

Rose Park Community Childcare Newsletter Term 1 2024

Bookings for this year

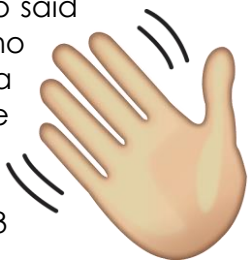
Our numbers are quite high, every day, throughout the Service. Due to this, we may be unable to swap a day or give families extra casual days as easily. If you are needing a permanent change in your care requirements, please get in touch with Sarah or Lisa. As you can imagine, numbers are a constant juggle.

If you have recently had a baby or are pregnant and will require care this year for additional children, please get in contact with us soon so that we can do our best to accommodate your requirements.

We want to make sure that we are doing everything possible to assist our current families before we offer spaces to new families. Please don't leave it too late as you may miss out.

Welcome back, Goodbye and Congratulations!

Welcome back to Mariama, who has been on maternity leave. We also said good bye to Rachel, who has started a new job as a bookkeeper in a school. We wish her all the best and thank her for her service to RPCC for the last 23 years.



We are pleased to announce that after a recruitment process, Corina has been successful in gaining the position in the Kangaroos left vacant by Rachel. Corina has been at the Service for a few years now, starting as a student, then working casually, part-time and now full time. She will start permanently in the Kangaroos in the coming weeks. Corina loves nature, the outdoors and sustainability – all things that we as a service strive to teach the children all about.

Reminders

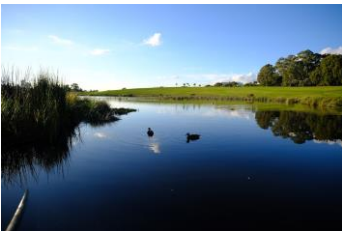
- Please remember to check your child's bag each day to ensure it has enough spare clothes, nappies or underwear.
- Please remember to sign your child in and out of the Service through our electronic sign in system. The educators will show you how the devices work, if you are unsure.
- Please make sure any food and medication are not left in your child's bag. We have children with serious and life-threatening allergies at the Service and we do not want an emergency situation to occur.
- When your child has any immunisation updates, please forward their updated Immunisation History Statement as soon as possible. Failure to do this can affect your Child Care Subsidy.
- Keep us up to date with any changes to your child's emergency contacts, allergies, address changes or anything else that may affect the well-being of your child.



- Remember to supply your child with a hat everyday as per our Sun Smart Policy.
- Please remember to dress your child in t-shirts or dresses that cover their shoulders.
- We reapply sunscreen during the day, but please apply sunscreen to your child before they arrive.

Educational Leader

Throughout last year, you may have read and heard the team talking about "Place-based" pedagogy. This is a pedagogy that refers to an understanding that educator knowledge of the setting or context will influence how educators plan and practice. This is particularly important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their connection to land. Places should be explored with local Elders and community members in culturally responsive ways. If you look at the context of our setting, our "place" is not only the Service in which the children attend, but the extension of the environment outside the gates. Currently every room, more frequently the over 2s, venture off on journeys of discovery to places close by - The preschool, the school, the surrounding streets and cafe, watching the changes in our community and connecting with the environment. It is on these walks that children see what is around them outside of their care environment and develop positive healthy lifestyles, relationships and are able to freely and openly express themselves. Throughout our team discussions, we are able to view place-based pedagogy from a wider lens and ponder the question of embedding place into practice. What does this look like and where?



Not too far away is Victoria Park or Pakapakanthi (Kurna word for "to trot"). In various

conversations, I have mentioned to the team that this is a space that I would like to use as an embedded area for children to come, observe and explore. What an amazing space to simply "be".

Our team is always excited to explore new avenues that will benefit the care and learning for the children. So, with inspired hearts and minds we used our last meeting of 2023 to reflect on how we would embed Pakapakanthi into our days. Many of the educators have taken the children for a practice walk to the space, with the intention of observing areas that would be a suitable base. We paid particular consideration to

safety (water included), shade, toileting, others in the community and age appropriateness. From this a comprehensive risk assessment has been written and will be added to as additional thoughts/ needs arise. As with any part of practice, we continue to reflect on what needs to be adjusted as we venture over for longer periods of time. In the near future, our planned renovations will be happening, it is therefore important that we have a bigger space in which the children can run, play and explore. What better way to do this, than at a place that will begin to feel like home too, an extension of their childcare place. The most magical part is to put your mind to that of your child's. Just imagine the memories that will be created, talked about and remembered. The wonder and awe of the spans of this space and the adventures had with friends, all the while being connected to Kurna Yerta (land)!

