



# Tinyeri Children's Centre

for Early Childhood  
Development and Parenting

65 Jarvis Avenue  
Murray Bridge SA 5253  
Phone: 8531 1515



*We acknowledge and respect the Ngarrindjeri people who are the custodians and First Nation of the ancestral lands that we provide our service on. We acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment and relationship of the Ngarrindjeri people to country including the land, sea and rivers. We also pay respects to our Elders who continue to provide wisdom, leadership, guidance, advice and support to our service.*

Term 1, Week 5 2020

## Welcome

A hearty and warm welcome to all of our families for 2020. It has been fabulous getting to meet all of the children and their families and it seems that we have hit the ground running. We are just humming along!! **We can't wait to see what this year will bring.** The children have settled in well, relationships and understanding has deepened as to the rituals associated with kindy and children are beginning to develop play as a skill as well as playfulness. Educators have felt incredibly supported by families and appreciate open communication and the sharing of family stories in order to help us know our children's needs/wants and aspirations better. Thank you

## Children's Centre Staff

We would like to introduce the staff that your family and/or children will have contact with during the year

Director: Mim Bjelovarac

Receptionist: Lyn Kartinyeri

Educators in the kukaki space:

Mon/Wed staff: Michelle, Megan, Bronwyn, Tania, Dorothee (Mondays), Miki, Manda (Wednesdays)

Tues/Thurs staff: Jess, Julia, Megan, Tania, Tiffany,

Educators in the wanggami space:

Inclusive Preschool Program: Christine, Denise, Jess & Hannah

Occasional Care: Nicole & Brooke

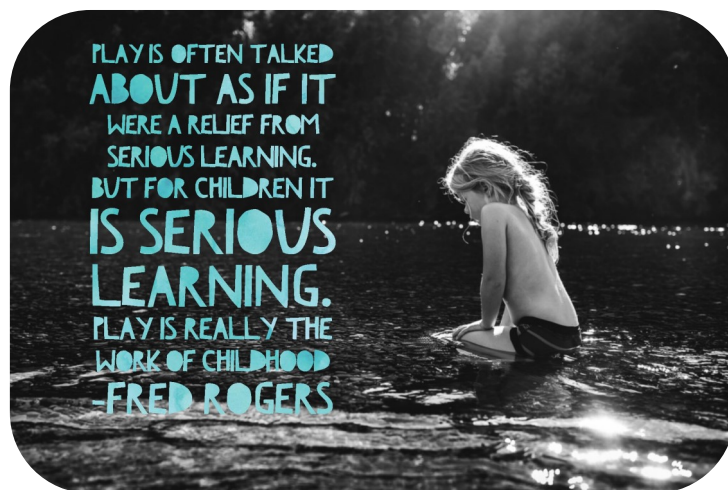
Community Development Coordinator: Skye (Mon/Tues/Thurs); Elona (Wed/Thurs/Fri)

Family Services Coordinator: Casey (Tues/Thurs/Fri)

Occupational Therapist: Alice Easton (Tues/Wed/Thurs)

Bus Driver: Keith

We're looking forward to getting to know you all ☺



## Learning and care

Our approach to learning in a preschool setting is so capably captured by this graphic.

Play is essential to our work as educators. (BTW-which adult wouldn't prefer to play as a way of learning! Mmm, I see so much potential here!)

Often it can be thought that play diminishes what is considered to be formal academic learning, however, play is critical and foundational to this type of learning. If we do not 'fill children's cup' with play that addresses their developmental needs, it can come at the cost of engaging children in academic learning later on ie at school, even university. Children have unique learning preferences: foods they love, music that makes them move and groove, clothes and shoes they are bothered by, blankets that soothe them, rides they would never go on and those they would go on again and again, smells that make them go wild! If adults can fill children's 'cup' with experiences that captures all of those moments, it enables the development of higher level skills and capabilities such as drawing, writing, reading, engagement. It's learning to learn!!

Our "on-the-go" fidgety children are doing just what their bodies naturally cue them into for regulating their body to 'switch' their brain on. So when adults ask children to sit still and pay attention in the moments they are seeking movement for regulation, adults are in

effect switching their brain 'off'. We want children switched on! Providing **LOADS** of sensory movement play, such as bush kindy and outdoor play experiences- running, jumping, climbing, lifting, loading, crashing and bashing – are opportunities to move their bodies in all directions, developing their stability and balance, filling their 'cup'. All this big body play also supports their development with body awareness and core strength, which are the underlying skills needed for maintaining the postural demands for sitting and classroom experiences.

