



CLARENCE PARK COMMUNITY KINDERGARTEN

5 Parker Terrace Clarence Park SA 5034

Tel: 8293 5652 Fax: 8371 4958

Email: tahlia.geisler848@schools.sa.edu.au

13/05/2019

Introduction

While I have met many families over the past two weeks, I would like to formally introduce myself. My name is Tahlia Gibney and I am acting as the Director at Clarence Park Community Kindergarten while Rita is on leave. I am a permanent teacher at a school-based preschool and was offered the opportunity to act as a director at a kindergarten in the Adelaide Prospect Partnership during term 1.

I feel very grateful and privileged to be taking on this new role at Clarence Park and look forward to working with you and your children in terms 2 and 3.

Curriculum

Dinosaurs continue to be of interest to the children, with the cubby house area being transformed to prehistoric times. The children have enjoyed exploring this area, building enclosures for the dinosaurs, adding a volcano and roaming the kindergarten yard, giving us their best dinosaur impressions!

The children have also been busy exploring our new post office, writing countless letters and special notes for their family and friends. This dramatic play area has been great for children to explore new roles and practice their fine motor skills and letter recognition as they write their letters. To extend upon this, we will be encouraging the children to post a real letter to their home address to follow on from our emergency procedure practice last term. It would be great if you could help your child learn their address!

In our small groups we have been discussing what animals we would like from the Nature Education Centre this term. Together we discussed the four different animals (fish, frog, turtle and lizard) and the children were encouraged to vote for their favourite, using sticky dots. After looking at our graphs and collating the data, the results were...

In first place with 14 points was the lizard, followed by the turtle, fish and frog all with 12 points...we couldn't believe it! This led to many in-depth discussions as the children worked to solve our problem. We have since decided that we will work down the list in the order they are in. See our floor book, located on a table next to the sign in sheet for more insight into our discussions.

Bike day has also been successful, with many children remembering to bring their bikes/scooters and helmets to kindy on **Mondays**.

Our Charter of Rights Program continues where the Educators observe acceptable behaviours that the children display. These are documented in the Charter of Rights book, located in the book corner. It is a very powerful way to encourage positive behaviour and is a great reflection tool to use with the children.

Measurement also continues to be a focus this term, with a number of children measuring their height using various objects in the numeracy corner. See our floor book for some great photos of this!

Bring a Plant, Plant a Plant Program

This term we are running our 'Bring a Plant, Plant a Plant' program in weeks 4 and 5. The program is designed to teach children about sustainability, enhance our outdoor learning environment and connect to the local community.

To participate, we kindly ask that you bring a plant to kindergarten and plant it in our garden together with your child. Plants may include winter vegetables (such as broccoli, carrots, lettuce, pumpkin, potatoes, beans etc.) for our vegetable garden or flowers for our front yard.

Seedlings are preferred.

We thank you for your support!

Bench Seat- Can you help us install it?

Our new bench seat for the swing area has arrived! We are now looking for some volunteers to assemble and install our new seat, to replace the old wooden one. If you are able to assist, please speak to Tahlia to arrange a time. Thankyou!

Health and Safety

REMINDER: WE MUST ADHERE TO A NO NUT POLICY

As our weather is now changing and we are moving into the winter months we would like each family to donate a box of tissues to the kindergarten. We have been running this program for many years very successfully. You can start bringing them any time from now on and they should last us until the end of the year.

If your child shows signs of a cold, temperature, runny nose, coughing etc. please consider keeping them at home to avoid the spread of germs. It's amazing what a day or two of rest can do.

This may also be a good opportunity to check that your child has warm spare clothing in their bags (i.e. jumper, long sleeve top and pants). A raincoat and gumboots with are also highly recommended as we do play in the rain, but we must have appropriate clothing. **Please ensure all items of clothing are labelled.**

Hats - Children can continue to wear a hat this term, however it will not be compulsory to wear one once the UV ratings decrease.

Volunteers

A very big thank you to Alexander and his family for looking after the chickens during the holiday break.

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. For more information, our volunteer rosters are on display near the entrance door.

Governing Council

We had our first Governing Council meeting for Term 2 last week and I must say...I'm excited! Keep an eye out for upcoming events, including the Election BBQ on Saturday the 18th of May. Please let us know if you can help with the BBQ by writing your name on the list by the entrance.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, 19th of June at 6pm.

We welcome any other parents who would like to be involved.

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

Just a friendly reminder of our Closure Days this year. Please put these dates in your diary. You will need to make alternative arrangements for your child on the following days:

- **Term 2 Wednesday 29th May**
- **Term 3 Tuesday 27th August**
- **Term 4 Thursday 12th December**

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

Reminders

- **Term 2 Kindergarten Fees are now due**
- Please check our lost and found box regularly, we have placed a number of items in the box already. Anything that is unclaimed goes to SALVOS at the end of each term
- Please read the whiteboard at the front of the kindergarten for important, up-to-date information and weekly reminders.



Diary Dates

Saturday the 18th of May (Week 3)- Election Day BBQ at Clarence Park Community Centre (for those who are volunteering)

Week 4 and 5- Bring a plant, plant a plant program (preferably during drop-off/ pick up times)

Wednesday the 29th of May (Week 5)- Partnership Closure Day (NO KINDY)

Wednesday 19th of June (Week 8)- Governing Council meeting 6pm

Hard copies of the newsletter will be available upon request.