

# Rose Park Community Childcare

## Newsletter

### Term 3 2021

Well, here we are again after another lock down. We had been incredibly lucky in South Australia compared of some other states. We hope that everyone has coped as well as they can in this difficult situation. Thank you to all of you who have lessened the risks at the Centre by keeping your children at home. We had a small group of children in each day, which helped us to minimise the number of educators at the Centre each day. The staff, as always, have done an amazing job, still coming to work with a smile on their face and a positive approach, which I am sure you can all appreciate.

In Early Childhood, we are not required to wear masks when working with the children. Educators will wear masks when in a smaller room with each other for a long period of time, e.g. programming room or the staff room if more than one person in there.

We continue to ask, whether there is a lockdown or not, that if your child is unwell, please keep them at home. If they become unwell whilst at childcare, you will receive a phone call to collect them as soon as possible.

Stay safe and stay well!



Government of  
South Australia

**KEEPING SA  
SAFE & STRONG**

### Limited Spaces

Currently, we only have a small amount of spaces available for either permanent or casual days. We constantly check through the numbers to make changes, but the current number forecast looks like this will continue to be the case until children go off to school for 2022. We are licenced for 59 children per session and we are not able to exceed this amount. We have current families also asking for additional care. These families have been placed on our internal waitlist. If you need any changes to your current bookings, please let Sarah or Lisa know as soon as possible. We cannot guarantee how long the spaces will be available.

Extra days and swapping days may be difficult to get, so if you are going away, please let us know in advance, as it may free up a space for another family in need. We will do our best to accommodate what we can and thank you in advance for your understanding if we can't.

### Social and Fundraising Activities

Unfortunately, due to the COVID lockdown we will have to reschedule the Parent Night. We will let you know as soon as we have a new date.

We are still gathering recipes for a Centre Cook Book. Please send in your favourite recipe to share in our cook book, or an old family favourite with a story behind it. Once we have all the recipes, a book will be created, and copies will be for sale. If you don't have time to type up a recipe, take a photo and send it in. Jess is very happy to type up and make your page colourful.

We are also due to have an Art Exhibition in August, this will of course be subject to what is allowed at the time in regard to COVID and social distancing. We will keep you updated! If you would like to be involved in our Social Inclusion Committee, please speak to Sarah, Jess or Maddy.



As per our SunSmart policy, children and educators are required to wear hats and sunscreen from the beginning of August through to the end of April. This means that as of next week, the children will be required to wear a hat and have sunscreen applied numerous times a day. We ask that if you took your child's hat home for the winter, that you bring it back next week and make sure that it is labelled with your child's name. If your child is sensitive to the sunscreen that we use, please supply a labelled tube of what they can use.

### Wet Weather and Returning of Centre Clothes

We are well and truly into the colder months. Could you please make sure your child has weather appropriate clothes with them each day, and please pack enough spares for changes. We also welcome you to bring in rubber boots, beanies, and jackets to wear outside. Could you also be mindful of returning Centre spare clothes to us if your child goes home in something of ours, as someone else may need it on another day. These clothes are labelled clearly with **RPCC**. If you have any clothes at home that your child no longer fits into, we would love to take them off your hands, especially pants and shorts.



### Community Library

As most of you already know, we have a Community Library Box set up in between the two entrance gates of the Centre.



We encourage the use of this to increase the use of literacy in the children's lives.

The idea of the community library is to 'Take a Book' and 'Give a Book', or alternatively, 'Borrow a Book' and 'Return a Book'.

We have noticed recently that there are not many books in the Library Box at the moment. If you have taken a book recently, we ask that you replace it with another book that your child no longer reads at home, or bring the book back once you have read it with your child.

The box is there for the community to use and we ask that you respect the concept of it.

### Immunisation

Thank you to all that continue to forward us your child's Immunisation History Statement after they have had an update of their scheduled immunisations.

We are required by law to have up to date records of each child's immunisation status, which can only be in the form of their History Statement. You can access this on your MyGov account. If you fail to do this, you will automatically receive an email from our booking and billing system saying that you have not supplied this to us.

Once you have forwarded it to us, we can enter in the updates.

We keep our own records of who is due when and we may also email individually. If they are not received within a couple of months of when the immunisation is due, your Child Care Subsidy may be suspended until the Statement is entered. Children who are not immunised are **not able** to attend any childcare facility, unless they have a legal exemption.

