

Staff Representative's AGM Report Sunday 29th September 2019

What a busy, exciting year we've had, predominantly focused on the planning and preparation of our beautiful nature play space.

The end of 2018 saw the introduction of A5 books into the baby and toddler rooms, enabling a stronger connection from home to care with educators jotting and recording children's learning and families able to take this home to read and learn. We've had students from various institutions such as TAFE and Uni SA collaborating with our community and enriching our centre on their placements, leading to several regular casual staff members joining our team.

Where possible, weather and educator ratio allowing we continue to venture out and explore our local community. We walk around the block, looking at and learning about nature, road signs and house numbers to name a few. We walk to Rose Park Kindy to do the afternoon pick up and have a play on the playground nearby.

We've seen several spontaneous community contributions with parents noticing and offering to fix things around the centre, donating clothes, shoes and nappies that no longer fit their children and volunteering their time on committees. Plenty of families have taken turns looking after Giggles (the budgie) over the weekend. All of this shows the strength and growing community engagement which is what our Centre is all about.

We are exploring and discovering more about the Kaurna people, their language and culture, showing respect through reading and singing acknowledgements of country regularly. We aim to imbed this fully and naturally into our philosophy, practice and every day.

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We have welcomed the completion of the nature play space, exceeding our expectations and loving every minute we spend out there (which is A LOT). The nature play suits have been a big success, allowing the children to engage in water/mud/messy play freely and to experience the outdoor environment in wet weather. The children are learning to respect the plants, through planting, watering and taking responsibility for their general care.

The chickens are settling in well, with the children showing curiosity and patience when playing near them. We feed them scraps from the day so little goes to waste and we hope to be collecting eggs soon. The outside of the Centre has been freshly painted and we are proud to have installed solar panels on the roof in the further quest for sustainability.

On behalf of the staff team, I want to thank Sarah, our incredible and dedicated director for all she does for our Centre and our community as a whole. Together with the current board, Josh, Elliot, Emily, Paul, John, Nick and Jason, Sarah has achieved so much this year, striving to make our Centre better than ever. Look at what we've achieved! Please join me in thanks and celebration of 50 years and welcoming a new era with Rose Park Community Childcare Inc.