

## Peninsula Occasional Childcare Newsletter Term 2 2017

### Welcome to Term 2

#### Fabulous Family Participation Tins

We have had some donations of tin cans but would like more, please remember to save any tins with a sealable lid such as milo or coffee cans.

#### Banksia and Pine Cones

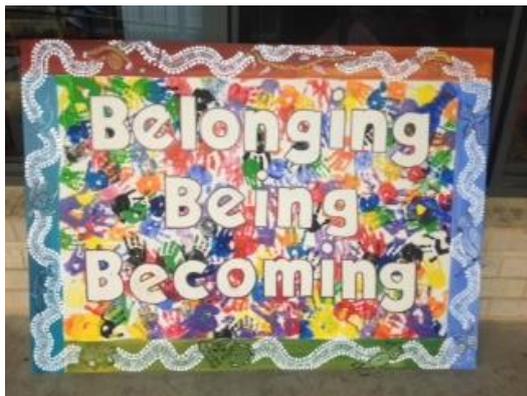
Thank you for all the kind donations we have added lots of pine cones and banksia pods to our construction area.

#### Colour Recyclables

The plastic bags hanging in the entry area have slowly been filled with lots of interesting pieces of recycled materials, we will be using these pieces in the next few weeks to create 6 colour specific collaborative art works, Thank you for your contributions to this assemblage.

#### Belonging Being Becoming Artwork

A huge thank you to Kylie Cassidy, Tyreek and Quade's mum, for her amazing contribution to our Belonging Being Becoming artwork which is now displayed in our foyer. All the children and educators contributed their handprints to the piece then Kylie added the beautiful indigenous artwork border inspired by Australian animals.



#### Family Photos

Several families have bought in family photos but we would like lots more. So please keep them coming.

#### Dilly Bags

Thank you also to all the families who have filled and returned Dilly Bags full of fantastic natural materials. The children have been very excited about this project and we have used these materials enclosed for numerous craft and fine motor activities. We have also created two collaborative art pieces. "Autumn" using the bush materials and "Summer" using the items the children collected from the beach. These will be displayed in our foyer.

#### Daily Reflection

Thank you for all your positive comments regarding our Daily Reflection Diary. As a means of recording parents input regarding this document we would like you to write any comments about our day on the post it notes provided and stick it to the relevant page

#### Parent Participation

If you have particular skill, hobby, interesting occupation or special talent you would like to bring to the Centre, we would love to make time for you to share it with the children. This could include anything from singing or playing an instrument, sharing your occupation, to doing creative arts or bathing a baby. Please speak to us and we will be happy to organise a time.

#### Boxes for Box Construction

This term we would like to explore sustainable art experiences and request that families bring in small boxes and containers suitable for box construction and craft activities.

## Reminders

### Lockers

We have put name stickers on the lockers Please try to place your child's bag in the appropriate locker.

### Labelling

Please ensure all your child's belongings are labelled. This is particularly important for lunchboxes drink bottles, baby bottles, hats and schoolbags.

### Food safety

Please read our article below regarding chocking. When packing your child's lunch box please ensure all grapes and cherry tomatoes are cut in half lengthways.

### Medications

Please ensure that you do not leave any medications or creams in your child's bag including sun screen. All bags are readily accessible to the children and these items stored in school bags create an unnecessary hazard.

### Fees

All fees must be paid on the day of attendance or paid in advance. It would be appreciated if fees were paid on arrival, as afternoons can be very busy. Our service has eftpos for your convenience. Please remember that 24 hours' notice of absence must be given or full fees for that booking will be charged

### Sign In and Out of Service

All children must be signed in on our attendance roll at entry to the Centre every time they arrive and must be signed out of the Centre as they leave each day. This is a Department of Education requirement as well as being necessary in the event of an evacuation or lockdown

## Choking Hazard

The Department of Health recommend that all grapes and cherry tomatoes should be cut longways. When whole these foods are the perfect shaped to be lodged in a child's throat with very serious consequences.

### Some foods are easy for your child to choke on when swallowing them

These include foods that are round and about the size of the throat –about the size of a ten cent piece Prevent choking by avoiding these foods or cutting them in small pieces–no larger than 1.5 cm

### Foods that may be choking hazards:

Peanuts, chewing gum, popcorn, chips, round slices of hotdogs or sausages.

Also Carrot sticks, tough meat, hard candy, whole grapes, cherry tomatoes large pieces of raw fruits and vegetables can also pose a choking threat.

### To prevent choking:

- Have your child eat at the table, or at least while sitting down.
- Do not let your child run, walk, play, or lie down with food in their mouth.
- Keep a watchful eye on your child while he or she eats.
- Cut food for your child into pieces no larger than 1.5 cm and teach them to chew their food well.
- Slice hotdogs and sausages lengthwise.
- Cut meat and chicken across the grain into small pieces.
- Slice grapes, cherry tomatoes, and other round foods in half longways.
- Cook carrots or celery sticks until slightly soft, grate them, or cut them into small pieces or thin matchsticks.

## Our Program

We have had an amazingly busy term one with the children following a diverse range of interests and experiences. Some of our favourite projects have been sensory play activities including finger painting, Goop, water play, shave foam painting and kinetic sand.

We have also spent a lot of time exploring colour and colour mixing with many of the children now able to recognise the primary colours required to make secondary colours.

