

# JULY AUG NEWSLETTER

We welcome you to our July August newsletter.

Apologies for the delay with this newsletter but we finally finished it and can send it out. Yay!

Welcome to all our new families who have started with us over the last couple of months.

Thank you all for your cooperation and patience as we fight off all the illness that has been attacking us. We very much appreciate that you have been keeping your children at home when they are unwell and for the 48 hour exclusion period. The staff have also been hit hard which has meant a lot of casuals and new faces. Please don't be afraid to introduce yourselves. We hope to have all staff back on deck soon.

As you will notice we have placed, in the rooms, the sheets for you to indicate which days you would like for your child in 2018. Don't forget if you have a child, not yet enrolled, to also write down their name and days for next year.

We have been enjoying the warmer weather and visiting the park and taking some walks. We are also allowing the children to play barefoot if they would like. There are so many benefits to this.



Our recent Daffodil day raised some much needed money towards cancer research. Thank you to everyone for your generous donations.

# INTERESTING INFORMATION

## ***Useful Doctor to your door information.***

Thanks to Amanda for sharing this with us. These are the numbers of the Doctors that will come to your door in the Toronto, Rathmines, Coal Point Areas.

Home Doctor Services:

Doctor On Duty

1300 22 55 47

<https://doctoronduty.com.au>

Dial a home doctor

13 99 99

<https://www.myhomedoctor.com.au>

## **Home Visits & After Hours Medical Care, Doctor / GP for Coffs Harbour & Central Coast, Byron Bay, Ballina, Lismore & Lake Macquarie**

We are the Leading Provider of In-home and In-residence After Hours Medical Care on the Coffs & Central Coasts, Byron Bay, Ballina, Lismore & Lake Macquarie

## **Christmas Shutdown Dates**

Last day for children is December 21<sup>st</sup> 2017

First Day Back for children is January 19<sup>th</sup> 2018



# PRE- SCHOOL ROOM NEWS

During this month the preschool room had a visit from Peter's Dad Andrew, and his team from the S.E.S (State Emergency Service). Andrew spoke to the children about the importance of staying out of flood waters, and the dangers in flood waters. The children made their own flood water using all different things that may be found in dangerous flood waters.

Some of the dangers included snakes, cars, poisons, trees, rubbish, insects, glass and sharp objects. The children then went outside to see the rescue vehicle and the rescue boat. Each child had their turn exploring the vehicle and boat. They thought beeping the horn was great! The children then listened to a story book about a family who were helped by the S.E.S during a flood storm. Last the children were able to do some colouring of S.E.S pictures. Thanks Andrew for the great experience and helping us learn more about what the S.E.S does and how they can help us.



# PRE- SCHOOL ROOM NEWS

The children explored science with the science on the move science show. Anne presented the show and included magnification, magnets at work, force and friction, floating and sinking, and wind up energy. The children were able to have a variety of hands on experiences with the tools and equipment that Anne brought along for them to explore science.



Each week children have been taking turns to bring home one of our preschool room bears and library bags. The children each get to pick a story book to take home and share with their family. There is a writing book included that children are able to share their favourite part of the book or something good they did with the bear. The children then share their contribution at news time with the other children in the room and get to talk about what they liked about the book and what they did with the bears. Thank you to parents for helping your children writing in the books and sharing some aspects of your home life with us.



# PRE SCHOOL ROOM

The children have been engaging in lots of pattern following and building, sequencing sorting and matching games. We have provided them with some more challenging puzzles to test their abilities and skills and challenged them with memory games and story sequencing. The children have also played some bingo and lots of construction experiences. Dinosaurs are a continuing interest with children building large elaborate dinosaur islands and using the dinosaur toys for their imaginative games. They have practiced their fine motor skills with scissors and using small hammers and nails with the tapping experiences.



Outside the children have been holding concerts on the stage and building great big obstacle courses together. The children go around the yard collecting anything they can carry and stand on to extend on the course and create a big long path around the yard. All this work requires lots of team work, collaborating and working together to achieve.



# PRE SCHOOL ROOM

With a new order of Hula-hoops the children have been practicing their hula skills and spinning skills. These hula hoops have been turned into all sorts of things like trains, space ships, spinners, lily pads, things to jump in and through and also used to roll to our friends.



## . A few friendly reminders :

Now that the weather is warming up please remember to pack your children a hat that is labelled. Also pack weather appropriate clothing and spare clothing. Children still often need their jumpers during the early mornings and late afternoon and cooler clothing for the middle of the day when it can get quite warm. Please label everything with your child's name.

We also once again ask that children leave toys at home and not bring them to school. These special toys cause some conflicts with children and you run the risk of them being lost and broken. You can however take a picture and send that in with your child if they really want to show off something special to us all. We do encourage children to bring special books from home to share with their peers. We are always building on our literacy skills and support language development through books.

