23rd July, 2012

Dear parents, grandparents and care-givers,

Welcome back to a very busy term. We hope all of our new families enjoy their association with our kindy.

Change is part of life and there are many changes happening in the early childhood world!

The changes to the way kindys will be operating from 2013 are beginning to impact on the way we are organising children to start at kindy. From the beginning of next year, children who turn 4 on or after the 1st May, will have to wait until 2014 to start kindy. So the children who are starting at kindy at the beginning of 2013 are those who will be turning 4 by the 30th April, 2013. This is quite a large number, currently over 30 and we are unable to offer the normal once a week pre-entry session to these children. This has never been a funded program and unfortunately it is a casualty of this new system. Many kindys have also stopped their playgroups, but we are keen to continue with ours and so far the change from Friday morning to Friday afternoon has worked well.

Families with children due to start kindy next year will be notified of the changes and we will be offering some orientation and information sessions towards the end of the year.

The new website is up and running. Please check it out - www.largsnthkgn.sa.edu.au The newsletter will be put on the website and it has all the information you may require. Any suggestions, please let us know.

A Working Bee will be held on Saturday 11th August from 8 am until about midday. We want to get ‘spick and span’ for the Spring Fair. A list will be put up shortly and if you can help out it would be much appreciated. If you can do some of the jobs at another time, please see a staff member. Food and drink will be provided and you are welcome to bring along your children.
Staff for next year: I am entering into my 14th year at Largs North Kindy and it is time to move on. I have accepted a teaching exchange to Colorado Springs in the USA for 2013, so I will be leaving. The position of Director will be advertised this term and we will let the community know who that will be as soon as we know. Apparently there is a farewell planned for me on **Sunday, 28th October** from 2.00 – 5.00pm, so please keep this date free if you can.

Louise, Liz, Cheryl and Bev will be continuing on at the kindy next year. Largs North has had a fairly stable staff team over the years and I am in fact only the 5th director in over 50 years. Many of the teaching staff have also stayed on for many years.

The Olympic-a-thon.
Almost every year, Cheryl works with the children to design a remarkable obstacle-a-thon, each one with a different theme. We have had a musical-a-thon, a 1950’s-a-thon, a World Cup-a-thon and of course this year, we will be using the Olympic spirit to design our next obstacle-a-thon. It will be held on **Thursday 2nd August** in the afternoon, from 1.00 until 3.00pm. We really need parent help to man the stations, so if you can come along, please do. If your child does not normally attend on a Thursday afternoon, they are welcome to come along and join in the fun!

The Spring Fair-Saturday 1st September.
Very shortly, there will be rosters put up for the Spring Fair. If you can help out on the day, it would be very welcome. The stall list is on the notice board above the sign in sheets. If you are cleaning out the kid’s toys, old books, DVD’s and video’s, second-hand clothing, please remember us. If you could keep them until the week before, that would be great, as we do not have a lot of storage space. Angela Carter, Jessica’s mum, is collecting prizes for the paddle pop stick raffle. She has drafted a letter to give to businesses to ask for goods or services to include in the raffle. If you have any contacts who may like to make a donation please ask us for a copy of the letter to give to them. Thank you.

Please read the notes up around the kindy and ask questions if you have any queries or concerns! We are here to help!

Jane Louise Bev Cheryl Liz.