

Adelaide Eastern Community Childcare Centre Newsletter

Term 3 2018

What a busy term 2 we have had at the Centre!

I was away for the first 6 weeks of term after surgery which all went really well. Thank you to all those who have asked about me along the way. Lisa did a great job running the Centre whilst I was away. Thanks also to Kylie who had some higher duties during that time.



On May 2nd, the Centre put on an Informal Parent Night. This was an opportunity for parents to come and talk to staff without children present about the happenings in specific rooms. Parents also had the opportunity to meet other parents.



PJ and Teddy Bears Picnic day happened on 27th June. Many staff and children dressed in their pyjamas for the day. Each room had their own version of a Teddy Bears Picnic. The toddlers even made a bear cave for their teddies.

June 29th was International Mud Day. Kylie organised a donation of mud from Climbing Tree. A mud pit was created in the Toddler yard and all the children throughout the Centre were invited in. Lots of mess, but of such fun!!



The New Childcare Subsidy has started. There have been some hiccups with a handful of families, who are still working through things with Centrelink. Hopefully Centrelink will be able to sort things out soon.

On July 2nd we had a visit from a volunteer at the RSPCA. The lady talked to the Kangaroo and Wallaby children about the RSPCA and pets.

Our renovations are starting on Friday 20th July. There will be some disruption to the babies' room, but we will try to keep that to a minimum. My office will be temporarily located in the staff room, so if you come looking for me that is where I will be. We are excited to be getting two new sleep rooms, a programming room, office and staff room.

Kylie and one of our parents Nick have been putting a lot of research into nature play areas. We are really hoping to revamp the outdoor area within the next year. Thanks to all of you who filled out a survey about nature play. Kylie also talked to a lot to the older children about what they would like in the outdoor space. Will keep you posted!!



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Getting to Know AECCC Staff

Name:

Kylie

Role at AECCC:

Toddler Room Team Leader

Who Lives at your House:

My husband Ryan, 2 children; Kirra 10, Asher 9 & Jevan 7. Chickens, fish, 2 cats & a dog (and a partridge in a pear tree!!!).

Favourite Movie:

Any comedy with Will Farrel or Melissa Mc Cartney.

Current Favourite Artist/Band:

Paul Demsey, Pnau, Flume, Pearl Jam, Foo Fighters, Aussie Hip Hop, any live music or festivals.

Likes:

Live music, heading to the country for the bush, sea and farm. Family Sundays and life in general.

Dislikes:

Selfishness, pessimistic attitudes, close minded and unaccepting behaviours

Favourite Part of My Job:

The joy that the toddlers bring to my everyday life, watching them learn and grow into empathetic nature warriors.

If I Won a Million Dollars:

Pay off my mortgage, help my family and friends with theirs and continue to enjoy life!

**Name:**

Mariama

Role at AECCC:

Educator in Toddlers Room

Who Lives at your House:

Me, my husband and my 2 beautiful children, one boy and one girl.

Favourite TV Show:

Home and Away, House Rules and Love at First Sight.

Favourite Artist:

Celine Dion, R'n'B and love songs

Likes:

Cooking and spending time with family.

Dislikes:

Hot, Hot weather.

Favourite Part of My Job:

Being and engaging with the children and educators.

If I Won a Million Dollars:

I will donate some to AECCC, poor children in other countries and take my family for a holiday.



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Getting to Know AECCC Staff cont....

Name:

Sylvia

Role at AECCC:

Educator in Toddlers.

Who Lives at your House:

Colin, my son.

Favourite Movie/TV:

Blues Brothers and like Sci-Fi and Fantasy TV Shows

Favourite Artist:

Tom Waits, Van Morrison and George Benson

Likes:

Music with Rhythm and soul.

Food and trying new taste sensations

Dislikes:

Laziness and disorder and cooking

Favourite Part of My Job:

Cuddles and love, the children's energy and love of life which rubs off on me.

If I Won a Million Dollars:

Buy a new house that's not falling down, closer to work and one for daughter and her family so I can see my grand-daughter every day.



Name:

Alice

Role at AECCC:

Casual Relief.

Who Lives at your House:

Myself.

Favourite TV Show:

The Block and Buying Blind.

Favourite Artist:

Michael Buble.

Likes:

Any food with chocolate in it, going on holidays.

Relaxing, reading books, camping and going for walks.

Dislikes:

Chilli and Spicy foods, Horror films.

Favourite Part of My Job:

Watching children interact with their friends, seeing the smiles and hearing laughter and singing and dancing with the children.

If I Won a Million Dollars:

I would give most to charity and keep the rest for me to go on holidays around the world.



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News from the rooms

Babies

We would like to welcome our new families to the room and ones who are having visits and starting soon. We aim to make this transition for both parents and children as smooth as possible.

