



LONG DAY CARE NEWSLETTER

Yarra Junction

From the Director's Desk

Our Playground upgrade

It is with much excitement that we announce our playground upgrade is now complete. We have opened the playground for the children and will have an official opening when the final piece of equipment is installed in the next month.



It is a fantastic place for children to play and enjoy their natural surroundings. We understand that each child holds a unique set of capabilities and our new inclusive equipment ensures that there is something for everyone. These pieces give children of different abilities the opportunity to play at their own level, to find challenges, to grow and to learn together in a friendly and social environment.

By incorporating these products into our service, we are supporting the children to explore in a natural inclusive environment, fostering the children's sense of curiosity and imagination.



Sustainability and recycling

Just a reminder that we have the following recycling stations at our Centre.

- Ink cartridge recycle
- Mobile phone
- Battery recycle

These are all collected for our service. If you have any of these objects lying around at home, you are more than welcome to bring them in and contribute to making our planet a more ecofriendly space for current and future generations.

Bread Tags

A big thank you to those that have been bringing their bread tags in from home and contributing them to our collections box. All bread tags go towards supplying wheelchairs for children in need.

Staffing

We would like to welcome a new staff member to our team. Chelsea Peters will be joining us on Monday 12th August as a full time Educator in the 1-2 room.

She has been working with us at our Mount Evelyn Service and will be working Full Time with Taylor in the Toddler Room.

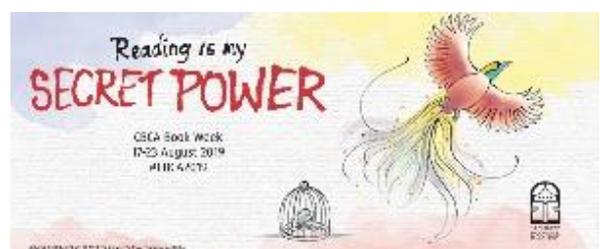
Dates to Remember

Friday 9th August - Red Nose Day

10th -18th August - Science Week

17th – 23rd August - Book Week

Friday 30th August - Father's Day Breakfast



Nursery

July has been a busy month! We have welcomed several new families into our room, and it has been beautiful to watch the new children settling in and forming friendships!



Early this month, we celebrated NAIDOC week. Every day, the children from the Nursery and Toddler rooms joined the Pre-Kinder children for a Yarning Circle. It was lovely getting to

share the time together, singing Indigenous songs and playing shakers and clapping sticks. The babies absolutely loved the experience, as can be seen with their happy faces.

On the 22nd July we joined together for Pyjama Day, to raise money for Asthma Australia. It was lots of fun seeing everyone in their pyjamas, and a big 'Thank You!' to everyone that participated.



Toddlers

July has been a wonderful month full of wonder and excitement as we explore in our environment. During July, the kinder playground was being upgraded so we had the pleasure of the kinder children join us outdoors which was exciting, sharing our curiosity as we watched the diggers.

We explored role play and imagination through pretend cooking experiences in the sand pit and playing shops in our cubby house.

The children have shared smiles as they interact positively together. Inside, we have continued to embed our indigenous perspectives as well as other cultures into our learning environment. Celebrating NAIDOC week, we joined the Nursery and Pre-kinder Rooms for yarning circles each morning. This experience was filled with music and movement.

We also celebrated Pyjama Day fundraising for Asthma Australia. This is an important fundraiser with Asthma affecting so many people in Australia, many of which are children. It was also fun to see everyone in their pyjamas for a great cause.



In August, we look forward to participating in Book Week, as the children continue to share their love and interest for stories.

We will also have science week which will be super exciting and filled with wonderful experiments for the children to engage in and will experience trial and error and cause and effect. We have also participated in "Pepper Pig's Muddy Puddle Walk" to raise money for "Save the children"



We hope to begin our Mini Sports in the next couple of months. This was delayed due to inclement weather. We will also look at some other excursions for our wonderful toddlers to explore. If you have any ideas please let us know.

Please remember that your child's portfolios are located on our grass stage on the table. These are accessible for both families and children to look at, at any time throughout the day. Our portfolios are added to each month sharing the children's learning.

