

Rose Park Community Childcare

Newsletter

Term 2 2022

What a year we have had so far!

We would like to thank you all for the support you have shown the Board, Director and educators during the past few months, navigating COVID restrictions once more.

We are glad to have you all back in the Service's grounds and love having chats with you at drop off and pick up. We will continue to let you know about positive cases of COVID that are reported to us, outlining which rooms/days the case affects. We have been quite lucky so far as only a few cases have affected us directly, others have already been in isolation with their family before testing positive or it has occurred over days that the child has not been booked in. As always if your child has any symptoms, please monitor these and get a test done to make sure they are not positive and do not send them to childcare. If your child becomes unwell whilst at care, we will call you to pick them up as soon as possible, to limit the risk of exposure. We ask that you continue to wear masks when entering the grounds of the centre and we will review this protocol at the end of the month.

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 they are in.



Availability of spaces for this year

At the moment we only have spaces available on Fridays for ongoing/permanent care the other days are just about full, with the odd morning or afternoon available.

If there are any other changes to your permanent booking needs this year, please let Sarah or Lisa know as soon as possible so we can plan ahead with our current waiting lists. Remember that we need 2 weeks notice. Due to the centre being nearly full on most days we cannot promise that we will be able to offer casual or swap days throughout the year, so if you know ahead of time that your child will not be in, please let us know so we can do our best to accommodate everyone's needs.

Community Library

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

We have noticed recently that there are not many books in the Library Box. 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 Service Community to use and we ask that you respect the concept of it. If you have any books at home that your children have gotten too old for, we always welcome donations too.



Immunisation

Thanks to all that continue to forward us your child's Immunisation History Statement after they have had an update of their child's 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 Immunisation 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, so 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 service, 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>

Wet Weather Onesies



If your child still has a Wet Weather Onesie, please pop that in their bag too.

We are doing another order this year through Nature Play SA, so please read the other attachment

with this newsletter and if you would like to order one for your child, please reply with the size and colour choice. The cost of these will be added to your account if you wish to purchase. Click on the link for Nature Play SA to find out more information.

<https://natureplaysa.org.au/shop-with-us/shop/>

Wet Bags

We have introduced Wet Bags at the service to promote sustainability - not over using plastic bags for wet, soiled and dirty clothing. New families will be needing to purchase one through us at enrolment and current families can order via email. They are \$20 each and come in 3 designs, Bees, Rainbows and an Aboriginal design (see pictures below), 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 locally handmade.

Please send us an email if you would like to purchase and we can add the cost to your account.



Hats and weather appropriate clothing



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.

Therefore, we are at the end of having to use sunscreen and hats now until the beginning of August. If you would like us to continue to encourage your child to wear a hat through the winter months or continue to use sunscreen, please let the educators in your child's room know.

As the weather changes, please make sure your child has extra clothing for cooler days, including gum boots, beanies and or warm jackets as we will continue to be outside as much as possible.





Name:
Sarah R

Role at RPCC and how long have you worked here:

Director and I have been at the Service for just over 5 years.

Who lives at your house?

Husband Daryle and son Joshua.

Favourite TV show / movie:

Gilmore Girls and Action Movies – Die Hard 4, Armageddon and Independence Day are some of my favourites.

Current favourite Artist/Music:

Austin French, song "Good Feeling".

Likes:

Doing jigsaws and Lego.

Dislikes:

Spicy Food.

Favourite part of my job:

When the children make me laugh – doing or saying something funny.

If I won a million Dollars:

Sorry, but I would resign 😊

Give away some of the money and work for a charity organization as a volunteer.



Name:
Mariama

Role at RPCC and how long have you worked here:

Educator in the Toddlers Room for nearly 9 years.

Who lives at your house?

Myself, my husband, 4 children and my sister.

Favourite TV show/movies:

Home and Away, Action or Love story movies.

Favourite Music:

R'n'B.

Likes:

Cooking, cleaning, working with children.

Dislikes:

Soft drinks and snakes.

Favourite part of my job:

Watching the children grow and learn.

If I won a million Dollars:

I would donate to people who need it the most and give some to RPCC. Holiday with my family.



Name:
Kylie

Role at RPCC and how long have you worked here:

Educational Leader/Quality Improvement Leader/Toddler Team Leader. I have been at the centre for the last 6 years, but also worked at the centre in the late 1990's to early 2000's as a casual educator.

Who lives at your house?

Myself, my husband Ryan. Kirra, Asher and Jevan, my kids. Pebbles the dog, Angel, Ethel and Clover the cats. 1 Bredli python and 2 chickens! Hence the renovations we have just completed at home!

Favourite TV show/movies:

I don't watch much TV. My downtime is predominately spent reading articles. I do enjoy watching documentaries on cultural ways of being, sustainability or music.

Current favourite music:

Music is my soul food. I have an eclectic range of musicians that I like to listen to and can now see again live. My all-time favourite artist is Paul Dempsey, I have alternative Indi taste in music.

Likes:

Being surrounded by positive like-minded people. Our family culture involves the land, the oceans and sports.

