



Newsletter - August 2014

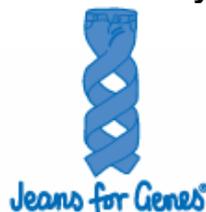
Centre News

Please support the staff and other children by not sending your child to the centre if you know he or she is potentially unwell or sick. If your child displays any of the flu symptoms (including coughing, sneezing, high temperatures, aches and pains or gastric) please see your doctor and keep him or her at home so he or she may recover before returning back to the centre. For some contagious disease (i.e: Chicken Pox, Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease), parents have to bring the clearance letter from their GP before returning back to the centre.

Due to a number of children having high risk allergies, our centre is a nut free zone. Peanut butter and Nutella sandwiches along with cakes, biscuits, muesli bars and other food products containing nuts must not be brought to the centre under any circumstance. If you do want to bring some foods or snacks for your child please avoid all that content nut, products "that may contain traces of nuts" are permitted.

August 2014 Calender of Events

01st – Friday - Jeans for Genes Day.



04th – Monday – National Aboriginal and Islander Children's Day (NAICD).

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Celebrating NAIDOC week in the Starfish room.



Celebrating NAIDOC Week in the Jellyfish room.



04th – Monday – Picnic Day.

04th – 05/08/14 – Tisha B'Av – Jewish Tradition, on this day Jewish people fast in order to remember the sufferings of the Jewish people throughout history.

09th - Saturday- International Day for World Indigenous People.

10th - Sunday- Raksha Bandhan – Hindu tradition, celebrates the love between brothers and sisters. Sisters will tie a rakhi thread on their brother's wrist as a form of protection against evil spirits.

16th – 24/08/14 – National Science Week.

17th – Sunday – Krishna Janmashtami – Hindu Tradition, celebrates the birth of Krishna. This is a two day festival. On the first day, participants fast. This is broken at midnight by eating sweet dairy products.

19th – 25/08/14 – Keep Australia Beautiful Week.

22nd – Friday – Daffodil Day.



28th - Wednesday - Krishna Janmashtami – Hindu Tradition, celebrates the birth of Krishna.

Reminders To Parents

Please advise the centre if at any time your contact details have changed. This not only includes a change of address but also changes to your child's health details, your work details (including phone numbers, emails), changes of details for emergency contacts or changes regarding those who you have authorised to collect your children from the centre.



Reading 'The Rainbow Serpent' to celebrate NAIDOC week in the Starfish room.



News times in the Starfish room.



News times in the Jellyfish room.



Picking the herbs from our garden.



Starfish News

It's certainly been a busy month this month, here is the Starfish room! First of all we would like to say a big welcome to our newest members in the room; Safwana, Mack, and Ruby Lin. We would also like to welcome Eloise, who has moved here from the Jellyfish room. July has been a big month for birthdays! It feels like we had a cake almost every week of this month! A big happy birthday to Lucas, Olivia and Charlotte, Chloe, Hana, Daniel, and Aiden. We also want to welcome back, Clarice from her holiday, its great that you arrived back safe and sound!

It was a big month different cultural celebrations too! On Friday the 4th July the children learnt about American Independence Day. The children listened to a brief history of the celebration before watching a very exciting fireworks show that is held annually at Disneyland! On Monday 14th of July the children celebrated Batille Day! After listening to a brief history about this French celebration, the children watched a clip showing the usual celebrations in France for the day. This included fighter jets letting off red, blue and white smoke, and a huge marching band. Ryan Z, Kailea and Summer particularly enjoyed the marching band. When asked how the children would like to celebrate the day Kaliea suggested we speak French, and Mia suggested we paint French flags.

We also celebrated NAIDOC week from Monday 7th July till Friday 11th July. This year's theme was "Serving Country: Centenary and Beyond", which celebrated all the brave Indigenous Australians who protect our country. On the Monday the children discussed the purpose of NAIDOC week and why it is important, they then enjoyed listening to some traditional Dreaming stories. On the Tuesday the children got to listen to the traditional Dreaming story, "The Rainbow Serpent". The children then looked at different Indigenous artistic representations of the story. The children were then invited to decorate paper plates. The paper plates will be joined together to create our very own Rainbow serpent. This creation of the Rainbow serpent continued on for the rest of the week, so all of the children were offered the opportunity to create one. The children were also



Making the lantern for our letter 'L'.



Celebrating the NAIDOC week in the Starfish room.



Making the 'blue frozen goop'.



Making the chicken salad.



offered the opportunity to listen to Dreaming stories and traditional Indigenous music during the week.

