



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



Government  
of South Australia

# Newsletter

30<sup>th</sup> January, 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with huge pleasure that we welcome your child, yourself and extended family members to our centre for 2017. We look forward to continuing to build strong partnerships through the variety of programs and services offered in the Centre.

Ongoing Priorities for this year include:

- ✚ Our third year's participation in a nationwide project titled Early Language Learning Australia (ELLA). We are currently awaiting notification of details of participation for 2017. We will provide additional information in newsletters later in the term.
- ✚ Continued improvements to educator pedagogy and practice
- ✚ Continue to build and embed sustainability practices through the Centre
- ✚ Build system wide wellbeing policies, processes and practices throughout the Centre.

If you have any questions, queries or comments on any aspect of the Children's Centre programs please don't hesitate to contact an educator or make a time to meet with Sue Holecek (Director). We are always available to talk through matters with families to build a strong partnership between the Centre and home.

## Positive Education 2017

This year our B-7 site is continuing the essential work towards building well-being, resilience and optimism by embedding Positive Psychology in our preschool life.

There will be 3 main areas of involvement.

1. **The 24 Character Strengths.** Character Strengths are the natural features of us that make up who we are. They are the personality characteristics that make us real, unique and feel engaged. When we use them we create positive emotions.
2. 2016 was the Year of Hope. In 2017 our Positive Education direction is **the Year of Relationships**. This will involve understanding and strengthening the interactions between our improvement priority of wellbeing and building strong relationships through the Positive Education focus. This will encompass child to child, child to educator, family to educator and educator to educator.
3. Children's Centre staff and children will develop daily **Mindfulness practices**. It is a simple way to promote self-awareness, reduce stress and calm the body and mind.

## Quality Improvement Plan 2017

During staff meeting this week, staff will finalise the content of the Quality improvement Plan for the year. Detail of the plan will be listed in our next newsletter published in Week 4.

## Quality Area 2 –Children’s Health and



Our Sun Protection and Hot Weather policies apply from this term.

**We would like to remind every family that children are required to have the following each session:**

- sun cream applied prior to arrival at preschool/Occasional Care/Crèche
- appropriate clothing to cover shoulders and tops of arms
- A drink bottle filled with water. Educators will top up drink bottles with filtered water throughout the day as necessary.
- an appropriate sun hat ( bucket hat, Legionnaire hat or broad brim hat) to protect face, neck and ears



- A poster will be displayed in the foyer area indicating daily UV levels. This will assist educators, families and visitors to protect children from dangerous UV level exposure and determines safe outdoor times.
- Our Hot weather policy determines that children will play under the verandah or indoors when outdoor temperatures are over 36 degrees.
- A copy of the Sun Smart and Hot Weather policy will be available in the Policy Folder on display in the foyer area. If you would like a copy of the policy please see our Receptionist Kim.

## Healthy Food



Families are reminded to provide sufficient nutritious food for their child every day.

Healthy snack suggestions include: fruit, cheese, vegetables, yoghurt, and cracker biscuits such as Salada / Jatz.

Lunch ideas include: salad, sandwich, wraps or bread rolls with meat/cheese/ salad/ tuna.

Please refer to the Health food Suggestions sheet attached to this newsletter.

## QUALITY AREA 4-STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS

### Our staff team for 2017 consists of

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

Children's Centre Community Development Co-ordinator 1.0- position vacant at present

Family Services coordinator (1.0) –position is currently in a recruitment phase

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 Tuesday each fortnight

Receptionist: Kim Smith -Monday to Friday

Cheryl Capewell- Teacher 0.8 (Tuesday to Friday)

Samantha Chirgwin- Teacher 1.0 (Monday to Friday)

Gemma Cross- Teacher- 1.0 (Monday to Friday)

Bethany McConville- SSO (Monday to Thursday)

Tracey Innes-SSO (Thursday)

Melissa Delia- SSO (Wednesday)

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

Preschool Support- Kathryn Wall, Tracey Innes, Annie Rutherford 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

## Diary Dates

Week	Day and Date	Event
1	Monday 30/1/17	First Day of term

## QUALITY AREA 7 – Leadership and service management

### Preschool sessions for 2017

**Group 1 –Monday and Wednesday full day 8:45AM-2:45PM and Thursday morning  
8:45AM-11:45AM**

**Group 2-Tuesday and Friday full days 8:45AM-2:45PM and Thursday afternoon  
12:00PM-3:00PM**

## We currently have vacancies in Group 2 Preschool Sessions

**Preschool Fees** – are set at \$50 per term. Invoices have been generated and placed into your child's communication pocket. Please ensure fees are paid to Kim our Receptionist, within 2 weeks of receipt of your Tax Invoice. Thank you

## Occasional Care

We conduct 2 sessions of Under 2 year old and 4 sessions of Over 2 year old Occasional Care each week.

Under 2 sessions are Monday and Thursday morning 8:45am-11:45am

Over 2 sessions are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings 8:45-11:45am and Thursday afternoon 12:00-3:00pm

### We currently have vacancies for all Occasional Care sessions.

Please see Kim at our Reception desk if you would like further information or would like to enrol.

#### **Occasional Care Fees are set at**

- ✚ \$5:00 per session for non- concession card holders
- ✚ \$1:50 per concession card holders per session
- ✚ Sibling discounts apply if more than one child in the family attends Occasional Care

**Families are reminded to please pay their Occasional Care fee on arrival to their booked session to Kim at the Reception desk.**



## Preschool banking

Our banking days are Tuesday and Thursday. For further information, please see Kim at the Reception desk. Children will be given a gift when they open an account. Thank you.

We look forward to working in partnership with you and your family throughout the year.

## Focus teachers

Each Preschool child will be allocated a focus teacher within the next 2-3 weeks. We will allow children and their families to settle into the program and also observe budding friendships and use this data to support allocation to an individual teacher.

Once allocated the focus teachers will introduce themselves to you. Your child's focus teacher will be an ongoing point of contact for information on your child's progress and learning.

If you are interested in supporting your child's education you may be interested in viewing a range of educational ideas from <http://www.greatstart.sa.edu.au/>

***From the Children's Centre Team***