



Lake
Windemere B-7 School
Children's Centre
for Early Childhood
Development and Parenting



Government
of South Australia

Newsletter

10th April, 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now into the last week of term 1. It has been a busy and productive term and we are pleased with the progress children are making in their learning.

I am pleased to say that our Centre has undergone an Assessment and Rating Assessment by the Education and Early Childhood Services Registration and Standards Board of South Australia. The purpose of the assessment and rating process was to determine whether, and at what rating level, our service meets the *National Quality Standard* and requirements of section 133(1) of the *Education and Early Childhood Services (Registration and Standards) Act 2011*. Melissa Thompson was the authorised officer who conducted the assessment visit in the Centre on Thursday 30th March to observe practice, engage in discussions with staff and educators and sight relevant documentation.

We will receive information regarding our overall Centre rating and a rating for each Quality Area along with a report in approximately 5 weeks. We will notify you all once this information is received.

An important reminder: Immunisation records

We are required by DECD to have a record of proof of Immunisation for each child. Families have already received a note in their child's communication pocket requesting they provide **evidence of immunisation by the last day of term 1, 2017 (13/4/17)**. Please supply this documentation to Kim at the Reception desk.

In the event of an outbreak of a contagious disease children who are not immunised will be excluded from the centre for the period of the outbreak.

Quality Area 1- Educational program and practice

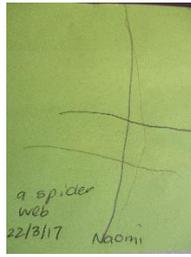
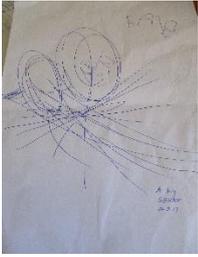
Children continue to document their learning through the floor book by talking to educators who scribe their words and drawing to demonstrate their learning. Recently children have been demonstrating interest in dinosaurs, tower constructions, spiders, letters and numbers and caring for baby dolls.

Dinosaur play has supported children to share knowledge of dinosaurs with peers and create interesting dramatic play scenarios, redesign the play space to make an interesting small world habitat. This has created opportunities to collaborate with peers, use specialised vocabulary such as dinosaur names and practice design skills.

Tower constructions have been built in various locations throughout the preschool. Children have accessed a variety of resources including large wooden blocks, crystal construction blocks, Duplo and small coloured blocks. This learning has linked to STEM learning (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). Children have worked individually and collaboratively to manipulate the blocks to create towers which are stable, upright and balanced. This learning has involved children using persistence, problem solving, collaboration, open mindedness and creativity dispositions.



Inquiry into Spiders



A number of children have recommenced exploring spiders. This interest initiated at the beginning of term. Over the past few weeks, Naomi, Kate, Jordan, Sophia and Emily have once again started exploring spiders.

They have shared their ideas and understandings including:

Kate: "Spiders make webs, catch flies. They can eat with their teeth."

Jordan "I saw a spider, a red back spider. They can kill you. They bite you... sharp teeth"

Sophia "They do have teeth. We have spiders at home"

Naomi "Spiders have 3 legs. I've got spiders in my home."

We will continue our inquiry with children into next term if the interest in spiders is still continuing.



Interest in numbers and letters continues to flourish. Recent dramatic play using computers and keyboards extended into children exploring a set of numerals 1-100. The educator extended the children's learning by providing children with notepaper and pens to record numerals they knew or could copy from the card set.



Children are exploring care and respect for others through home corner doll play. Children learn about respectful relationships through observing others in their world. This could include parents, extended family, friends, educators and people in the broader community. Children learn to be gentle by watching others and through personal experience. The play in these photos included dressing, settling a crying baby and tucking the baby into a cot for sleeping.



Caring for baby dolls



A meeting has occurred with the DECD Special Educator to determine **Preschool Support hours** for term 2. The Centre has been notified of hours and individual families will be notified of support time allocated to their child.

QUALITY AREA 4-STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS

Our staff team for 2017 consists of

Sue Holecek- Director 1.0- (0.5) Teaching and (0.5) Administration

Community Development Co-ordinator (0.8)- Susan Petrie (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday).
Contract until 30/6/17.