Kylie Wielechowski
Educational and Quality Improvement
Leader

Sustainable Practices

Did you know we undertake many sustainable practices at RPCC? Our Sustainability Committee consists of Kylie and Em. They research, teach and implement many of our ways to help the environment now and in the future.

Some of the ways we help the environment are; a bottle and can recycle bin through Direct Collect – bring in your used drink cans and bottles that have the 10c refundable symbol on them, then money we raise goes to the Sammy D Foundation. Coffee Pod recycling - bring in any used coffee pods, no need to clean them out, as the coffee is used for compost and these get recycled through Nespresso. Our chickens love left over fruit and veg, and as you can imagine they are well fed here. We encourage all families, new and old to buy a reusable "Wet Bag". This saves us using multiple plastic bags for your child's wet and soiled clothing. We have wet bags available for sale, more information below.



Wet Bags

As previously mentioned, you can order wet bags through us via email. New children enrolled are highly encouraged to purchase one when they begin care. They are \$20 each. We bill this to your account as we do not accept cash. They come in Bees, Rainbows or an Indigenous design (we have examples in the office if you would like to see them). Patterns are subject to availability. Each bag is 30cm X 40cm, cotton outer, waterproof liner, clip band to attach to backpack and zipper closure. These are handmade by local supplier.

Community Library

As most of you already know, we have a Community Library set up in between the two entrance gates of the Service, (Close Street side). We encourage the use of this to expose the children to more literacy. The idea of the Community Library is to 'Take a Book' and 'Give a Book', or alternatively, 'Borrow a Book' and 'Return a Book'. Please respect the books and return in a usable fashion.



Water Bottles and Nappies

Please take your child's bottle home each evening to wash and refill. Don't forget to return it with your child the next day they are in and please make sure their name is clearly marked on it.



Just a reminder, we do not supply nappies for the children who require them. Please make sure there are at least 4-5 nappies in your child's bag each day they attend. You can always bring in a bag of nappies for us to store here and use for your child to save you bringing them in each day. We are happy for families to use either disposable or cloth nappies. If using cloth nappies, we ask you bring in more to last the day and that a wet bag is provided. If you need to purchase one, just let us know, as we can provide you one for a cost of \$20.

Social & Fundraising Committee

Thanks to your generous donations at the end of last year, we were able to make up 8 prizes and we raised \$640.

If you would like to join the Service's Social & Fundraising committee, who plan family events or have new and exciting ideas for fundraising, please email or speak to Sarah or Lisa.

Your committee currently consists of Sarah R, Jess, Maddy, Jacinta and a parent, Sarah S.

Immunisation

Thanks to all that continue to forward us your child's updated Immunisation History Statement, which can be accessed through your MyGov account.

We are required by law to have up to date records of each child's immunisation status. You can

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 and you will stop receiving reminder emails.

We keep our own records of who is due when, so we may also email you 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 provided and is entered into our computer system. Children who are not immunised are **not able** to attend any childcare service, unless they have a legal/medical exemption.

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>

Adult immunisation recommendations include the following:

- Yearly Influenza vaccinations
- A COVID booster.
- When around babies and children, it is also recommended for updates of Pertussis (Whooping Cough, Diphtheria/Tetanus), MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella), Varicella (if you haven't had Chicken Pox) and Hepatitis A. Check your MyGov for your own Immunisation History Statement or speak to your Doctor/Health Professional regarding what you may need to stay healthy.

**Name:**

Mariama (or Ama)

Role at RPCC and how long have you worked here:

Educator in the Under 2's for just over 10 years

Who lives at your house?

Myself, my husband and 5 children

Favourite TV show/movies:

Home and Away

Current favourite Music:

Anything R n B and Country

Likes:

Cooking, cleaning and spending time with my children and family. Going for a walk and going out with friends.

Dislikes:

Scary movies, bullies and dishonest people.

Favourite part of my job:

Being able to make a difference in young children's lives.

If I won a million Dollars:

I would travel and donate some to the needy or a charity.

**Name:**

Corina

Role at RPCC and how long have you worked here:

Educator across all rooms, started as a student in 2020, then on and off casual and now full time in the Kangaroos.

Who lives at your house?