**"In order for children to learn, they need to be able to pay attention. In order to pay attention, we need to let them move"**

Educators use this knowledge in planning their play based curriculum. We support children to move in and out of a range of experiences in order to best engage them, thus contributing to a love of learning. Feel free to chat with our educators for more information. We will continue to use our newsletter to inform you of what and how our children are learning

### Learning focus

This term our focus is children's identity and wellbeing. Who they are. Who their family is. What their interests are. What are their challenges. Getting to know our children and the family they belong to is foundational to children feeling safe and connected at preschool which then impacts on their approach to learning away from their family. The early years learning framework (our guiding curriculum document) states:

**Children thrive when families and educators work together in partnership to support young children's learning.**  
**Children's early learning influences their life chances.**  
**Wellbeing and a strong sense of connection, optimism and engagement enable children to develop a positive attitude to learning.**

Relationships are at the core of our work and we strongly adhere to this as part of our practice. We firmly believe that our pre entry program from last year has contributed to how well the children have settled so quickly to a new place, space and routine in their lives. A big THANKS to the families who have returned their family questionnaires. The information is so insightful to us and gives us a great starting point in getting to know you and your child. If you haven't done so already-or have misplaced your forms, please check in with Lyn at reception. We've loved our home visits with the children and we hope the sound of a "knock, knock"....generated some excitement at seeing visitors at the door! We love that **BIG YELLOW**

**BUS** connects us to community in so many ways



### Healthy eating-lunches, snacks & drinks

As part of our healthy eating policy, families are requested to only pack a sandwich and a piece of fruit. Your fees cover all the snacks provided at kindy. Children have muesli/toast/yoghurt at morning snack and in winter, we add things such as porridge, sausages, eggs, baked beans to the menu. After lunch children have carrots, cucumber, cheese, popcorn, crackers, pretzels, corn and then their fruit for afternoon snack. Once a week children engage in cooking other food items such as week-muffins, pancakes, noodles, soup etc. Grazing is built into our daily routines and food is a big part of our days. Any other foods that are packed outside are usually stored and returned to the child/family at the end of the session. **It would be really helpful if families only place a zip lock bag or a sandwich box in the lunch baskets in the morning as there seems to be an overflow of boxes in the baskets.** We value families letting us know when their children give them feedback about being hungry. It gives us the opportunity to revise our eating schedule and make sure children are not going home with an empty tummy. Be aware too, that in children's excitement to be social you may notice that not all food is being eaten. This is a very normal pattern for children. Educators do encourage children to sit/eat/slow down but not all children see that as a priority when there is so much to do (and no, we do not force feed children!!!! 😊) so yes you may even get full lunch boxes going home. Based on experience this will not last! Chat with staff if you are worried or need support/ideas.

### Happy little vegemites

The dust has settled and personalities are blossoming!! Educators (and no doubt families) are discovering the joy of 'mis-matched' communication between children's friends, or between children and educators and not all matters going to plan. Please feel free to check in with staff if children are reporting matters of concern-real or perceived. We appreciate getting feedback from families when they notice a scratch, a bite mark, etc as it often provides insight into how children maybe communicating with others and/or how the receiving child may not always communicate an event with staff. Please keep us informed and we will do our best to keep you informed of those challenging moments at kindy. We may not always have the answer, however we truly value open and honest communication no matter how tricky the moment may feel.

## Personal belongings

Please ensure that all clothing (socks included), hats, lunch boxes etc are named. This will enable us to return items to children or place with their bags. Also, please do a double check on your child's clothing to make sure they do belong to your child, and return items that belong to other children. Daily check the lost property basket in the reception area for clothing items that have been left behind as we often have a large accumulation of unnamed items.

## Sunsmart and sun care

Just a reminder, please ensure that children have suitable hats (broad brimmed only and with no under chin straps) packed in their bag, along with an early lathering of sunblock during this warm weather. We are happy for families to store hats in children's pigeon holes. Whilst we do have some hats at kindy, we prefer not to use them so as to minimise the risk of sharing head lice (if there is an outbreak, and yes we already have had some visitors!). A reminder that children need to have shoulders covered with sleeved T shirts for outdoors. Please apply sunblock prior to coming to kindy, otherwise there is sunblock available at the reception counter. Sunblock will be reapplied during children's lunch break

## Messy Play

Please feel free to back bathers/towel or rashee and board shorts to support children's access to messy play. This provides children with the independence to change themselves and/or dry quickly if the need arises. And yes, we know that tshirts are getting stained from messy play-exactly how it should be as they are children's work clothes after all ☺. We refer to these marks as 'the medals of play' This is really part of why we love our Tingeri uniform, as it prevents children's good clothes from getting stained. Win win really!