Dislikes:

Negativity and a pessimistic view on life

Favourite part of my job:

To watch the growth and development of your little ones. Educating others about child development and linking to program and practice.

If I won a million Dollars:

I would look after my family first and buy a house at a great surf break. Donate money to charities such as Sea Sheppard and the Cancer Council – childhood cancer research. Work less and volunteer my time to help others.

**Name:**

Rachel

Role at RPCC and how long have you worked here:

Educator in the Kangaroos, I've been here for 20+ years.

Who lives at your house?

My husband Mark and I. We live in the hills, so we have lots of native animal and birds come to visit.

Favourite TV show / movie:

I watch shows on YouTube – travel shows and show about my hobbies.

Current favourite Artist/Music:

I play a musical instrument in a band, so I don't have much time to listen to other music.

Likes:

Camping, bush walking, going out with friends.

Dislikes:

Snakes.

Favourite part of my job:

Watching the children grow and learn at their own pace.

If I won a million Dollars:

I would spend a year travelling around Australia and do volunteer work.

National Quality Standards

Quality Area One:

As part the National Quality Standards, educators focus on each **child's knowledge, strengths, culture, abilities and interests** and use this information to implement into the educational program. In a brief statement could you please share something in an email, about the highlighted subjects above, which will be passed on to your child's educators. Educators in your child's room, will then use the information you provide, throughout the year to create a meaningful curriculum specific to your child. This implements a sense of belonging, as educators connect community (home/family time) with what we already know about your child and therefore strengthens relationships through continuity of learning.

Quality Area Two: Children's Health and Safety

Part of QA2 focuses on the necessity to teach and educate children about the importance of physical exercise, to provide children with the opportunity to be responsible for their own health and physical wellbeing. A large part of your child's day involves activities that support physical activity and development (this is balanced with opportunities to rest). We would love for you, the families, to be a part of this. Would you be interested in a RPCC sports day for all ages?

Educators would require help on the day, so your registered interest and involvement would be needed for supervision. This is a concept at the moment, to gauge interest, once we have feedback, educators can collaborate to devise a plan.

What are your thoughts?



At the moment we are currently Meeting all areas of the Quality Areas, our last Assessment and Rating visit was in 2018. We have a goal to reach Exceeding by our next Assessment and Rating visit from our governing body, ACECQA. The Face Book posts, Learning Journeys, feedback regarding the Service policies and questions like the ones above, to you, our families, are just some of the ways that will assist us to achieve our goal.

Kitchen Manager's Column

Kim our wonderful and talented Kitchen Manager has kindly shared 2 more recipes for you to try at home.

Sweet Potato and Bacon Frittata serves 4

1 large sweet potato
100gram Greek feta
½ cup corn kernels
1 cup diced bacon
1 onion chopped
6 eggs
½ cup milk or cream
Peel and chop sweet potato into 2cm cubes.
Boil until just tender and drain.
Cook bacon and onion, stir in potato and corn.
Layer sweet potato mix in an oven proof dish.
Whisk eggs and milk (cream) and pour over potatoes.
Sprinkle with crumbled feta.
Cook in hot oven 200C for +/- 20 minutes until golden brown and set.

Banana and Zucchini Bread

1 cup SR flour
¾ cup whole meal SR flour
½ teaspoon mixed spice (optional)
2/3 cup castor sugar
¾ cup coarsely grated zucchini
2 ripe bananas – mashed
2 eggs
1/3 cup oil
¼ cup milk
Oven at 180C
Grease and line a loaf pan.
Sift flour in a large bowl, stir in sugar and zucchini. Combine bananas, eggs, oil and milk in a jug. Stir into the flour mixture until mixed well through.
Spoon into prepared pan and bake till golden and skewer comes out clean.
Let cool before removing from pan.

Cook Book

Between COVID and everything else, we are still working on the Centre Cook Book, feel free to email through a recipe if you haven't had a chance to yet, include photos of your family cooking or enjoying the dish as well if you like!



News from the rooms.....

Under 2's

In the Under 2 learning environment, educators have been focused on ensuring that children feel safe, supported and secure. With many new children being welcomed into RPCC, educator's main priority is to connect with them. This is done through holistic practice, observing the child's cues, supporting their emotional needs and listening to what they need, not what we, as adults, think that they need. To create a connection, educators place their own bias aside and channel the individual child, observing their non-verbal and verbal communication for comfort and routine. It takes some trial and error, however, within a couple of weeks, you will notice your child begin to regulate. This will in turn result in the child playing happily in their environment. This is our ultimate goal, as we all know that without feeling connected, we don't feel like we belong 😊.

Whilst working on attachment is a big focus, educators have also been facilitating many cultural experiences based on families and community events. This creates a sense of belonging. Recently we have celebrated Holi, Ramadan, Bengali new Year, Greek Easter, Easter, Eid, Earth Day, Clean Up Australia, National Ride 2 School Day. These are events that are specific to our families and educators and helps children to realise that they belong to many communities. Our embedded environmental learning also teaches children about the importance of being environmentally aware. You may have read how we implemented these experiences into our program, shared in the Learning Journey documentation. If you haven't received this, please email the Service. Sharing your child's learning is so important and is a way in which we can collaborate with you.