We welcome Chelsea to our Toddler Room as one of our co educators. She will start on Monday 12th August and I know you will join me in welcoming her to the room.



If you have any queries, concerns or just want to touch base please do not hesitate to come and speak with Taylor at any time or we can set up a meeting.

We are enthusiastic for August and all the wonderful experiences we have planned!

Thanks, Taylor

Room 3 / Kinder 3

It's been a busy month with lots of children transitioning into different rooms. We would like to welcome Ayda, Hazel, Holland, River, Zoe, Magdalene and Lyla who have moved from the 1-2 room and also Blayze who has just started in our room. All children have settled into our daily routines and activities, happily engaging with their peers. With so many children from the Toddler's Room joining us, many of our older children have now joined the kinder room. We still get to see them in the playground with many reporting to us how much fun their new room is. We would like to congratulate Stephanie and Matthew on the new arrival of their son Hunter, a brother for Willow and Harmony.

On Monday 8th July we began our celebration of NAIDOC week, and this year the theme was Voice, Treaty, Truth, which acknowledges that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have always wanted an enhanced role in decision-making in Australia's democracy. To begin our celebrations, the children from the babies and toddlers room joined us in our yarning circle, where each day we begin with an acknowledgement of country. The children played clap sticks and shakers and really enjoyed the experience. To continue our celebrations and our study of Indigenous history and culture, the children learnt about Bunjil the Eagle and Waa the Crow, who are both regarded as the moiety ancestors in Australian Aboriginal mythology. They listened to Aunty Joy's "Welcome to country" and watched as Karen enacted a story using Bunjil and Waa puppets

and Aboriginal symbols to teach children how to use symbols in storytelling. Karen has been playing the guitar and Toula has been playing the ukulele, and together we have been performing the Indigenous song Inanay, which the children are really enjoying. The children have also enjoyed matching Aboriginal symbols that Karen has drawn on wooden cut-offs to pictures on the wall to extend on their knowledge of symbols.

We are continuing our exploration of dinosaurs as the children are expressing so much interest, and we have been watching a documentary on the iPad to learn their names. Many children have memorised many of the dinosaur's names and are able to explore technology using a range of media, sounds and graphics. They are also exploring musical instruments as we play them during group time, and their favourite songs at the moment are Old McDonald had a farm, the wheels on the bus, rock a bye your bear and the hokey pokey.

This month the children have also been learning about our bodily functions, in particular, pooing on the toilet, to teach the children what happens to food when we eat it, and what happens after we poo in the toilet, and also to reassure children that it is ok to poo in the toilet while at childcare.

Our new outdoor play ground has finally opened and the children are loving it. We have many new areas to explore and new resources such as our inclusive spinning wheel, natural flowing river bed, blackboard, tepee, and outdoor musical instruments.

Please send a pair of gumboots as the children are exploring the natural river bed and will get wet feet. And don't forget warm jackets as we still have one more month of winter.



Thanking you all from Karen, Laura, Pat and Toula.



Room 4 / Kinder 4
Kinder Room
July 2019

What a month it's been for us! We've gone through being unable to access our yard and have come out the other side to have an amazing space we can utilise again. The children are definitely enjoying the changes (as well as having their yard back) and have been exploring everything to its fullest potential. From beautiful soft music at the xylophones to jumping off the high rocks and stumps around the sandpit and even discovering they now have access to water with the hand pump at the top of the dry creek bed. We are starting to see some wonderful problem solving, collaboration and imagination as they work through the new equipment.

Along with this we have welcomed a number of new children and families to the Kinder Room. These have boosted our numbers and we are now proud to have an almost full room 3 days a week. More children mean more learning opportunities, more fun and more friendships so we are very pleased to see this happen. Everyone has settled in well to the room, are following the routines with ease and starting to make new friendships already.

We have celebrated NAIDOC Week by increasing our use of the Acknowledgement of Country, practising writing some indigenous symbols, painting with sticks using natural colours, reading stories and lots of discussion as we went. The children have responded amazingly well and are absorbing everything.

With such an imaginative and creative group, the art work abounds and I am sure you have all received many a masterpiece to display in your home.

We are certainly looking forward to seeing what the month ahead holds.

Amanda and Julie

