



Term 1, Week 2, 2021

Welcome to all our families, old and new. We are looking forward to an exciting, fun filled year of learning at kindy this year.

### Staffing

The Preschool is staffed for 1 teacher and 1 Educator each day with some additional hours allocated to support individual children and to release staff for lunches.

#### **This term you will regularly see:**

Teacher: Miss Emily (Tues-Fri)

Educator: Miss Julie (Mon-Fri)

Teacher: Miss Amie (Mon-Wed)

#### **And sometimes see:**

Principal: Ms Lynette Simons

Deputy Principal: Mrs Louise Denton

Pastoral Care: Mrs Leanne Kruger

### Governing Council / Volunteers

Being a School Based Preschool we are a part of the school's Governing Council. If parents would like to be involved in this please register your interest at the schools **AGM which is held on Monday the 8th of February.** If you would like to volunteer on a regular basis you will need to complete some training and get a police check, which you will need to see the front office staff to collect. Thank you for your assistance with this.

Support is specifically sought from families who could assist with Fundraising or Sustainability initiatives and to represent the Preschool alongside Julie as our staff representative.

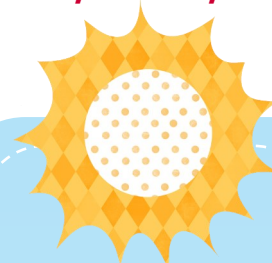
### Quality Improvement Plan

Each year we review and set goals for our Preschool towards improving outcomes in specific areas of children's learning. We also make plans to ensure our Preschool meets and exceeds the National Quality Standards on which we are assessed by the National Regulatory Body ACECQA. Our Plan is aligned with the School Improvement Plan to ensure continuity of learning as children transition. This year our two goals are:

**-To support children to become effective communicators through oral language**

**-To support children to become effective communicators through mathematical mark making**

We will achieve these goals through professional reading and critical reflection, staff training and collaborating with other professionals such as our Speech Pathologist Anna.



### **Shoes**

Children need to wear sturdy shoes (with a strap, no thongs) that they can put on independently as they engage in lots of climbing, running etc. As wet weather approaches gumboots are great.

On occasion, including sandpit play, they will have bare feet- not having shoes on provides important sensory input and an opportunity to develop balance and coordination skills.

### **Toileting**

It is developmentally appropriate for children to have accidents from time to time at kindy. Some children may also still need some support with wiping etc. We are guided by you and your child so please speak to us if your child is not yet toileting independently.

If your child does have an accident we will tell you so if your child comes home with wet clothes they have been independent in changing from messy play.



### Birthdays

We will be acknowledging children's birthdays as they happen. We will do this by sharing a certificate, singing happy birthday and lighting a candle on our special plaster kindy cake. Unfortunately due to healthy eating guidelines we are unable to celebrate birthdays with shared food.

### No nuts

We are a nut aware site. This means that we need your assistance with not bringing foods that have nuts in them.

### Lunchboxes

Thanks to families for supporting less packaging and healthy eating guidelines. We will encourage children to put uneaten food back in their lunchbox so you know how much they are eating and any dislikes and packaging for you to reuse and recycle at home. While we cannot do shared fruit due to Covid at this time we are looking at other appropriate opportunities for children to engage in individual cooking experiences eg: toast of fruit skewers.

## Philosophy, Policies and Procedures

We have a number of Department of Education policies and procedures available on request or on our website as well as a recently updated Preschool Philosophy and site specific policies relating to topics such as healthy eating, sun protection, safe sleeping, guiding behaviour and water safety.

### Communication

We use the app Dojo to share information about group learning and events, reminders and to seek parent input. Families can message on dojo, comment on stories. We will use digital communication where possible to support our commitment to reduce waste across the preschool and school. Other notes/ fliers etc will be given to families at pick up or sent to OSHC with your child. Any messages for the day (including relief staff, reminders etc) will be written on the whiteboard above the sign in sheet, sent on class dojo and if relevant repeated in regular newsletters. Money and permissions need to be returned to the school office unless otherwise indicated on the form.