With all the beautiful Autumn colours around, the children have noticed a change in the weather and their surrounds. This has prompted a "learn from the land" experience in which we have and will continue to explore "Parnati" (Autumn in Kaurna). Looking to the land for indicators of seasonal change and



implementing this into art experiences and conversations with children. Following an emergent curriculum allows for educators to ebb and flow with ideas and incorporate your child's individual learning into these experiences. We follow a nonlinear path, meaning that learning is not "one way". The intention educators have planned is often not always the learning path that the children will go, as a result reflective discussion on learning are always happening. (this was evident in our Mother's Day craft 😊)

The under 2 teams continue to encourage you to share information about your child. As with all our conversations it helps us develop a deeper understanding of their individual needs, interests and culture and in return we will do the same.

A quick housekeeping note. Now that the weather is getting wetter and colder, please ensure your child has adequate warm clothing/foot wear. It is beginning to get cold in the evening and the children are averse to being inside (although this is always an option to them and us!)

Keep the communication coming and happy learning.

Ky, Em, Maddy, Ama and Masuma

Wallabies

We hope everyone is staying safe and well. Wallabies have been busy exploring and investigating many things.



The Wallaby children have started to explore their local community again. We have been enjoying going for walks, running on grassy hills, visiting the local monument as well as having baby chinos at the local café.

Educators have been providing this learning in a COVID safe way limiting interactions with

the public as well as places that are high touch/ possible transmission areas.

While out and about children have been continuing to develop their knowledge of road safety as well as what the road signs mean.



This has been transferred into their small world play with the cars, as well as conversations they are having with their peers during play.

Our exploration of colours continues.

The children are building on and further developing their understanding of colours and how colours work. As an extension to this we will be doing tie dye again.

Please bring in a cotton white/ beige t-shirt for your child to tie dye.



Children also had the opportunity to explore and celebrate Holi, Harmony Week as well as Easter and ANZAC Day. Children enjoyed learning about why these events are special and the

importance and meaning behind them.

Meal times are an opportunity where the children share verbal conversation of their day as well as what fruits and vegetables they can see. Educators have been extending their knowledge of fruits and vegetables through stories, dramatic play as well as identifying pictures and conversations about healthy foods. Educators eat with the children and provide children with knowledge and encouragement to try new unfamiliar foods.

A friendly reminder with the weather changing and the afternoons getting colder

please can you make sure that there is appropriate clothing in your child's bag.

Transitions are starting to occur with children moving from Toddlers to Wallabies as well as Wallabies up to Kangaroos. We look forward to meeting our new Wallabies and building relationships with them as well as supporting all children, so that they all continue to feel safe, secure and connected. During COVID this continues to look a bit different.

We look forward to all the future learning and investigations.

Thanks Sarah, Tracey, Vic and Jess

Kangaroos

Hello families! What a crazy term we've had. With COVID, close contacts, gastro outbreaks and now school holidays, we've had a very interesting start to the year! Whilst some of the children haven't been here for an extended period of time, we have still continued to support the children's interest and learning in the best way we can.

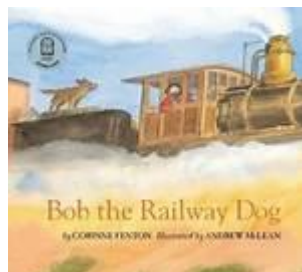
A huge interest that emerged this term was their fascination for trains. The children have become very excited to learn about the



types of trains there are and how they work. The children's learning has been supported through

videos of the Cockerle Train in Victor Harbor, photos from families who have visited the Train Museum in Port Adelaide and Karliyn's well-loved train magazines she had at home. Karilyn even recently purchased a book, 'Bob, the Railway Dog'

which is about a dog that travelled around SA in the 1890's. This was purchased as a way to connect the community



environment to their learning and because a child frequently borrowed this book from their local library.

Another interest the children enjoy is pretend play with the new bassinets and play corner we added a few months ago. The Kangaroo Room has worked hard to change the physical environment for the children. This

includes creating appropriate play spaces that support their interests and cater for their wellbeing. These spaces will continue to be defined and grow as the year progresses and will be appropriately modified to suit their interest and learning experiences.

An emerging interest that we have seen from the children is their fascination and appreciation for living things and the environment. We have found bugs, spiders, beetles, worms and ants in our yard. The children show considerable respect for the plants and animals around them. The children have also been planting new plants in our yard with help from an educator and individually.

As the Kangaroo's value all children and their learning needs, we have had a big focus on communicating with children who have difficulty speaking and using their words. A way to help include these children in their learning environment is to learn AUSLAN sign language. We began with 'eat' 'drink' 'finish' 'stop' 'my turn' 'more' and 'thank you'. You may see these signs being done at home. We have also included some 'quiet areas' in our outdoor and indoor space to help with the children's wellbeing - It's important to take a break from the busy environment sometimes! We hope that Term 2 will include building the relationships with you (the families) and also form stronger relationships with all the children, specifically now that you can now come into the Service! (For more information on the children's learning please check out our day book).

Jacinta, Rachel and Karilyn

Thank you