## Spare Clothing

From time to time children can have either toileting accidents, or get super messy and not have spare clothes packed in their bags. We are seeking any donations of spare knickers, jocks or pants that will assist staff to change children if needed.

## Sharing compliments, concerns or grievances

As a team we value feedback and welcome conversations with families both formal and informal. There maybe occasions when families feel they would like to share a compliment, a concern or a grievance and we value the opportunity to speak face to face with family members.

Technology has brought with it new and valued mediums for sharing however there are ramifications if families chose to use social media as a way of sharing grievances and this can be in breach of policies from Department for Education and have more serious consequences. Difficult conversations are unnerving for all involved, however we invite families to speak to staff personally and follow site procedures for managing concerns or grievances. These can be found in our centre handbook; parent information book at reception or on display on the information board

## Drop box donations

We are happy to accept donations of cartons, paper rolls (NO TOILET ROLLS THOUGH-for very obvious reasons) and loose parts that children can use for construction work. You will notice a green wheelie bin in our reception area that holds donations for glueing, making and construction. At the moment it is full so regularly check in for free space as we want to minimise storing donated bags of boxes in our store room as the clutter seems to look like apartment living for mice! Eew-not Mim's favourite creature. Any small machines such as keyboards, radios, printers etc are also welcome as children can use these at the tinkering table for dismantling.



## Fees

Just a reminder that fees are set at \$400 for the year. Thank you to the families that have already paid and/or organised payments by instalments-it is greatly appreciated. Fees can be paid for at reception (either in whole or instalments). Check pigeon holes later in the term for invoices.

## Parent information

Children's learning:

Information in relation to our curriculum, quality improvement plan, National Quality Standards and centre policies is located in our parent information book located at reception (currently under review). Our termly program is on display on the information board inside the entrance to kindy, opposite our pigeon holes.

Community information:

Located on the boards outside the door entry to kindy or in the hallway leading to the community room. Please check regularly for updated information and termly programs.



## Community Information

### Governing Council

Our Annual General Meeting will be on Friday March 27th at 1 pm. At this meeting we report on our achievements from 2019 as well as elect members to participate for the year ahead. Please consider participating as members of our Governing Council as our families provide valuable insight into making meaningful decisions in relation to the education and care of all children. If you are interested in participating or knowing more, please feel free to chat with staff.

COME JOIN US

WE WANT YOU TO BE  
PART OF  
*our story*  
and support  
YOUR CHILD'S  
EXPERIENCE  
*at tineri*

You are the centre of your child's world. Everything they learn about the world they first learn through their relationship with you. This year we will be sharing with you a parenting A-Z of seeing the world from your child's point of view called "I need you.." Be inspired, be encouraged, be validated...❤



Accept me as I am

Accept and enjoy all the ways that

I am different from you. I am

unique. There is no one else like me. When you love me for who I am, I learn that I am loveable. With acceptance, I feel loved for who I am, not just for what I can do.



Be with me as I explore my world

Share my discovery of each new experience for the very first time. I need

to know that you are happy about me exploring my world. When you support me to discover new things about my world, I feel brave. I feel good when I learn that I can do things for myself. When you allow me time to practice new skills, I feel important and respected.



Comfort me when I need you

Crying is my way of telling you that I am feeling tired, sad,

overwhelmed or confused. I need you to hold and soothe me, to feel your warm touch and calming voice. I will eventually learn to comfort myself through how you calm me down.

### Market Day



Wednesdays beginning week 4

Every week of term

\$1 per bag—BYO bag

### Dates to remember

March 9—Public holiday

April 3—AGM

April 5—daylight saving ends

April 9—Student Free Day/last day of term

April 10—Good Friday

April 27—Murraylands student fee day (Term 2 begins)

To keep up to date with events and happenings check us out on



Facebook: Tineri Children's Centre and/or Mim at Tineri

Instagram: tineri\_cc