Recently we enjoyed celebrating PJ Day/Teddy Bears Picnic, International Mud Day and NAIDOC week. We look forward to special person's afternoon coming up. As you are aware we are having renovations take place in the Centre, one of the rooms is our cot room. To accommodate this, we will be making the main room our temporary sleeping area and we will be dining outside under the verandah for mealtimes. (We have done this many times and the children enjoy the change of scenery).

Currently our children have been interested in experimenting with sound – lots of sounds. To extend on their learning we would like to make a sound wall, similar to this.....



and would appreciate any unwanted pots and pans, lids etc. you no longer use, (we are all about sustainability!).

In relation to your child's learning please feel free to read their portfolio and leave a comment/feedback, we value any input in regard to their interests or things that you may see happen at home.

Please, please could you take a quick moment to email us some family photos that we can display in the room. Not only does it give your child a sense of belonging but also promotes their language and recognition.

Please feel free to come and chat to us if you have any concerns or write feedback on our tree.

Em and Jess :)

Toddlers

This term the toddlers have been exploring teddy bears, amongst many other things, through their play. We have created dramatic play areas for the children to visit and explore based on noticing's in the children's play (socio dramatic play is a very important part of child development and is a constant feature of our program). It was therefore timely that the Centre celebrated Teddy Bears Picnic and PJ day as this followed on beautifully from what we have been engaging within the toddlers play. Our teddy play was based around the children using specific items for comforters during times of transitions, for security and during dramatic play whilst at care. These objects are known as Transitional Objects and are self-chosen by the child. If your child has a specific comforter that they use you can see the bond that they have with this item and the importance it has to that child. A Transitional Object or comforter lessens the



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stress of separation, provides comfort, emotional regulation and friendship so it is with this knowledge the toddler room educators support the toddler's needs for their comforters throughout the day and therefore incorporate their comforter into the program and daily routine. We don't deny a child their comforter when they ask for it as to do so can cause anxiety and is suggested to cause attachment difficulties later in life.



We celebrated International Mud Day with a donation of sand and clay mix from my friend Simon from Climbing Tree. We celebrate this day as an opportunity to connect with others around the world and what a better way to do this than by using the earth itself and that connection! The toddlers are very familiar with nature play so the addition of mud play was a natural transition for many, however a little large scale for some! We have decided to keep the mud play in our room so that each child has an opportunity to explore the many benefits of mud! The toddlers use the mud to explore their senses – the smell of the earth, the sound of the squelching, the

feeling of it in their hands, fingers, feet and toes, the depth of colour and change of colour when mediums are added. We use the mud for art painting on large sheets of paper as the toddlers frequent this area uninterrupted and often, we introduced dinosaurs, pots, pans and cooking utensils for investigative play, but what is most important is that we are exposing the children to a friendly bacterium known as Mycobacterium Vaccae. A mood changing bacteria that stimulates the immune system causing the brain to release serotonin and endorphins, happy hormones! We know that this is true as we watched all the children within the Centre delight in the muddy goodness on Mud Day. So if you pick up your child at the end of the day and they look a little grotty just know it as all part of the plan for developmental health and wellbeing 😊. Reminder: Clothing donations are always welcome due to our messy play. Our spare clothes stocks are becoming low. Thank you and happy learning! Kylie, Ama and Sylvia.

Wallabies

We would like to welcome our new wallabies and families. The Wallaby Room have been exploring learning experiences, textures, colours, numbers and letters, cause and effect and cooking (making Anzac Biscuits).



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The Wallaby children really enjoyed International Mud Day. The children were able to play freely in the mud while interacting with other wallabies as well as the babies and toddlers.

The Wallaby educators are encouraging the children to use their verbal communication skills when they require things or help. We are also working on their self-help skills.

We are going to continue to explore our local communities through walks around our local area as well as incursions and excursions.

Sarah, Kate and Vic

Kangaroos

We have been very busy in the Kangaroo Room this term. Here are just some of the things we have done - On "International Mud Day" we explored the texture and feel of mud, and just got dirty. We had a PJ day and teddy bear picnic, which all the children loved. We have been learning about the Kurna language and culture during NAIDOC week.



We have been finding out about the wider community with visits from parents and organisations in our community.



It is the end of the term 2 and we are looking for Feedback regarding our program, and any suggestions for term 3. Check out the sticky note poster above the sign in sheet and write any comments. We thank the parents who have donated their time to talk about their jobs and interests. We have all enjoyed learning about the wider community. If you would like to come in and share your interests or job, please talk to the kangaroo staff.

Donations of craft material and small parts would be great.

Rachel and Kim



Recently our heating/cooling system in the over twos area of the Centre stopped working. Unfortunately, we needed to get a new system. Thankfully, we have a parent who works for O'Connor's and one who is a gas fit plumber. They were able to source a system for us at a very reasonable price and then were able to fit it.

We would like to give big thank you to Luke, Karl and O'Connor's for all the work that was done.

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