



# PUMPKIN LONG DAY CARE CENTRE

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## Newsletter – May 2014

### Centre News

As the winter is approaching fast, please make sure you dress your child in warm clothes and bring a jacket or jumper just in case they need it when they play outside. Please bring some spare clothes and warmer blanket for your child in case of accidents or sudden weather changes.

We are going to have our "Parent-Teacher interview" in the month of June, the booking sheet will be available by the middle of this month. Please book your child in to talk to the teacher at their room.

Very exciting news, our extension is finished and we are waiting for the Licence from The Department of Education and Community Services now.

Please also check our new website at:

<http://www.pumpkinlongdaycare.com.au/>

Pumpkin also on Facebook now, families and parents are welcome to join us. Our Newsletter will also be on our website and Facebook page from now on.

We have a new garden bed, we are growing lettuce, parsley and some Lilies for this Winter.



New garden bed

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## Educator Update

We have a new Early Childhood Teacher in the Starfish room, her name is Miss Juliet Bolling. She will be the new room leader in the Starfish room. Miss Juliet completed her Bachelor of Education Birth to 12 years from the University of Notre Dame. In the past, she was casually teaching at primary schools in the local area and she worked in the Coordination Unit for a Family Day Care Service before she joined Pumpkin. She is really excited to start working at Pumpkin and looking forward to meeting all of the children and families 😊

Miss Charlotte is doing her work placement in a primary school, she will be back in the term 3 of the school calendar.

## May Calender of Events

**01<sup>st</sup> – Thursday – Samhain** – Festival marking the end of the Harvest Season.

**01<sup>st</sup> – Thursday – Beltane** – Gaelic Festival (festival of fire).

**05<sup>th</sup> – Monday – May Day.**

**05<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> – International Composting Awareness Week.**

**09<sup>th</sup> – Friday – Mother's Day afternoon tea.**



**11<sup>th</sup> – Sunday – Mother's Day.**

**12/05 – 18/05/14 – Children's Book Week.**

**13<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday – Wesak or Buddha Day.**

**14<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday – Visakha Puja – Buddha Day.**



Ready for our Egg Hunting.



Egg Hunting.



Who got the most?



Look at my Easter Bonnet.



And look at mine 😊

**21<sup>st</sup> – Wednesday – World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development (United Nations celebrates cultural diversity in all areas of society).**

**22<sup>nd</sup> – Thursday – Australia’s Biggest Morning tea.**

**23<sup>rd</sup> – Friday – Walk Safely to School Day**

**26<sup>th</sup> – Monday - National Sorry Day**

**27/05 – 03/06/14 Reconciliation Week.**



## **News from Starfish Room**

A big happy birthday to Mia for the 18<sup>th</sup>, and Jeremy L for the 28<sup>th</sup> this month!

During news time this month, the Starfish children talked about things that start with the first letter in their names, their favourite toys, their grandparents, their pets, and, of course, their very exciting trips to the Easter show. The children loved bringing in their toys to show off, as well as talking about all the rides they went on at the show and the showbags they came back with.

As an extension from the topic of grandparents, the children discussed their grandparents during group on the 9<sup>th</sup>, with a focus on those that live so far away we must get a plane to see them. Raditya and Keeley pointed out the planes in the toy corner, and Miss Charlotte asked them to get them and bring them back to the group to show. Emmeline told us her grandparents live in France, and Raditya told us his are in Indonesia!

The next day, the children discussed things you do at the airport to catch a plane, after talking about flying overseas to see grandparents. Emmeline then suggested we make our own



The tomato is ripe now.



We water our garden regularly.



Fishing game with Miss Charlotte.



New Trestle in the playground.

tickets, so we can catch a plane!

The children had lots of fun playing in their new extended playground. They particularly enjoy climbing the new equipment. The children also continue to volunteer themselves to water the garden with our left-over water at meal times.

We learnt about the letters 'f' and 'g' in Letterland this month, and met two new characters: Firefighter Fred and Golden Girl. The children had lots of fun getting involved with the Letterland activities, such as finger painting flames, making web diagrams, matching easter egg letter game, follow the leader, and fishing.

The children have been consistently practicing their National Anthem as a group. They also have fun singing other songs together, such as "This is the way we go to school", and their Indonesian song, "Topi Saya Bundar". The children tried a new Indonesian song this month, "Cicak-cicak di dinding", which means "Lizard, lizard on the wall".

