



May 2015

Kindy News

Dates to Remember

Governing Council
19 May and 23 June
7-9 p.m.

Little Sprouts Excursion
3 June

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle
6 June *VOLUNTEERS NEEDED*

Family Night
16 June

Student Free Day
17 June – the kindy will not be open on this day

Kindy Photos
18 June

Term 2 is well under way and the winter weather is finally upon us. We hope you all had a lovely break from the kindy routine.

During the holidays all asbestos in our centre was removed, the entry ceiling, infill panels, eaves and flooring in the storeroom. This was a mammoth task for the builders and the kindy team. Removing everything from our storeroom, sorting through it and then placing it back into the storeroom kept us busy. While there are no dramatic changes it is reassuring to know that our building is now free from this harmful substance.

Sadly during the holidays Chickadee, our little white bantam chicken, died. The children have handled this loss very well, however we are exploring the possibility of replacing our chickens with another pet. This decision will be left to the children, and although there have been suggestions of a giraffe or some dinosaurs, we know that as we investigate the responsibilities of pet ownership and animals needs, they will come up with an appropriate choice.

Keep an eye on the large noticeboard on the carpeted area for information about our project throughout the term.

School Visits

Next week we will be visiting Largs Bay School on Monday and Thursday mornings. This is a great opportunity for the children to see what learning looks like at primary school.

Although we know some children won't be going to Largs Bay, we will reassure them that even though it may not be *their* school there will be lots of similarities with their own 'big' school.

Thank you to the many parent who have volunteered to walk with us to the school, if you are available please come along as this is our first big walk.

Beach Walks

Louise has prepared a roster for families to volunteer for our upcoming beach walks on the **26th May, 11 June and 22nd June**. It is essential that we have families to support our beach trips due to the increased risk of being close to the water.

Student Free Day

We will be holding a Student Free Day on Wednesday, **17th June**. The staff will be involved in professional learning on the day and the centre will be closed for the day.

Kindergartens are entitled to two Student Free Days each year to enable staff teams to engage in shared learning experiences.

We will be visiting two other centres to see how they document the children's learning, as this is a focus for our team this year.

We will also have time on this day to discuss what we see and hear, as well as the learning we have done together throughout the holidays and recent weeks.

Family Night

Each term we invite you to come and celebrate our learning. We will share the

work we have developed in our project. This term we will be holding our Family Night on **Tuesday, 16th June** from 5:30p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Please add this date to your calendar and join us as we celebrate the children's learning for the term, have a play and enjoy a meal together.

Families are asked to bring a plate of food to share.

Governing Council

Our Governing Council is planning big things for the year ahead. It is not too late to join the council and have a say in the running of the kindy.

This term we will be meeting on Tuesday nights, **19th May and 23rd June**. We start the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and finish at around 9:00 p.m.

Little Sprouts Excursion

We will be heading into the Botanic Gardens on **3rd June** to participate in the Little Sprouts program. An excursion form and full details will be distributed next week.

Preschool Numeracy and Literacy Indicators

On the Le Fevre Peninsula Partnership Day, at the beginning of the term, our staff team joined other preschool educators to learn more about the newly developed Preschool Numeracy and Literacy Indicators. 2015 is a familiarisation year for centres as we explore ways to incorporate them into our play based pedagogy.

You will see documentation specifically relating to numeracy and literacy around the centre as we begin to unpack the document. As a first step, there is an overview of the learning focus we will be taking for Weeks 0-5 in the kindy program above the sign-in table.

Learning Project

This term our inquiry project will be based around the children's desire to have a kindy pet. We have talked about what they might like to do and are now exploring exactly what animal, or animals, they would like. Of course there have been some exciting suggestions, such as a dog, dinosaur or giraffe. We will work through, with the children, the practicalities relating to these ideas.

We have started collecting data about the pets we have at home and will be graphing this to analyse the information. If you do have a pet at home could you please send in a photo of it/them to add to our data wall.

We would like to invite families who have some expertise in 'animals' to let us know if you are able to share this with the children. You might even like to bring in a pet to show the children, please arrange a time with the staff.

On the noticeboard above the sign-in table is a brainstorm the staff team has created as a starting point for our project. Please note that we will not be limited to the possibilities shown and will trust the children to take the project in the directions that interest them.

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

Our centre has been very lucky in securing a sausage sizzle at Bunnings Woodville on **Saturday, 6 June**. We need volunteers to run the stall over the day. There is a volunteer sheet on the sign-in table for you to add your name. Even if you can come for an hour it would be appreciated. Please remember that *many hands make light work*.

Entertainment Book Fundraiser

We are selling Entertainment Books as our first fundraiser of the year. You can purchase either the book or a digital membership. There are hundreds of discount offers of up to 50% off at restaurants, cafes, attractions, hotels, shopping, groceries and travel. Please contact Nichole Lindblom if you would like to place an order, 0402 788 095 or jlind@gmail.com

We trust this newsletter finds you all well, although we know that the colder weather and being indoors more often does bring on the winter colds.

Dannielle, Louise, Simone, Connie, Cheryl, Amy and Josephine

Professional Learning

During the holidays the kindy team went to a conference titled 'Reshaping Documentation: National Quality Standards Conference'. As documentation is a key focus area of our site Quality Improvement Plan this conference provided a wonderful opportunity to access national and international speakers, see examples of practice and talk about how this translates our own context.

The Le Fevre Peninsula Partnership Day on 27th April focused on Fixed and Growth Mindsets and the Numeracy and Literacy Indicators.

Carol Dweck's work around mindsets may not be new, but the recognition about the effects it can have on learning is having amazing effects on learner outcomes.

Below is a link to a TedTalk, 'The Power of Believing You Can Improve' that will explain this research in detail.

http://www.ted.com/talks/carol_dweck_the_power_of_believing_that_you_can_improve?language=en

All schools in our Partnership will be focusing on teachers and leaders using the language of growth mindsets with our learners.