Scheduled immunisations are due at 2, 4, 6, 12 and 18 months of age, then again between 3 and a half years and 4 and a half years of age.

See SA Health website for more details.

<https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/conditions/immunisation/immunisation+programs/childhood+immunisation+program/childhood+immunisation+program>



**Name:**

Tracey

**Role at RPCC:**

Educator in the Wallaby Room

**Who lives at your house?**

Myself, my partner Paul, oh and Jimmy our baby cockatiel.

**Favourite TV show / movie:**

911, Masterchef  
Avatar and The War Horse

**Current favourite Artist:**

Pink and Guy Sebastian

**Likes:**

Cooking, Gardening and Painting

**Dislikes:**

Hot and Spicy Foods and Animal Cruelty

**Favourite part of my job:**

The conversations with the children, always having a laugh, being there when they need a hug or some help. Helping them reach their full potential.

**If I won a million Dollars:**

I would travel around Australia.



**Name:**

Alice

**Role at RPCC:**

Educator across all rooms

**Who lives at your house?**

I live with my family

**Favourite TV show / movie:**

Nothing in particular, but enjoy biography movies and at the moment 9Life is my favourite channel, as I like the renovation show and Escape to Country

**Likes:**

Chocolate, seafood, steak. Walking on a nice sunny day. I like learning new things such as facts or information about people.

**Dislikes:**

Self-centred and dishonest people. Going shopping for clothes.

**Favourite part of my job:**

Being part of your children's lives, learning from them and seeing their smiles. Being amazed when they say my name for the first or second time, knowing that they know who I am!

**If I won a million Dollars:**

Could die of shock! Put in bank until I decide what to do with it, donate to some little known charities, buy a house and go on a holiday once the world is vaccinated!

## News from the rooms.....

### Babies

Welcome all of our families to the under 2's ☺ As you may or may not be aware we refer to ourselves as "the under 2's", moving away from the label of "babies and toddlers", as our team of educators work as a close collaborative partnership built on trust and respect. (NQA 4.2.1. Professional collaboration and refers to the code of ethics) Our collaborative partnership and learning is reflected in our daily practices as we provide an inclusive environment, working closely together to participate in learning experiences and the benefits of learning from others. (Lev Vygotsky's The Zone of Proximal development-what a child can achieve independently and with guidance of others). We continue to build strong connections and maintaining respectful relationships with children, ensuring children and families feel secure and supported.



The under 2's have recently celebrated NAIDOC week, the theme "Heal Country" an opportunity to acknowledge the history and culture of

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (RPCC Strategic plan 3.2 Embed cultural respect throughout the Centre). Educators provided various provocations throughout the week to represent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's cultures through various types of media. Multiple types of media incorporated into children's learning environment included literature, text, art (sensory exploration), gardening and our connection with the earth and land, dance, music and language.

Providing learning experiences that are meaningful and relevant to our children, we celebrated and acknowledged Reconciliation Week, Earth Day, World Oceans Day, International Mud Day. Provocations extended on children's current interests such as enclosure, sensory exploration and educators observing children through play as they become active and capable learners who explore hands on to solve problems. We continue to respond to children's individual needs and support them in their future learning and development.

Em and Chels

### Toddlers

Hi Families. Recently the under 2 teams have engaged in discussions based on the current events occurring in the community. With so many children coming down with nasty winter viruses, it was planned that educators could represent Quality Area 2 Health and Hygiene practices, into the under 2's learning environment.

As a result of illness, children have been visiting the doctors quite regularly. To further incorporate an awareness of self, educators designed a play invitation (provocation) that included investigations of hygiene practices i.e. coughing and sneezing etiquette, washing hands etc. and learning about the body i.e. body parts, organs and bones. This has a correlation to the developmental milestones of the Early Years Framework and National Quality Standards. The play intention was designed to incorporate current interests of dramatic play and would therefore be relevant to children's interests. By doing this, educators are ensuring that we provide the best outcomes of learning, in regard to themselves and their world. Whilst promoting social interactions, conversation and sense of identity. To help with the provocation,



educators asked for donations from you, our families, to which you were very generous, providing children with a diverse range of medical tools and resources for exploration. Thank you!