The Starfish children are always excited to create things using arts and crafts. On Thursday the 3<sup>rd</sup>, the children discussed their favourite foods in the morning. This interest was extended by making pretend jelly. Clarice, Levi S and Emily W were particularly interested. They were provided with paper plates, cups, cotton balls, and paints to make their jelly. Levi S said: "I like yellow jelly!" Emily W said: "My jelly is yellow too!" Clarice said: "I like red jelly, it's really yummy!"

The children still keep an eye on the garden, and wait very patiently for our plants to grow. On the 7<sup>th</sup>, we noticed our tomatoes were starting to show. Jasmine Girdwood counted "one, two... two tomatoes!". She also pointed out that we could eat them soon. That afternoon, Joshua C helped Miss Charlotte to pick them. We brought them inside, washed them, and sliced them so that the children could have a taste. They were very yummy!

On the 15<sup>th</sup>, the Starfish children revised their shapes and patterns with Ms Leanne. The children were asked if they could guess the missing shape to complete the patterns on the whiteboard. The winners that day were Ruby, Jeremy, Mia, Emily, Summer and Fleur. Identifying some of the shapes were Emmeline, Fox, Levi, Jasmine Girdwood and Keeley.

The children were getting very excited for easter this month. On the 16<sup>th</sup>, Yezka told us the Easter Bunny has already visited her



Look at our new equipment in the home corner (the Starfish room).



News time with Miss Charlotte.



Learning our alphabet.



Trimming our garden.

classroom at school. She said she even saw footprints on the floor which looked like flour! The children also got creative with Ms Pimpini decorating Easter cards for their loved ones.

On the 17<sup>th</sup>, Bronte and Jasmine Girdwood showed off their easter hats that they made at home. The girls wore them during our easter egg hunt in the playground. The children searched all over the playground and collected their eggs together in their own baskets. Afterwards, they listened to Ms Pimpini read the story "The Easter Ribbit", during group time.

Until next month,

Starfish Educators ☺

## **News from Jellyfish Room**

Happy 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday to Jayden and Marco! And a big welcome to Abigail, Xavier and Sarayah!

After Aurelia and Alexander showed an interest towards songs last month, Miss Alessandra asked the families to share their child's favourite songs. We had a great response, Aurelia brought in a personalised CD with songs about her! In one of the songs, we noticed the words 'buenos dias', which we know from our multicultural good morning song. Pablo's favourite song is Rock-a-bye your bear, and Ethan's favourite song is 'The Hokey Pokey', we had a lot fun doing the movements to both songs. Eloise's loves an Indonesian CD called 'Belajar', with songs that teach about many things, including numbers. It was fantastic to learn the numbers in Indonesian! Alexander brought in three fantastic musical books and a CD from his music class. The children loved exploring the songs! Pablo requested musical instruments one day. He chose the drum and started to play it. Aurelia, Ariane, Xavier and Alexander liked the music he was playing and started to dance to it. They also sang, humming sounds that they themselves made up! What a fun time!

Due to our music and dance interest, Miss Elly bought three new musical books. The children were so excited about them! We started with 'Never smile at a crocodile'. Spontaneously, the children started clapping, dancing and laughing out loud! It was great to see them starting a group activity and sharing their happiness! We continued with 'The Wonky Donkey' and 'The bear went over the mountain'. The favourite was the donkey one!

The gardening continued this month, with the children exploring the banana tree donated by Alexandra (Ethan's mum). Together, Miss Alessandra and Paul also explored a grapefruit from our



New table and chairs in the Jellyfish room.



Making the clocks.



Matching safe and unsafe pictures.

playground tree.

The topic of animals continued even further as we discussed the children's pets during the 'My pets' topic.

We celebrated Easter by reading Pablo's Easter book, by making Easter baskets and decorating a big picture of an Easter egg. We also had an egg hunt, which was so much fun! We also celebrated Anzac day by making our own poppies.

The children made beautiful paintings of the sun after Alexander brought in a sun magnet. Everyone was interested in the sun picture of the magnet. And after Alexander brought in a clock he made at home, we had a whole day of learning about clocks, watches and the time. We explored a real clock, compared it to Miss Maylene's watch, learned a song called 'What time is it', and made our own clocks! Abigail then come in wearing a digital watch, which was great for comparison and more time learning!

Miss Elly bought new equipment for the playground. Everyone has been exploring them, especially the climbing frame and the tunnel. They definitely are favourites for outdoor play now.

Thank you to all the families who have been returning the topic sheets! We are currently on Topic 6, My Pets, until the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May. Next, it is Topic 7: My Toys, starting on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May.

Until next month,  
Jellyfish Educators



Celebrating Anzac Day  
with Poppies artwork.