My daughter Claire who has just turned 16, I have a son, Joshua who lives in Melbourne and is turning 21 soon (in my heart, but not my house).

Favourite TV show / movie:

Goggle Box, Grease and Dirty Dancing

Current favourite Artist/Music:

Taylor Swift and Robbie Williams

Likes:

Cats, gardening, camping, reading and chocolate

Dislikes:

Government wasting dollars and spiders

Favourite part of my job:

Making a difference to a child's day. Having conversations with children, educators and families.

If I won a million Dollars:

Pay my mortgage, go on a holiday and give to charity.

**Name:**

Karilyn

Role at RPCC and how long have you worked here:

Educator in the Tarnta Room for nearly 6 years.

Who lives at your house?

My husband and children

Favourite TV Show:

I don't have a particular one.

Current favourite Artist:

I enjoy hardcore music.

Likes:

Water colour painting and gardening

Dislikes:

Being late and rude people on the train.

Favourite part of my job:

Watching the wonderment of the children as they explore the world.

If I won a million Dollars:

I would go back home to the mountains.

**Name:**

April

Role at RPCC and how long have you worked here:

Educator across all rooms for just over a year.

Who lives at your house?

My Husband Fred, son Darren and daughter Mila, and my mother-in-law.

Favourite TV shows/movies:

Travel Guides and Perfect Days

Current favourite Music:

One Republic and Moonlight

Likes:

Traveling, watching movies and reading

Dislikes:

Sports

Favourite part of my job:

Interacting with children, building trusting relationships with them. Watching them grow and develop into healthy, happy little people, with so many smiling little faces around me. I enjoy love, laughter, fun and joy as part of my daily routine.

If I won a million Dollars:

I would travel around the world.

From your Kitchen Manager.....

Kim, our wonderful and talented kitchen manager has kindly shared 2 recipes for you to try at home.

If you ever have any questions about what your child eats here, allergy concerns or another recipe, feel free to pop to the kitchen to see Kim. She is here every day 7:45-1:30pm.

More recipes are also featured on our website. We upload each newsletter to the website, so there are other recipes that you can access there.

Zucchini Slice

2 bacon rashers

375 grams grated zucchini

1 large onion chopped

5 eggs – beaten

1 cup grated cheese

1 cup SR Flour

½ cup oil

Seasoning to taste

(Optional to add, died capsicum, corn kernels and grated carrots)

Combine all ingredients in a large bowl, pour into greased tin.

Bake for 180C for +/- 40 minutes, serve with salad if desired.



Coconut Macaroons

4 egg whites

½ cup sugar

¼ teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon Vanilla Essence

1 cup desiccated coconut

Add first 4 ingredients in a bowl

Beat egg whites until thick and frothy.

Add coconut and combine gently

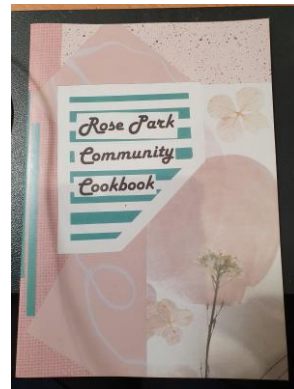
Spoon into ball onto baking tray lined with baking paper

Bake at 180C for 25 minutes until golden



Cook Book

If you haven't purchased one already, please let us know if you would like a copy of the Rose Park Community Cook Book. Great value for **\$15**. It includes many of Kim's, our Kitchen Manger, recipes that the children love, as well as family and educator's home recipes. Please email the office if you would like a copy and we will add the amount to your account.



Renovations

Over the last few years, we have been working with 2 different architects and a builder to come up with plans to renovate the majority of the internal spaces. It has taken a lot of hours and back and forth communication between the stakeholders. We (the Board) feel that we are very close to giving it the green light to actually start renovating. We have been in close contact with the Education Standards Board, who ultimately say yes or no to the plans. They have said 'Yes' to what we have planned, which is great, we just have a couple of minor documents to send through to them. They have also given us a waiver for during the renovations, as obviously not all of the current space will be accessible. The renovations will be completed in 3 stages. A 9-page risk assessment has been developed, and supervision plans being adapted for the renovations – the safety of your children is our number one priority. Before things commence, we will send more detailed information and keep you up to date at the beginning and end of each stage. At this point, it is predicted to take 12-14 weeks. We know that it will make things tricky for a while, but as I have been saying to the educators "Short term pain, long term gain". We will keep you posted.