### Photos

Jade Kearns Photography will be in on **Wednesday the 15th of February** to photograph all Preschool children **from 8.45am. Please return forms and money to the Pre-school.**

### Routines

**SESSION BEGINS: 9.00am SESSION FINISHES 3.00pm**

**-Morning** We encourage you to continue the routine of putting belongings away, finding names and signing in and sharing a song or story together. If you need support to say goodbye to your child after that please approach us, we know the first few weeks can be tricky and are here to help. We will never allow a child to get distressed and are more than happy to call you to let you know how your child has settled or send you a photo, calls to us to check are also welcome!

**-Afternoon** Please note at the end of the day we would like children to wait on the mat until we say goodbye and then move to their family member. This ensures the safety of all children as families move in and out of the preschool. Thank-you for your support with this.

**-Developing Independence** We encourage you to support your child to become independent with putting their sunscreen, shoes and socks on and dressing each morning as they will need these skills regularly at kindy.





## Updates from Lynette (reposted from Williamstown Primary School Newsletter)

### **COVID Update**

While we currently do not have any community transmission of COVID 19, we are reminded to remain vigilant. In regard to this, parents are reminded that they must continue to physically distance from other adults wherever possible, including at school pick up and drop off or when attending school events. If parents do not adhere to the physical distancing request, we may not be able to invite parents and family members to school events.

The Department for Education has listed the following information.

The following activities can resume/continue providing government health advice and physical distancing requirements are strictly followed:

- parents, volunteers, departmental support and other service providers may enter school and preschool grounds
- school assemblies, graduations and concerts
- all intrastate camps and excursions (SA Health approval is not currently required)
- all school sport competitions, sports days and carnivals, including inter-school competitions
- inter-school choirs, bands and other performing art activities
- school formals, socials and discos
- playgroups and occasional care
- professional learning activities.

It is important that students stay home if they are unwell. Parents will be called should a child present unwell in the morning at preschool or school or become unwell during the day. Anyone who has COVID 19 symptoms should be tested and remain at home until cleared. Please notify the office if you are isolating at home awaiting the results of a COVID test.

Students will be reminded of frequent hand washing and good hygiene practices. The additional COVID clean will continue during the day and staff have access to cleaning resources in classrooms.

### **Fruit Fly Alert**

We have been notified that much of metropolitan Adelaide and some areas of the Riverland are currently in fruit fly outbreak areas. While Williamstown doesn't fall into the listed outbreak areas, please be aware that any fruit or vegetables provided to you by family and friends within the outbreak areas must not be sent to school in lunch boxes.

For more information or if you have any questions, please visit [www.pir.sa.gov.au/fruitfly](http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/fruitfly)

### **Reminders**

Families should have received information about the school's bushfire response and emergency practices with recent paperwork. We regularly practise our response to emergency situations to ensure that staff and students know how to respond to an emergency. As a R2 bushfire alert site, on days identified as Catastrophic, we are required to close the school, preschool and OSHC. During this time, no staff, students or families are allowed on the school grounds. This is a time when families should be prepared to enact their bushfire safety plan. Once the Catastrophic rating has been listed, parents will be notified. This usually occurs by 5pm the day before.



9.00 **SESSION BEGINS**

Staff sign children in

Morning routines (wash hands, lunch, drink, notes, hat, bag)

Name recognition and writing/ fingergym

Voting for a shared book

Shared book with family/ kindy adult

Inside Play/ Outside Play

9.40 5 minute warning for transition (visuals to support)

9.45 Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country

Break into groups (main and targeted support group)

Focus: Literacy/ Numeracy/ Child Protection Curriculum

Shared Fruit and conversation

Check weather/ UV

Inside/ Outside play

11.15 5 minute warning for transition (visuals to support)

11.20 Pack up (visuals and auditory cues to support) clear and clean tables

11.35 Read Shared Book, Apply suncream (as needed), wash hands

11.45 Lunch at tables

Relaxation

Inside/ Outside Play and Self Serve Snack (with reminders)

2.25 5 minute warning for transition (visuals to support)

Pack up (visuals to support) and Pack bags

2.45 Tic Tac Toe- songs and games related to focus

Reflection- share photos, label dispositions and invite children to share learning (ipad photos etc.)

3.00 **SESSION FINISHES (preschool staff to take children to OSHC)**

