



Wyndham Early Learning

Autumn Newsletter

Nursery One News by Pina, Kirsty & Cayla

We Welcome Kirsty, Pina and Cayla to the Nursery 1 room for 2018.

We have had a very busy start to the year in Nursery 1, welcoming lots of new children and saying goodbye to some of the older children moving up into Nursery 2. This month, our primary focus has been on Physical Milestones. Many of the children are very close to developing crucial milestones such as crawling and walking, therefore, a big focus in our program has been providing activities that encourage the children's use of these skills so that they can eventually achieve them and start learning more. Pina has been away on extended sick leave, we wish her a speedy recovery and hope to see her back soon. Cayla & Kirsty are planning lots of exciting things for the next few months, stay tuned!



Centre News

Meet our new Rabbits and Chickens!



Napoleon & Alfie

Harry



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Wednesday 21st March

HARMONY DAY MULTICULTURAL Food NIGHT

From 5:30pm onwards at the centre.
If you can provide a cultural meal for the event, please see Emily by Friday 16th March.

Gardening with Shannon and Judy

Shannon and Judy are our Environment & Sustainability educators for 2018 who work with the children daily to deliver an outstanding program, they also embed these practices within our centre.

What a busy start to the year that we have had in the garden. The children have been very busy helping me keep the water up to the plants in the mornings as its getting too hot during the day to venture out to the garden.

The strawberry plants have been giving us lots of beautiful, juicy strawberries that all the children have been enjoying. We have also picked and eaten our corn that we grew. We have also grown cherry tomatoes, celery, capsicum, zucchini, and carrots that have been placed at the front entrance for our families to take home and enjoy.

The Children have been very excited about our new animals!

Nursery 2 News by Jess, Bianca, Kuljit & Genevieve (Gen)

We Welcome Jess, Bianca, Kuljit & Gen to the Nursery 2 room for the 2018 year. We have recently welcome Genevieve to the centre and look forward to the energy she will bring to the room.

Everyone has returned from their Christmas/New Year break and is ready for 2018 – lets make it a fun and exciting one!

We have welcomed lots of new children to our room – some are new to our centre, and others have moved up from Nursery1. We are spending the time getting to know these children and building relationships with them. We have also farewelled some of our older children who have moved up to the Toddler Room, and we wish them all the best at this exciting time.

We have continued to focus on our self help skills – children are enjoying the responsibility of doing more things for themselves. Some of these skills include, washing and drying our own hands at the sink and selecting our own drink bottles from the basket at meal times – many of the children know whose drink belongs to whom, which is also a great recognition or matching skill.

Also, we are in the process of updating our family wall – if you would like to bring in a photo of your family for your child to share with us and add to our display, please feel free to do this, as the children love looking at their family photos throughout the day.

We look forward to working with our families throughout the year.



WANTED!

Shout out to the tradies!

We are always looking for odd left overs that we can re-use to create a super learning environment for our children. We have thought about electrical wheels, steering wheels, tyres, motorbike tyres & handle bars but we would love to hear your ideas too!

Toddler Tales by Cheryl, Elle, Meagan, Nell & Kaitlyn

We Welcome Cheryl, Elle, Meagan, Nell & Kaitlyn to the Toddler room for 2018.

Firstly, Welcome to a brand new wonderful year, it is getting along quickly. We have had some changes with children, with many the toddlers moving up to the junior room but as we are sad to see them move up this creates lots of new opportunities for them, we also in return have welcomed a number of children from the Nursery 2, it has been a real pleasure getting to know them and their families.

This month we have explored the theme Australia, we have discussed and looked at the Australian Flag. We have also been listening and singing the Australian anthem. We played with Australian animals, puzzles, painting and cooking, the children enjoyed making our own Lamingtons too! Yum Yum

With the hot weather we have had plenty of water play and bringing outdoors in as the UV is very high. Spare clothes for the children are handy to get out of the wet clothing when we finish playing.

We also said a sad Goodbye to our staff member Katie. Katie is moving home, closer to her family. We wish her all the best.



Junior Jottings by Demi, Ramandeep & Sarah.T

We welcome Demi, Ramandeep and Sarah to the Junior Room for 2018.

Junior room is off with a bang to the start of 2018.

We have welcomed the newest members and begun our curriculum with a focus on the moon, following the latest eclipse that we had. The children are decorating stars, making foil moons, playing in moon and star sensory tubs and singing songs relating to this topic.

The children have been busy getting to know each other, learning about their newest friends, and learning the routine that Junior room follows.

We are currently promoting belonging and identity by setting up group activities such as the construction area, playdough tables and arts and crafts, to allow the children to get to know each other, learn about sharing, turn taking and respecting other's choices.

We are also focusing on sensory play to build on current skills and further develop self-awareness through using their senses. We will also be focusing on wellbeing by teaching the children about handwashing, drinking plenty of water, getting involved with physical activity and trying new things such as new foods and games.

We look forward to sharing our journey with you in 2018!



"Never help a child with a task which he feels he can succeed"
-Maria Montessori

Pre-Kinder Post by Laura & Mel

We welcome Laura and Mel to the Pre-Kinder Room for 2018.

Hi Everyone,

I am very excited to be joining the Wyndham Early Learning team. After completing a Bachelor of Early Childhood in Melbourne I am loving being back home in Shepparton. I also studied drama and music therapy as well.

My passions are music, dance, drama and all things magical.

I look forward to meeting you all in the Pre-Kinder room.

Laura

We love exploring all the new things in our outdoor play area!



Play is our brain's favourite way of learning.

-DIANE ACKERMAN

Kinder Chatter by Karen & Jackson

We welcome Karen & Jackson to the Kinder room for 2018.