The children have followed their interest in rolling objects, testing out a variety of objects on various inclines throughout the playground. We have also introduced a lot of natural and recycled resources to our environment. These materials are great for free exploration and design. During Harmony week we spent time discussing and identifying our family's cultural heritage, marking this on our world map at the back of our room.



**DEADLY**



**DELICIOUS**



Choking is one of the leading causes of death for children under 3. Even if your child is confident eating solid foods, a grape or a cherry tomato is just the right size to get stuck in their windpipe.

**DON'T RISK IT, SLICE IT**



## Service Improvements

### New Front Gate

Our new gate has been installed in our playroom. This will allow us to set up a new sign in area with a shelf to house the children's journal, making them more easily accessed by families.

### New Change Table

We have had a new change table bench installed and are sourcing a new set of steps to allow the children easier access to the change table, and to reduce the need to lift the children onto the change table.

### Playground

We are in the process of applying for grants which will allow us to undertake a major redevelopment of our outdoor area. We aim to install a deck off the veranda, sensory pathways, veggie plots and lots of beautiful plantings.



## What is Sensory Play?

Sensory play or messy play is play that allows children to be fully engaged with their senses. Children use their 5 senses to discover and explore when involved with sensory play. Sensory play involves children using their sight, hearing, touch, smell and taste. By providing opportunities for sensory play children have the opportunities to develop these senses and also develop holistically. Children will develop their cognitive, physical, creative, literacy & numeracy, oral language and creativity skills.

Sensory play is fun, messy, creative and necessary!

### Messy play can help children to:

- Relax - it is a very soothing activity
- Experiment with and explore the properties of the solutions e.g. does it hold its shape or pour or run? What happens when substances combine?
- Learn about colour mixing, patterns, design, texture and rhythm
- Develop hand-eye coordination and practise pouring, measuring, mixing, scooping and beating skills

### Different Types of Sensory Play

Sensory Play is very important for children as it helps them to integrate all their senses. Sensory play helps children process all the information the brain receives from touching, smelling, tasting, hearing and seeing. There are a number of different types of sensory activities you should consider for each modality.

Within each Sensory Play experience there are different senses being engaged.

- Tactile Sensory Play refers to touch
- Vestibular Sensory Play refers to movement and balance
- Proprioception Sensory Play refers to body awareness in space
- Auditory Sensory Play refers to activities that deal with sound and hearing
- Visual Sensory Play develops vision and seeing
- Olfactory Sensory Play engages a child's sense of smell

## Making Gloop

1. Slowly add one cup of cold water to two cups of cornflour in a bowl. Stir until the water is absorbed by the cornflour. Add colour if you like. Put the gloop in ice-cream or large containers with spoons, cups and other utensils.
2. Great just with fingers on a flat surface.



## Coming Events

7-13 May	<b>National Pet Week</b>	Always the first full week in May, National Pet Week is dedicated to celebrating the more than 200 million pets that enrich our lives each and every day.
10 May	<b>Families week</b>	National Families Week is a time to celebrate with family, make contact with extended family and friends, and share in the enjoyment of family activities within the wider community. It is a time to celebrate the meaning of family and to make the most of family life.
23 May	<b>Australia's Biggest Morning Tea</b>	May is Australia's biggest Morning Tea month. Thursday 23rd May is the official day but you can host an event anytime throughout May or June. It's simple, fun and best of all for a great cause! All you need to do is set a date, brainstorm some morning tea ideas, invite your guests and raise money to help support the fight against cancer.
27 May to 3 June	<b>National Reconciliation Week</b>	Each year National Reconciliation Week celebrates and builds on the respectful relationships shared by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians.

### National Families Week & Neighbourhood Centre Week.

Please join us for a free Community Morning of Fun celebrating National Families Week & Neighbourhood Centre Week.

- When: Wednesday 10th May 2017
- Where: Peninsula Community Centre's main hall.
- Time: 10am – 12noon Cost: FREE

All welcome. Come enjoy a cuppa and a chat. Do some craft with the kids, swap, and shuffle and share your unwanted goods. Have an introductory lesson on knitting, crocheting or card making from our seniors ladies craft group or chat with the Speech Therapist from All Area's Speech. Information on how to budget from a financial Counsellor or help with your mobile device will also be available. Health & Fitness demonstrations will take place, along with loads of other information tables on activities and programs that are run in our community.

Our children have been invited to participate in these activities and will be escorted and supervised by Educators. We will send out permission notes closer to the day.

### Biggest Moring Tea

Coast Community Connections will be hosting their annual Biggest Morning Tea on Thursday 25 May. Get your friends together and bring the kids along to this fabulous event

Our children have been invited to perform for the guests. We will send out permission notes closer to the day.



### Community Centre Events

#### Fussy Eaters Seminar

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May 10-11am  
Peninsula Community Centre  
Cost \$10 per person  
Phone 0407 492 278

#### Kindermusik Classes

Wednesdays at Peninsula Community Centre  
Phone 0401 566 728

#### Playgroup

Our Playgroup operates on Tuesday morning between 9.00am and 11.00 am  
\$8.00 for one child, \$12.00 for two or more children.

#### Kindyqym

Kindyqym runs on Friday Mornings  
\$8 per child per week or \$70 per child per term.