a contagious disease.
- Photocopy and display relevant information from 'Staying Healthy in Childcare' on the whiteboard, along with the number of cases identified at the Centre, once the potential illness is identified.
- Contact the parents of any child who is unwell or not coping or is unable to participate in the program
- Contact the parents of any children who exhibit any of the below symptoms:
  - Has a fever of 38° or higher
  - Has vomited more than once
  - Excreted more than one runny bowel action
  - Any symptoms identified as possibly contagious in 'Staying Healthy in Childcare' e.g. rash, cold sores.
- Ensure children who are sent home are accompanied by an illness record outlining their symptoms, any required exclusionary period and if a medical clearance is requested.

### REFERENCES

[Staying Healthy in Childcare](#) 5<sup>th</sup> Edition  
[SA Health, Early Childhood immunisation requirements](#)  
[Australian Immunisation Register](#)

Please help us reduce waste from food packaging!



**Wipe out Waste**

**Pack waste free food!**

Did you know that up to 50% of items in school/preschool bins come from food and drink packaging is brought from home?

**Pack**

- Snacks in reusable containers
- Drinks in a reusable bottle
- Reusable utensils when needed
- A reusable lunchbox or back-pack

**Avoid**

- Lunches packed in plastic bags, cling film or foil
- Disposable drink boxes, cans, cartons and bottles
- Disposable forks and spoons
- Pre-packaged lunches or single serve items

Government of South Australia  
Zero Waste SA

KESAB  
environmental solutions