

Peninsula Occasional Childcare Newsletter Term 4 2017

Welcome to Term 4

Programming

We have spent a very busy Term Three sharing lots of exciting experiences.

Dental Health Week led to lots of discussions and experiences aimed at educating the children about how to care for their teeth.

We shared lots of Australian books during National Book Week. Thank you to the families who shared their favourite books, the children really enjoyed sharing these stories with their friends.

Thanks to Ollie's Mum Kath who took time to read Ollie's favourite book to the children
National Science Week inspired us to share lots of science activities including exploring magnetism and electrical circuits, experimenting with simple chemical reactions with bi-carb soda and vinegar and coloured dye on milk. We also learnt about air and weather as we flew ribbons, bubbles and kites in the wind.

During Child Protection Week we spoke to the children about the people who keep us safe both at home and in the Community. We have included an information sheet about Body Safe Rules for under Fives for you to share with your children at home.

The NSW StEPS Vision Testing Program visited the Centre during September, testing the eyesight of our 4 year old children. This is a fantastic program run throughout the State to identify vision issues in children before they go to school



Appessment

We have begun loading children into our Appessment program to document the children's learning. If you haven't verified your account and can't find the email notification please let a staff member know and we can re send the invitation code to your preferred address.

Some parents have had questions about this program including:
Do we use the children's full names?

No, we only use children's first names and possibly the initial of the surname if we have more than one child with the same first name.

What happens when my child leaves the centre?

All information regarding your child is deleted from the system.

Upcoming Events

9-13 October	<u>National Space Week</u>	We will be exploring lots of space related experiences and learning about interesting aspects of the universe.
16-20 October	<u>Fire Protection Week</u>	A great week to discuss fire safety at school and at home. We have included a Fire Plan for you to use at home
Wednesday 1 November	<u>Grandparents Day</u>	NSW Grandparents Day (28October) celebrates the contributions Grandparents and older people make to their families and communities. We will be inviting grandparents and other special older people to spend a morning with us and their beautiful grandchildren. More information closer to the day.
Sunday 5 November 10am -3pm	<u>Kids Day Out at Kariang Mountains High School</u>	This is CCKDO's 18th year! Central Coast Kids Day Out is all about our Central Coast kids, their families, the services and ways to enrich our families lives on the Central Coast. Continually families are saying that this is the best family event on the Central Coast.
Thursday 14 December	<u>Children's Christmas Party and Graduation</u>	Our end of year Celebration will be held in the Community Centre Hall on Thursday 14 December between 4.30pm and 6.30pm. There will be lots of activities for the children, a sausage sizzle for the families and of course a visit from Santa. More information will be sent closer to the day.
Friday 22 December	Last day of Care for 2017	
Monday 15 January 2018	Occasional Care re opens for 2018 We will be sending home new Enrolment Forms in the next month for all children returning to our Service next year.	

Sign In Area

We have relocated our Journal Folders to a small shelf adjacent to the sign in table. Please feel free to view your child's folder at any time.

Our sign in area also houses our Sunscreen Station and we request you apply sunscreen to your child each morning. Please stamp your child's hand with the stamp provided to indicate the sunscreen has been applied.

The drawers of our sign in table house our Policies and Procedure folder, our Quality Improvement Plan and past Daily Journals for you to view at your convenience.



Family Involvement

Thank you to all the parents who have donated equipment and materials to our centre over the past few months. All donations are gratefully received and used to enhance our program.

Thank You also to all the families who bought in stickers from the Woolworths Earn and Learn Program. We have collected several thousand stickers and look forward to selecting items from the great range of resources offered by the Earn and Learn program.

Improvements

We continue to evaluate our service and identify areas that require improvement. Over the past few months we have relocated the Centre's Fire Extinguisher in to the office so it does not pose a risk to the children in the play room.

New "Invisiguard Security Screens" have been installed on our playroom windows replacing our broken flyscreen with a much safer and secure option.

To improve the security of our Centre we are in the process of sourcing new locks for our external gates. This will result in the gates being permanently locked and will require all families and visitors to enter our service through our internal security door. We will have a strategically placed key in the event of emergencies.

In line with the changes required by the National Quality Framework we have reviewed our Sleep Practices and Procedures to ensure they are in line with the recommendations by the Red Nose organisation (formally Sids and Kids). This document will be displayed in the cot room so that all Educators are aware of the appropriate procedures.

Reminders

Fees

Please ensure fees are kept up to date and finalised at the end of each week.

We will be emailing invoices each week to families with fees in arrears in anticipation of prompt payment of the outstanding account.

Registered Carer Receipts

We have also been emailing Registered Carer Receipts to all our families. If you have not received these documents could you please let us know, so that we can ensure we are using the appropriate email address?

Signing In and Out

Please remember to sign in and out EVERY MORNING and EVERY AFTERNOON. This is a licensing requirement and is important in the event of an evacuation



Sun Protection

As mentioned previously we have located sunscreen in the sign in area for you to apply to your child on arrival each day.

Please also be aware that our Sun Protection Policy requires the children to have their shoulders, tummies and backs covered. Please avoid sending your child in strappy dresses and singlets, crop tops or clothing with fabric cut outs.

Please also remember a broad brimmed or legionnaire hat labelled with your child's name.

Labelling Items

To avoid confusion and mix-ups, please ensure drink bottles, baby bottles and lunchboxes are labelled clearly with your child's name.

Staffing

Jo will be on Annual Leave from 16th -24th October

Child Protection Week

Child Protection Week occurs in September each year and is an opportunity for everyone in the community to think about how we can work together to keep children safe.

Importantly, it is an opportunity to remind everyone that:

- We ALL have a part to play in protecting ALL children
- Even small actions can help to improve a child's future
- By building stronger communities, we are creating safer environments for our children

How can I start playing my part to protect children today (and every day!)?

- Be a good role model for children
- Be kind to children, parents (and yourself!)
- Take the time to really listen to children and believe them if they tell you something
- Learn about what help services are available so you can support others if they need help
- Don't judge other parents and families; remember that we're all trying our best
- Look out for all children, not just your own
- Be a friendly, helpful member of your local community
- Don't be afraid to ask for help or to ask someone if they need help

FIVE BODY SAFETY RULES

Every kid should know

BY AGE **5**

brought to you by:



I am the boss of my body.
I have the right to say no if I don't
like how my body is being treated.
I don't have to hug, kiss, or be
touched if I don't want to.



Private parts
are covered by a
bathing suit
and are kept
out of view.
We don't look,
touch, or
play games
with private
parts.



No one should
be asking me to
keep a secret -
especially if it
makes me sad
or scared.

To use the correct
words for private
parts. They're not
funny or weird -
everyone has them!



I know five people I can talk to if I ever
feel sad, scared, or nervous about
anything - especially body safety.
If someone breaks the rules I need to
tell someone who can help me.
Even if I was too scared to tell at first-
it's never too late, and I won't be in trouble.



For More, Visit: TheMamaBearEffect.org