Family Services Coordinator (1.0) –Sam Tonkin

Shelley Peart- Allied Health Occupational Therapist (0.3) Each Monday and Tuesday each fortnight

Melissa Saliba- Allied Health Speech Pathologist (0.3) every Thursday and Monday each fortnight

Receptionist: Kim Smith -Monday to Friday

Cheryl Capewell- Teacher 0.8 (Monday to Thursday)

Samantha Chirgwin- Teacher 1.0

Gemma Cross- Teacher- 1.0

Bethany McConville- SSO (Monday to Friday)

Tracey Innes-SSO (Tuesday and Thursday)

Melissa Delia- SSO (Wednesday and Friday)

Vanessa Stuchbury- SSO (Monday and Friday). Lunch Care Tuesday to Thursday.

Preschool Support- Kathryn Wall, Tracey Innes, Annie Rutherford, Melissa Delia and Julie Bolland

Speech and Language Program - Speech Pathologist Anne Marriott (0.4) and Kristen Scrimshaw 0.6 Early Childhood Worker.

Occasional Care - Melissa Delia ECW2- Monday am, Tuesday am and Thursday

- Kathryn Wall ECW1- Monday and Thursday morning

Introducing our new Community Development Coordinator



Hello Everyone! My name is Susan and I'm so excited to be starting at Lake Windemere in the Community Development Coordinator position. I have a background in Nutrition and have worked with the community in the northern and north eastern suburbs for the last 9 years supporting families to make healthy lifestyle choices and more recently I have undertaken various projects in mental health services. I have 2 young children – 2 boys - a 3 year old and 1 year old and have just moved to Inglewood in the last 2 weeks. Now having a 1 acre property, my hobbies include gardening, gardening and more gardening! But I also adore spending time with my boys and when I get the opportunity, making elaborate cakes. I can't wait to meet you all! Please pop in to say hello, I LOVE to chat ☺

Staff Professional Development:

- ✚ Sam, Gemma and Cheryl attended a curriculum workshop on documenting and using floor Books. The professional development was at the Gowrie Centre. The 3 teachers will reflect and refine the use of the floor book in term 2.
- ✚ 8 staff attended Aboriginal Cultural competency in early childhood training on Saturday 24/3/17. All staff attended a key note address by Makinti Minutjukur-Interagency Coordinator, Katrina Tjitayi- Wellbeing Coordinator, Kerryn Jones -Early Childhood Leader and Penny Cook- Principal Manager Early Years. Staff divided themselves between the 3 workshops following the key note address. In first staff meeting of term 2 each group will share the outcomes of their learning with the rest of the team.

Quality Area 6- Parent and Community partnerships

NEW at the Children's Centre: Parent Reading Packs!

Parenting can be the best job in the world. It's also one of the hardest jobs, and one of the most important! The Children's Centre now has a range of books available for parents to borrow on topics such as self care for parents, enhancing your relationship with your child, and understanding your child's development. See Kim at Reception if you'd like to borrow a book. We hope you'll find one you like.

+ Diary Dates

Week	Day and Date	Event
11	Thursday 13 th April	Last day of term. Families are reminded that there is an early dismissal at 2pm
Term 2 Week 1	Monday 1 st May	First day of term
Term 2 Week 2	Preschool photos Group 2 Tuesday 9/5/17 Group 1 Wednesday 10/5/17	The photographer will be in most of the day for both groups. A brochure explaining the photos has been placed in your child's communication pocket. Strictly cash payment only. View the photos then once paid collect and take home. Reorders available. If you have any questions please speak to Sue or Kim.

Enjoy a restful holiday break. We look forward to welcoming you back into the centre in term 2.

From the Children's Centre team.

Occasional Care

for children 0-4

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

8:45am - 11.45am (Over 2's)

Monday and Thursday

8:45—11:45am (Under 2's)

Thursday

12.00pm - 3.00pm (over 2's only)

Bookings essential

Lake Windemere Children's Centre

Holstein Drive

Salisbury North

Phone: **8258 0666**



Maximum of 1 session per week

Concessional fees available

Occasional Care is a "now and then" childcare service designed for parents to have a break or attend other commitments knowing that their child is well cared for.

Occasional Care is integrated with our Preschool sessions and caters for the development and educational needs of young children in a caring environment.