This month the theme of Frozen was still hugely popular with all of the children. To continue on with this interest the children made Elsa, Ana and Troll dolls. This project has been going since the 15th July as all of the children have requested to make a doll at one time or another. At the end of this month, with the tissue boxes we have been asking families to bring in, we created shadow box castles for the dolls to live in. The children also helped to create some icy blue frozen goop. The children spent a whole morning playing with the goop and seeing what they could do with it! This interest is still going, and we encourage the children to continue giving us great activity ideas.

On Thursday 17th July the children got to participate in a cooking experience! This time they got to make a chicken salad using lettuce leaves from our very own garden! After the lettuce being thoroughly washed and cut up, all of the children were offered the opportunity to add the different ingredients together to make the salad. The children enjoyed having the opportunity to taste their own creation at lunch time.

The Starfish children have really enjoyed singing this month. We have been offering the children the opportunity to stand up in front of the class and sing their favorite song! Ms Kathrine taught everyone their new favorite song "Tiny Tim". The song is about a little turtle that eats too many bubbles in the bath. This song has been so popular that the children asked to make their own Tiny Tims! You can see the different turtles currently hanging up in our room.

Finally the children have explored the letters M and N in the Letterland program this month. The children have very keen hearing as they've been able to hear the very slight differences between the mmm sound and the nnn sound. Each month the children do better and better at identifying words that start with the letter for the fortnight. The children have also continued to practice writing their names, and are now being encouraged to write their name on their work. This way they are developing their confidence in writing their names without a stencil.



Outdoor Play!



Making the turtles.



'Shadow box castles' for the dolls to live in.



Drawing time.



Lastly, just a reminder to families that we LOVE your input! Please keep us updated with what you do on the weekends, recent photos of family events, or even that special book that your child currently loves reading. We want to include your input into our daily program. This helps to build a stronger connection between home and the center. If you ever have any ideas for activities or games we could play, we welcome the suggestions. This coming week, and for as long as the children are interested, we are exploring Frozen and Pirates as a theme. We would love to hear your ideas!

Have a great month! All the best from everyone here in the Starfish room!

Lionfish News

We welcome Xavier, Jaedyn, Roman and Ethan in the Lionfish room this month.

What a busy month it has been in the Lionfish Room! The children's interest in insects has continued as they explore our outdoor environment. They discovered a butterfly in our garden, so to extend on this interest we read "The Very Hungry Caterpillar". This book has become a favourite with some of the children being able to recite the words, from memory.

We also made our own colourful, butterflies, which are displayed in our locker room. Ali even came dressed as a butterfly one day. Due to the nice weather in the daytime, the Lionfish children have enjoyed lots of outdoor play. They have been using their physical skills participating in ball games, balancing on beams, climbing and running in the yard. They have also loved being in the sandpit, making sandcastles and cooking lots of cakes and yummy food!

This month for Letterland, we have learnt about the letters "L, M and N" and their characters. We have brainstormed different words that start with each letter and practised writing upper case and lower case of each letter.

We have also been practising our writing skills as well as our name, letter and number recognition.

Each morning the children enjoy singing our National Anthem with Ms Elly as well as our Multicultural songs,



News times at the Lionfish room.



Indoor play in the Lionfish room.



“Topi Saya Bundar” and “Cicak Cicak”.

We have also been singing lots of action songs which the children love!

This month we celebrated NAIDOC week with the children listening to several dreamtime stories and participating in a hand printing art activity.

Our News topic “My Cousins” had a big response with lots of photos for the children to look at and talk about. It was great to share News about families living in Australia as well as overseas!

Another celebration from our ‘Calender of Events’ was ‘Obon Shinto’, a Buddhist celebration. The Lionfish children watched an explanation on Youtube, then created their own lanterns to display.

For our cooking experience this month, we made chicken salad. The Lionfish children helped collect the salad ingredients from our garden and together we prepared the salad.

Roleplaying in the home corner has also been a popular choice with the Lionfish children. They love dressing up as ballerinas and also cooking in the kitchen. They also roleplayed being doctors which we extended on by making an ambulance with recycled boxes.

See you next month!

Lionfish Educators.

Jellyfish News

Happy 3rd birthday to Sebastian, Ariella and Jaedyn! And a big welcome to George, Aiden, Francisca, London, Dante, Peyton, Jayde and Malakai!

There was a lot of outdoor activities this month with the children constantly asking to go out. Being cold it was nice to be able to go outside and doing some physical activities. Indoor, we did some skeleton dance and Munch n Move to



Making the chicken salad.



Making the bus.



get warm and active☺

Singing was very popular this month Ethan requested to watch 'The wheels on the bus'. They all enjoyed singing along and doing the actions. The interest kept on going for days, so Miss Tracy and the children decided to make a bus from a cardboard box. The bus project continued from the 7th right through till the 11th July.

To celebrate NAIDOC week the children listened to some fascinating dreaming stories. We also did some hand printing using our hand print on big cardboard paper.