As with all of our play, children guide their own learning, as educators see opportunities to further facilitate knowledge and meaning. The doctors play transformed into an enclosure schema focus, as children practised placing the lid on and off the sample containers and posting various loose parts resources into the containers. RPCC runs an emergent curriculum throughout. This means that we use the children's play to design learning and it is

fluid, based on their individual and group interests. So, with the new investigation into schema play, educators provide further provocations to extend and challenge children's thinking, all of which is documented in the Learning Journeys. We had our teacher student, Iris, provide many meaningful play experiences for the children, with a specific focus on water and sensory investigation. Iris also provided the children with a successful ice exploration using real tools, that was well utilized and received by the children.

RPCC recently celebrated and acknowledged NAIDOC Week. Together we planted more "Bush Tucker" in our garden as the theme for 2021 was "Heal Country" and further promoting a biodiverse environment. It was during this time, that I asked a reflective question to our teams, based on our "Care for Country" song. I wondered if it was meaningful to children? Did they understand what they were singing? And was it represented in a language and terminology that they could understand? Being aware of "rote" learning, I have asked each room to unpack their "Care for Country" song as a Centre based inquiry. Perhaps this is a discussion you could further promote at home?

The under 2's have begun this journey, as we begin to unpack our Care for Country song. Providing meaning to the elements of our song through art, small world play, story and discussion. This will remain a focus going forward, as well as concentrating on reconnecting with children, as they come back from illness and educators from holidays.

As always thank you for your ongoing support and fingers crossed for healthy bodies! Happy learning, Kylie, Ama and Maddy.

## Wallabies

Welcome to all our new Wallaby friends. The Wallabies continue to explore our local community (prior to COVID restrictions). Visiting the school playground during school holidays as well as the playground.



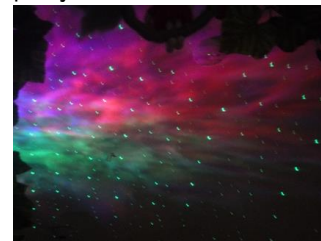
This challenges their gross motor skills and spatial awareness. The children also make connections with their local community and the world they live in. While walking around the local community the children develop their road safety knowledge, how to safely cross the road and that we have to "stop, look, listen and look again".

With the success of the tie dying, the Wallabies will be repeating this learning in the very near future.



The children learn about cause and effect and colour mixing as well as making patterns.

We have also been discovering the stars and the moon, with the help of a nebula and star projector.



The children make themselves comfortable lying down on some cushions and looking up at the sky, watching the stars.

We discuss colours, twinkling stars and the clouds moving over the ceiling.

Wallabies are also working on their self-help skills. Promoting self-help skills develops children's independence and skills that they continue to develop until adulthood.



As part of the program we celebrate special events. We have recently celebrated reconciliation week, international mud play day, world ocean day and NAIDOC week to name a few. These celebrations provide children with further explorations and investigations that greater develop their overall knowledge.

We look forward to all the future learning and investigations.

Sarah, Tracey, Vic and Jess.

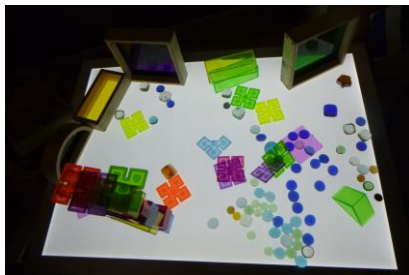
## Kangaroos

A warm welcome to all our new Kangaroo families. Educators are glad to see that all our fresh faces have settled really well into the new environment and have already started a very exciting and inspiring learning journey.

Over the past three months, Kangaroos have been showing great interest in colours, which prompted and inspired our extremely engaging colour project. The children have been largely involved in a variety of scientific colour experiences, including primary colour mixing, making fireworks in a jar,



Magic Milk, Racing Car painting and Beauty Salon play.



We've also read several fiction and non-fiction books about colours, had vibrant discussions about skin in different colours and watched a series of documentaries, "What the world looks like in animals' eyes."

The other two current major programs being conducted are measurement and spiders, both of which were initiated by children's own ideas and interests. Kangaroos have been exploring non-standard unit measurement and standard unit measurement to further enhance their mathematical knowledge and understanding.

In terms of our spider project, Kangaroos have been making spiders,



spider webs, setting up a story table (The Very Busy Spider), acting out an action song (The Incy Wincy Spider). We also did a funny Peacock Spider dance.

Well done, Kangaroos!

The Kangaroo team are looking forward to working with you and your child in the next term. Please stay warm and healthy.

Maggie, Rachel and Karilyn.

## Water Bottles

A reminder that you will need to take your child's bottle home each evening to wash and refill. Don't forget to return it with your child the next day.