Until next time; Sandy, Vicki, Alyce, Carmen, Julie, Claire and Sue.

# TODDLER ROOM

In the Toddler room we have been learning about recycling and reusing household items. Thank you to the parents for the input of boxes, magazines and bottle lids as this provides the children with learning skills such as cutting, gluing and gives them the opportunity to come up with creative ideas, the children have enjoyed using our recycled items and making all different things out of them.

The children have been learning about the importance of our environment and respect of our environment by planting our hanging plants from the tree and introducing flowers into our Toddler room. The children have decorated recycled bottles and made them into vases for our flowers to have on our tables during lunch time. This creates a more home- like environment. We provided the initial flowers for our toddler room and if parents could help supply some flowers over the next few months we would really appreciate it. They can be wild flowers, flowers from home, or flowers bought from the store, just keeping in mind no toxic flowers. We thank the parents that have already placed their name down on our list to help in this area.





# TODDLER ROOM

The children thoroughly enjoyed our visit from the SES which was provided by one of our parents- the children explored the boat and truck, which created an open discussion on other services within our community, the children talked about what the SES does, how they help, and talked about flood waters and the reason why you don't swim in flood water.

We enjoyed a visit to the park where we enjoyed some games and a picnic lunch. We hope to be able to plan more visits with the arrival of Spring.

With the weather becoming warmer over the next few months we need to start to apply sunscreen on arrival and full brimmed hats to ensure sun safety. Please check your child's bag to look at cooler options available to change into if needed. As always we remind you to pop their name on these items.

Thankyou from the Toddler staff.  
Vicki Cindy Ronda Sarah Nicky Belle





# NURSERY

A big **"Hello"** to everyone, and welcome to our new families who have recently joined the Nursery. We hope you enjoy reading through our room message. The children have been involved in many learning experiences evolving from their own interest as well as intentional teaching experiences implemented to further build on their development. Mobile phones and computer keyboards were popular resources that encouraged early language and literacy skills, as well as social skills when the children pretended to talk on their phone to a family member, a friend, or one of the Educators.

Dinosaurs were added to the sandpit after we noticed some children pretending to be dinosaurs by growling, stomping and moving their hands and fingers as if they were claws. Dress-ups were a welcome addition to our indoor area, enhancing an interest in pretend play and promoting self help skills as the children attempted to put on clothes, shoes and hats. More recent interests have been with tools, nuts, bolts and blocks, magnetic animals on our new easel, musical instruments, and 'Pirate Cove' which is a large trough including sand, a pirate ship, figurines and foliage.

The babies in our room have developed so much over the past months! Those who were unable to sit up independently are now able to do so, and some are now crawling to get where they wish to go. A few of our much younger children are also at that exciting point of now walking (or almost walking) independently, as well as working their way up the steps of our wooden climbing equipment.



# NURSERY

Because of how our centre is situated we are lucky to see much of the community around us. The children often '*stop in their tracks*' to listen if they have heard a siren, then run to the gate or fence to see if it is a Police car, Fire Truck or Ambulance. We also love watching the garbage trucks as they empty our skip bins, the council tractor as it mows the oval next door, and buses and trucks as they pass by. At the end of July we even got to see a helicopter land and take off a few times on the oval beside us! This was very exciting.

You may have noticed the charts that communicate the children's daily routines have changed. Information about your child's daily eating, sleeping, and nappy changes/toileting is now documented on a combined chart instead of two separate charts. This can be found on the bench opposite the lockers where your child's bag is kept. This chart also includes information about when we have applied sunscreen, however if you have applied sunscreen before arriving at the centre, could you please advise staff so as they can document it on this chart.

As many of our families are already aware we regularly use 'sign language' with the children, and a number of children have learnt some of the signs in this form of communication and use it throughout the day. We have had a number of families ask about the various signs we use, so please find at the end of our messages a few of the main signs we use with the children.



# NURSERY

Just a few friendly reminders:-

- We have recently had a few locker changes so just check the chart on the wall near the lockers if you are unsure.
- Please remember to sign your child in on arrival, and sign them out when you collect your child at the end of the day.
- Please label all of your child's belongings to prevent mix ups occurring.
- **PLEASE** pack plenty of clothes to cater for the varying weather conditions, as well as spills that can occur at meal times and during messy play. If we have used our spare clothes on your child, could you please wash and return these items so they can be used again when needed.

To finish, please remember if you have any concerns or questions about your child or the room in general, staff are always available to talk to you, and only too happy to do so :)

from the Nursery Team.....Sharon, Kylie, Michele, Jessie and Caitlin





# COMMON SIGN LANGUAGE SIGNS USED IN THE NURSERY



Finished

twist hand from side to side, several times



Thank you

Move flat hand forward off chin



Drink

lift hand up to mouth



Water

move bent index finger down cheek, twice



More

move cupped hand forward from chest



Please

close hand to fist, leaving thumb out