Mid July, 'Bastille day' which is a special day of celebration in France. The children watched a youtube clip about Bastille day where they got to see fireworks, they also did some artwork with Miss Tracey.

Our new topic 'my name' went from the 14th-25th July. It was interesting to learn about the meaning of the children's name or/and how it came about. Children also participated in a group experience where they traced the first letter of their name. In fact many children in Jellyfish room have been practicing writing their name at home.

What an enjoyable time the children had during the cooking experience, making chicken salad. Children were curious about what was happening. 'London' said "I want some chicken"! Ethan said "me too" I gave them some to taste and they kept on asking for more so I continued giving it to them until the chicken was all gone.

Towards the end of July we are starting a topic 'my number'. We discovered that Emilia can count to '5' and able to trace it aswell. Peyton can count to '10' and working towards counting to '13'. We have also been creating and decorating the numbers using all sort of re-cycle materials.

Thank you to all the families who have been returning the topic sheets! We are currently on the 'My numbers' topic until the 8th of August. Please do not forget to hand in your input!

Until next month,
Jellyfish Educators



Painting the wheels on the bus.



Celebrating the NAIDOC week in the Jellyfish room.



News time with Ms Maylene.



I know my numbers☺



Clownfish News

Hello to the new and existing families of the Clownfish room. We are going to have a busy month ahead with school holiday program already underway children will be able to participate in variety of activities, some of these activities will help them to develop language and communication skills, learning and thinking skills, build and maintain relationships and form a strong sense of their own identity. These skills and knowledge are the foundation for learning in the later years.

The children are becoming more independent and we all need to. One way is to be willing to allow them to extend on this. Allow them to make choices, but you also need to be prepared to follow through on the choice they have made. It helps the child feel valued as the choice has been 'theirs'. The children are becoming more confident within themselves as "people", which is helping with their social skills and how they interact with others. Their physical abilities are also coming along, so you will begin to see more challenging activities set out for the children such as the climbing equipment becoming a little higher and multi-level, and activities which cognitively are more stimulating.

Limits within the room

Children need limits set for them, it helps to keep them safe but also shows them that there are definite boundaries to their behaviour. This enables them to develop a 'social conscience' and to feel secure in their surroundings. It is really important that we work together on the limits that we have at day-care and home allowing for continuity between both. Some of the basic limits we set for children at day-care:

- * Use your walking feet inside.
- * Quiet voices inside; take your yelling voice outside.
- * You need to use your words and be gentle with your friends
- * No playing in the bathroom
- * Use words, not hands

We also promote independence with each child. We would like to see the children walk into their room instead of being carried. This encourages your child to walk into the bathroom, put their own bag away and wash their hands. This also helps them with their transition into the 2-3 room. we go down to the level of the children to comfort and cuddle them. We sit with them on the couch or on the floor to interact with the children. It would be appreciated that when handing your child over to staff in the morning, that



Emrys is turning 'ONE' this month 😊



Making chicken salad.



I am sharing the ball with everyone here 😊



Story time.



you walk them over to a staff member or an activity.

ACTIVITIES

We have been able to introduce lots of new experiences over the last couple of weeks such as exploring paints –fine brush painting and hand painting. Due to the wet weather we have been inside most of the time. With both creative experiences and messy play happening most days, it is essential your child has spare labeled clothes in their bag as the centre has limited spares. The Children's craft is displayed on the walls.

We have also been focusing on music over the last month. We have been listening to various types of music and practicing our skills on a variety of musical instruments. The children seem to love songs such as 'The Wheels on the Bus', 'Three Cheeky Monkeys ', 'Old McDonald Had a Farm'. We have also been practicing shapes, colors and counting with the older children which they love.

COMMUNICATION

It is very important that all relevant information regarding your child is passed on to the staff. This will help us to provide the best possible care for your child. Information such as any changes at home (moving house, changes in family dynamics, visitation with family members), how they slept the night before, nappy rash, illness and behavioral difficulties are all helpful in us understanding your child's temperament throughout the day.

Hope everyone is enjoying the holiday program. If you have any question or queries within the Clownfish room please do not hesitate to e-mail, call, speak to the staff upon either arrival departure with your child or we can arrange a meeting at your convenience. Please give your feedback and suggestions in regards to the room, staff or the program. The feedback book is available on the sign in / out book shelf. It is great to be able to work alongside you and your children.

REMINDER

Just a quick reminder to all parents, please bring a family photo or email the photos to [Elly\(\[management@pumpkinldcc.com\]\(mailto:Elly@pumpkinldcc.com\)\)](mailto:Elly@pumpkinldcc.com). And please bring a hat/beanie, jacket/jumpers and shoes. Please make sure all your child/ren belongings are labelled (for example clothes, shoes, socks, bottles, nappies, hats etc.) Thank you for your ongoing support.

CLOWNFISH EDUCATORS.



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