On the 18th December Kinder had their end of year celebration with the children putting on a concert for their families. They sang songs they chose with a bit of humour such as twinkle twinkle little star daddy bought a motor car. The children also participated in a play of “there’s a green frog in the toilet” by Anh Do. With the children squirting the parents with spray bottles of water. Followed by a presentation of certificates for each child. The last lot of our kinder children have finished as they begin school from the 29th January.

There was plenty of anticipation in the Pre-kinder room with the new kinder children coming to my door saying, “I’m in kinder this year! When do I get to come to kinder?” One of our strategies to help maintain a level of excitement and anticipation with the children was to keep them away from the kinder room so that on their first day of kinder will be special for them. Therefore, we have been counting down the days and the day finally arrived for the first group of children who started on the 29th January onwards.

The New Year

Finally, the day arrived. As they entered the kinder room door I was so excited to see my junior room children back with me again. I am also looking forward and excited in getting to know our new members to the kinder as well.

Jackson and I have been working on developing children’s social and emotional skills this term. For example, solving problems and conflict with others. We will be achieving this by telling stories, discussions, role modelling and giving the children responsibility to make the kinder rules as a group.

Overall, the children have settled into kinder with eagerness to try new things such as, brain gym exercises, catching a praying mantis, making sure Billie, Violette’s rabbit who comes to visit the kinder room, is safe. We have also had a visit from Veolia talking to the children about what bin the rubbish goes in and we planted plants using mulch from green waste. We also had a visit from Nathan Mitchell, Jack’s Dad who drew pictures that came alive on the page. We also would like to thank the Lines family for donating their fire pit to the Centre and are looking forward to camp fires to tell yarns around and cook damper.

We are enjoyed the new Responsible pet program, as well as a visit from Vet Frances , Ayana’s Mum, talking about how to take care of our new friends.



Kitchen Capers by Britt

These lentil patties were a hit with the children! The recipe was found in "The Australian Women's Weekly, food for babies & toddlers"

LENTIL PATTIES

INGREDIENTS

- $\frac{1}{4}$ Cup red lentils
- 1 medium potato
- $\frac{1}{4}$ Cup frozen peas
- $\frac{1}{2}$ small carrot, grated coarsely
- $\frac{1}{2}$ small brown onion, grated finely
- $\frac{1}{2}$ Cup packaged bread crumbs

METHOD:

1. Cook Lentils in a small saucepan of boiling water for 10 minutes or until tender, drain.
2. Meanwhile, boil, steam or microwave potato and peas, separately, until tender, drain. Mash potato and peas in a medium bowl.
3. Add lentils, carrot, onion and half the breadcrumbs to potato mixture, mix to combine. Using your hand, shape the mixture into 12 patties.
4. Coat patties with remaining breadcrumbs. Cook patties, uncovered, in a large heated pan lightly oiled over a low heat for 10 minutes or until patties have browned both sides and heated through.

Prep & Cook time: 40 minutes, makes 12

- Patties can be covered and stored in the fridge for up to 2 days. Freeze uncooked patties for up to one month. Defrost patties in the fridge before cooking.

Easter Hat Parade and Easter Egg Hunt

Thursday 29th March @ 3Pm.

Decorate a Easter hat and participate in our Easter Hat Parade.

Guess How many Easter Eggs are in the Jar to win a week free care. See reception for details.



HELP US NAME OUR NEW CHICKENS!

What suggestions do you have to name our new chickens?

Black Chicken: _____

White Chicken: _____

Please submits your suggestions to the Jar in reception and we will randomly draw our new names out of the jar!

We would love to hear your ideas!

Centre Events

April

Monday 2nd Easter Monday Public Holiday-CENTRE CLOSED

Tuesday 3rd Smile Day- Make sure to wear your biggest smile. Wear Yellow and bring a Gold Coin Donation for the Humour Foundation- Clown Doctors.

Wednesday 18th World Heritage Day- Kinder visit to the Shepparton Heritage Centre

Tuesday 24th Anzac Day Celebrations- RSL representative visit. Children making Anzac Biscuits

Wednesday 25th Anzac Day Public Holiday- CENTRE CLOSED

May

Friday 11th Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

Wednesday 23rd World Turtle Day- Come dressed in Green.

Monday 28th National Sorry Day- Reconciliation morning tea with families.

Monday 28th-Friday 1st National Reconciliation Week.

June

Tuesday 5th World Environment Day- Exploring ways to look after our environment.

Monday 11th Queens Birthday Public Holiday- CENTRE CLOSED

Wednesday 13th Pyjama Day- Come dressed in your best PJ's.

Friday 30th Red Nose Day- Purchase a red nose product to donate to Sids for Kids.

Health & Nutrition

All the rooms have been focusing on incorporating 3 main aspects of health and nutrition into the program. The rooms will focus on Wellbeing, nutrition, and movement.

The children have started their year trying out some games to develop basic ball skills, gross motor development, purposeful directional movements and to get their bodies moving. They have responded well to the experiences so far and we look forward to watching them develop throughout the year.

Next month, the children will focus on a nutrition component along with some smiling mind meditation.



THE GREAT OUTDOORS! WITH MICAELA

You may have noticed some changes in our yards. Micaela is our Outdoor Programming Lead Educator.

Micaela has been working hard on upcycling common household or trade furnishings and trash to create them into our treasure. She is creating an inviting and interesting play area for the children to explore, investigate and have fun. Check out our new boats in the back yard!

Micaela is always on the look out for new and exciting opportunities to add to our ever-changing play areas so if you have anything that you think may be useful please have a chat with her.

Check out our Website at www.wyndhamearlylearning.com

Find us on Facebook at facebook.com/wyndhamearlylearning

Email us at enquiries@wyndhamearlylearning.com

Or contact us on (03) 58 222 372