

St Helens Park Kindergarten

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Term 1 2018
Week 2,3



Program: Belonging, Being, Becoming

Literacy– our holiday adventures

Numeracy–investigating number and counting using games, sorting of sea creatures, shells

Investigation hermit crabs, deep sea giant crab

Processes we need to be successful- accessing activities such as painting: we need a smock, paper, our name, what to paint/ , hang to dry, wash hands, smock off and hung up for the next person

Staff- Annette, Carmel, Marian, Coralie, Stacey, Sue, Lina, Gabbi, Suzie

CALENDAR

Chinese New Year- celebration in week 4, dragon dance Mon/Tues

Parent welcome evening and AGM- Wednesday February 21, 6.30 . We invite you all to attend a meet 'n greet evening with the staff and community to begin the New Year. This will also include presentation of 2017 annual report and the election of our management committee. Please let staff know if you are interested in joining our group, we meet twice per term after kindy.

Coming events:

Parent Annual General Meeting- Wednesday February 21, 6.30pm

Dear Parents, welcome to kindy! The children have settled in fairly well and are beginning to understand the routines and program of the kindergarten. We are introducing the different learning areas to them and how to use the resources effectively. There is a lot for them to take in and no doubt they are now getting very tired! I know that the staff team has put in a lot of effort in getting to know your child and they look forward to continuing the learning journey.

The next 2 weeks can be most trying for both you and your child as they begin to realise that they are back again! Needing to follow instructions, work together, share resources, understand our safety rules and manage the learning opportunities all at the same time! I encourage you to support the children by maintaining your routines at home and not filling up the weekends with lots of activities. They all need a bit of 'down time'. You can also expect a few more tears on arrival but rest assured that we will call you if your child does not settle quickly.

Thankyou for your support and your comments on how your child is coping. This is invaluable to us in creating a safe and supportive environment.

KINDY ROUTINES

Library will be available now every Wednesday and Thursday morning. Please bring a library bag to borrow a book.

Carpark- we are very aware how small the carpark is and the pressure in the area between the kindy and the school. We know the Council monitors this area and don't want anyone to receive an infringement for illegal parking, hence our fluid start to the day.

Please ensure that children's fruit/ vegetable break is in their bag. if your child needs it chopped it assists us greatly if you can do this at home.

We have seen lovely nutritious lunches provided so thank you to all our carers for that. Please remember that fresh is best so fruit and vegetables are the choice for snack time. Many of the children have been particularly hungry so it is fine to send an additional snack for them to access at their leisure.

NAKED LUNCHES- we endorse no wrappers in the lunches and will be spending time on sustainability this year so please refrain from glad wrap and yoghurt tubes (there should be enough room for a decanted little tub). The site won the 'wipe out waste' award in 2017 for the least amount of rubbish at a kindergarten and we hope to support the children in understanding sustainability in 2018. We have seen some very good lunches already so congratulations! As we have several children with high allergy needs please be alert to what goes into your boxes. I know it can be difficult at times however safety of all children is paramount.

This also includes our collage materials, we appreciate your donations of boxes but we also need to be vigilant that there has been no nut product inside.

CURRICULUM

The kindergarten follows the Dept of Education curriculum which is now known as *Belonging, Being & Becoming*. We refer to this as the 3 B's! Our program is based on 5 learning areas that are divided across the year. During Term 1 we will be concentrating on IDENTITY.

Our child protection curriculum centres on children feeling safe, secure and confident; to develop resilience and to interact with care, empathy and respect.

We will be looking at our feelings and how to stay safe over the coming weeks– what makes me happy and what makes me sad.

We also support children to grow in independence so the kindy encourages children to have a go first and to seek assistance if needed.

HELP

We are always looking for some help at kindy and we have a vital service that requires support. We have our washing roster up now so please jump in and offer for a week. We understand that the smocks will not wash perfectly clean and are happy with any result!

School Dental Service- The SA Govt provides a free service for all children at the School Dental Service. Check ups are free however there will be a fee for additional work. If you would like to access this service it is located at Prospect Primary School and can be contacted via the school, or go to the website- www.sadental.sa.gov.au

FEES-

Your fee notice is now available from your communication pocket. This is located opposite the entry door, and is seen as the green fabric pockets with the plastic name cards. Fees are currently \$150 per term and payment can be made by direct debit (BSB: 065 119; account- 10076324, please use your child's name as reference), cheque/cash or eftpos.

FUNDRAISING

In the coming weeks we will be taking pre orders for the next Entertainment Book, with additional vouchers on offer. There are considerable savings within this production for a range of items and events and the kindy gains some valuable support dollars. Please consider purchasing this from the kindy, or giving it a go for the first time. The display will be sent to us shortly where you can view the book.

PARENT NIGHT AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING-

The 2017 committee invite all parents and caregivers to the kindy on Wednesday February 21 at 6.30pm to meet with staff, and find out about the wonderful year ahead. We will also be inviting you to join our parent committee to assist in organising some functions for the kindy!

We hope you can come along and meet new friends, put names to faces of the children your child has made connections with and chat to the staff about the first few weeks of term.

RSVP to any staff member and we expect the evening to finish at 7.30pm. If you cannot make the meeting but would like to help on the committee please let staff know. I will format an email list to keep everyone in the loop. Meeting days and times will be decided by the new group.

STAFFING-

Across the term there are a number of meetings that Annette is required to attend, and we endeavour to have the same relief teachers where possible. It is particularly busy in term 1 with DECD requirements and we welcome our staff support team- Marian, Karen and Upasana.

The staff team.