



CLARENCE PARK COMMUNITY KINDERGARTEN

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Settling in at Kindergarten

Getting to know each other, routines, expectations, dispositions, wellbeing, executive functions are the focus of our program.

The Charter of Rights program is our social skills program. Children are encouraged to do the right thing. Each child has a page in the 'Charter of Rights' book. The Program has been running successfully with children wanting to do the right thing. We are continuously encouraging appropriate, safe and helpful behaviours. The children brainstormed what they think are the right things to do at kindergarten during small group times and we have documented their ideas. We are now building on these through stories, songs and role play.

There has been an interest in emergency services. The cubby was transformed into a fire station in week 4 and the play has continued. By providing the resources the play became purposeful with many opportunities for literacy, numeracy development and social play. As a result of this play we have invited the MFS (metropolitan fire service) to come out for a visit. It also ties in very well to our emergency evacuation practice if ever there actually was an emergency at the kindergarten.

This week, through children's ideas we had a hospital set up with many of our dolls being bandaged and taken to the doctor for 'fixing'. We wrote up medical records for the patients, introduced medical terms such as symptoms and treatment. At the end of the day the children really enjoyed dramatizing, 'Miss Poly had a Dolly.' We expect this play will continue during for the rest of the term.

Thursday bike day has been successful. Small groups of children have been going out to use the bike track. The mechanic kit has been introduced to develop imaginative and creative play. The numbers for the bus stop will also be introduced for numeracy development.

Children are really enjoying collecting the eggs, asking questions about will they hatch after having our Henny Penny program in weeks 2 and 3. Documentation in the green team book follows after egg collection. The children draw and write how many eggs were collected.

Hopefully you have all heard about our 'Funny Hat Sit on the Mat' times. These are our structured and targeted group times. Our goal is that children will self-check which group they are in to avoid too many transitions during the day. Currently we are meeting as a large group and then dividing up into smaller groups. Our group time plans are displayed on the notice board with our program overview. They will be based on interest, need, specific skills, literacy and numeracy. If we didn't get around to showing you our program display during our parent discussion time, please come and ask us where to find it.

We are teaching the children about the importance of relaxation and have allocated a special time of day to practice relaxation techniques. The children are enjoying their time to wind down. We have invited a yoga teacher to provide the children with a yoga session fortnightly. During the day the book area is a spot where children can come to calm down and slow down a little. We have noticed that children are getting very tired as the day progresses, some children even looking for a space to lie down. We have invested in a tent which is now available for children to use one at a time. We also provide plenty of opportunities for children to play at designated quieter activities during the day.

We would like to encourage parents to get involved with our program. Already this term we have had Max's mum, Kerry come in to read books to children during our mat time and she also organised the beautiful Harmony Day poster for us. Winter's mum designed the working bee poster and Klara's dad made the new and sturdy Literacy Pack stand. Thank you so much for your support.

The parent teacher discussions have been informative. Thank you to all who have taken the opportunity to share more information about the children with us. We have now collated all the information to help us with planning our program. There are also some common interest groups that can develop so we will soon be in contact with you to see how you can be involved in the program if you expressed a special skill or interest during the discussions.

Health and Safety

**WE MUST ADHERE TO A NO NUT POLICY.
We have a child attending with a severe allergy to nuts.**

It has been wonderful to see so many beautifully packed lunch boxes with healthy nutritious food. Thank you for supporting us in our endeavour to cut out waste at the kindergarten. We have noticed that some children have very big grapes in their lunch boxes. If you do pack large grapes could you please cut them in half as they could possibly be a choking hazard.

Hats; Children need a hat every day. Please read our sun Smart policy at the front door next to our Sun Smart Man. UV ratings have been very high this term. Children without hats access limited outdoor play areas.

Please name your children's belongings clearly. Especially hats, bags and lunch boxes. Check the lost and found baskets regularly. Anything that is unclaimed goes to SALVOS at the end of each term.

If at any stage your child's health needs change, please let us know. Thank you to the parents who have kept their children at home when they are unwell. Germs at kindergarten spread quickly. If your child is unwell or if you administer Panadol in the morning thinking that this will see them through the day, please consider keeping them at home. Rest is vital when unwell. When children come to kindergarten feeling unwell they cannot regulate themselves and just want to keep up with their friends. It starts a cycle where they don't get over their symptoms as quickly as they could with rest at home.

Drop off and pick up time

We would appreciate punctuality at drop off and pick up times for the smooth running of our program. If you do happen to be running late for any particular reason, please phone the Kindergarten to let us know. Late pick up will incur a fee.

As pick up time at the end of the day is a very busy and anxious time we ask that you wait until we say goodbye to your child whilst they are still sitting on the mat before they leave. We need to ensure that they are leaving the kindergarten with the right person.

Thank you ☺

Governing Council

We had our first very successful meeting. Ideas, goals, plans and actions have been determined for the year. It will be a wonderful year with some developments happening in the front garden. Watch this space.

Two working bees have been organised, the first one on the 16th of March. Please pop you name on the sheet provided next to the whiteboard on the front veranda if you can help out on the day.

Our Governing Council for 2019 is: -

Chairperson	Susan Petrie
Vice Chair (1)	Emily Wake
Vice Chair (2)	Kerry Atherton
Secretary	Holly Persico
General Members	Cressida Jones, Emily Kiessling, Tristan Pope, Sarah Kennedy.

We welcome any new parents who would like to be involved.
Our next meeting is Wednesday, April 3rd at 6pm.

Harmony Day Celebration

Harmony Day is part of the Australian Government's "Living in Harmony" initiative and is a multicultural event. It provides an opportunity to celebrate our achievements as a multicultural society and to help build peace, harmony and tolerance. It acknowledges and values our rich diversity.

You have all received an invitation to come and join us to celebrate Harmony Day this year. It has been a very successful evening in the past. It's a great way to meet with other families and try foods from other cultures. Check your information pockets and return your slip by the 14th of March.

Rosters

Thank you to everyone who has offered to help us with laundry washing, construction kit washing and sweeping at the end of each week. Every little bit helps to keep programs running smoothly and efficiently and to maintain national quality standards.

Pupil Free Days/KINDY CLOSURES 2019 (NO KINDY THESE DAYS)

Please put these dates in your diary.

You will need to make alternative arrangements for your child on the following days:

<i>Term 1</i>	<i>Wednesday 27th March</i>
<i>Term 2</i>	<i>Wednesday 29th May</i>
<i>Term 3</i>	<i>Tuesday 27th August</i>
<i>Term 4</i>	<i>Thursday 12th December</i>

The kindergarten staff use these days for planning, reflection, record keeping, documentation and working collaboratively with our local Partnership on Numeracy, Literacy and STEM.

The first two closures are organised by our Partnership and will involve training with seven kindergartens.

Children's birthdays

We have a pretend cake and sing happy birthday to children if their birthday falls on a kindy day. They then get to blow out the candles. Please be advised that in line with our Healthy Eating and Nutrition Policy no cakes, lollies or chocolate are to be brought to Kindy for birthday celebrations.

Whiteboard

Do you read the whiteboard at the front of the kindergarten? Information is put up at the beginning of each week and sometimes notices change daily. Please try to make it part of your daily routine to avoid missing important information.



Diary Dates

Fees are now overdue now. Please pay ASAP

Last day of term: Thursday 11th April

Harmony Day celebration Thursday 21st March

Pupil free day: Wednesday 27th March

First day term 2: Monday 29th April

Governing Council meeting: Wednesday 3rd April at 6pm

Hard copies of the newsletter will be available upon request.

