



## SETTLING IN AT KINDERGARTEN.

The children have settled in very well. Friendships are forming and routines are becoming more familiar as each week passes by. Hopefully you have all heard about our 'Funny Hat Sit on the Mat' times. These are our structured and targeted group times. Currently we are meeting as a large group and then dividing up into smaller groups. Our group time plans, based on interest, need, specific skills, literacy and numeracy are displayed with our program overview, outside, near the front door.

## RELAXATION

We are teaching the children about the importance of relaxation and have allocated a special time of day just before the transition to lunch time, to practice relaxation techniques. The children are enjoying their time to wind down and at the moment we are finding that some children need rest time in the afternoon too. We employ, Bec, a yoga teacher to provide the children with a yoga session fortnightly. She will be coming Mondays this term.

## THE HENNY PENNY PROGRAM

The 'Henny Penny' program, watching the chickens hatch has been a wonderful experience for the children. We will keep four of the chicks, (hoping that they are hens not roosters) to rear with the children. It will be a great learning experience monitoring their growth and later on collecting and counting eggs. If you would like to take the 4 chickens home for the weekend while they are still young, please let us know. Thank you to Rita and Karma's family and Hudson's family for offering help already. 😊

## CHILD'S VOICE

A lot of our program is designed around children's voice and interests. When the children own an idea and can make decisions about their learning, it leads to positive engagement in the program. You may have seen a pretend caravan set up in the soft fall area. This has come totally out of a child's idea who decided that we needed a caravan at kindy. A design was drawn and now here it is.....part of their daily play. Many children have taken part in this play area and it has been developed into a caravan and camping park. Watch this space in future newsletters.

## BIKE DAY

Bike Day has been very successful. The children are learning about road safety whilst using gross motor skills. This term every Wednesday will be bike day. The day will change each term.

## FLOORBOOK

Have you seen our floorbook yet? To communicate the children's learning we document weekly photos and stories which highlight learning in a 'Floor book.' This will be available daily for you to look at. Please feel free to put your comments in the Floor book on the Parent Feedback page. We value your feedback and ideas.

## PARENT DISCUSSIONS

The parent teacher discussions have been very informative. Thank you to all who have taken the opportunity to share information about your children with us. We will collate all the information to help us when planning our program. There are already some common interest groups that can be developed with the children and also for parent involvement. We will soon be in contact with you to see how you can be involved in the kindy 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 children attending with a severe allergy to nuts.**

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.

## LUNCH BOXES

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, please cut them in half as they could possibly be a choking hazard.

## HATS

Children need a hat every day. UV ratings have been very high this term. Children without hats access limited outdoor play areas.

## NAMES ON BELONGINGS

Please name your children's belongings clearly. Especially hats, bags and lunch boxes and drink bottles. Check the lost and found baskets regularly. Anything that is unclaimed goes to SALVOS at the end of each term. There are lots of socks in there at the moment.

## DROP OFF AND PICK UP TIME

Thank you very much for supporting us at the beginning and end of day routine. It has helped immensely with the routines of the day.

We 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 ☺

## 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.

We will be hosting a Harmony Day event at the kindy on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March. We have a culturally diverse community and 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.

You will soon receive an invitation in your information pockets.



## 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.

## 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 on the cake. 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, by the door at the front of the kindergarten? Information is written 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.

## HEALTH CHECKS

Have you booked in an appointment at the Edwardstown clinic for your child's 4year old Health Check? **Appointment Line: 1300 733 606**

## Diary Dates

<b>Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>Annual General meeting 6-7pm</b> <b>Health checks at the Edwardstown clinic</b>
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Pupil Free Day</b>
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Harmony Day Celebrations.</b>

