



# Occasional CARE

## NEWSLETTER

### Occasional Care Chirnside Park

October 2019

#### From the office

It is so nice to see the children settling into their environment and enjoying the varied activities and experiences provided by the team. We would love to hear some suggestions from families about things that your children enjoy to do at home so we can incorporate these into the program at the service as well. This helps build a sense of belonging and connectedness.

#### **Bookings**

As we are quickly filling up please let us know in advance when your child will be attending the service to ensure that we have availability. Alternatively you can organise a permanent booking to ensure that you don't miss out. It is also important that you let us know when your child is not attending so that the position can be offered to another family.

#### **Service Policy Reviews**

We are currently reviewing our Safe Sleep and Relaxation Policy and Procedure. We would love your feedback and any suggestions. The policy is on display at the Service. We would also be more than happy to email you a copy of the policy and procedure if you would like.

#### **Staffing**

We have some new staff members that will be joining our team on a casual basis. Tracey, Rebecca and Ellie. I know you will join us in welcoming them to our team.

#### **Signing in and out**

Please remember to sign in and out on the iPad each day. This is linked to the CCS portal so it is extremely important as it is Centrelink's way of seeing your sessions and assigning your CCS. We are audited on this and Centrelink does not like educators to sign in and out on behalf of families. This is only to be done in exceptional circumstances.

#### **Session Times**

Please ensure that you arrive to collect your child within your session times as the system will automatically charge a late fee. If you are going to be late please ensure that you call the service to let the team know.

#### From Mwaka and Cherry

Hello everyone

Over the last few months we have had some new friends join our service. We would love to welcome them all. 😊 They are already making great learning discoveries and friendships as they explore our learning environment.

As the weather is warming up, we are intentionally teaching children about SunSmart practices. We are teaching them about wearing hats and putting on sunscreen.

Also remember to pack a healthy lunch and snack and a labelled drink bottle so your child can have access to water throughout the day.

The children have really enjoyed water play especially on the warmer days. This is always a fun activity for children so please ensure you bring a change of clothes just in case they get wet.



The children have also initiated caring for our plants by watering the garden and our seedlings.

This has been a great learning experience for the children as we grow our discovery garden plants. Our seedlings have been doing quite well thanks to the care the children have taken. They get really excited when they see shoots coming out of the soil. This provides such amazing opportunities for teaching children about where their food comes from.

It's great to see so much creativity from the children at the art and crafts table with children engaging in painting and pasting experiences.



We have also been focusing on helping children to recognise their names on their bag lockers and on our daily sign in station. It's great to see the children identify their own names on the sign in felt board with so much confidence.



We have seen lots of emerging self-help skills with the younger children using utensils to feed themselves with very little help from us educators 😊



Some of the children have begun their toilet training journey and it is great to see them becoming more comfortable and confident each day. We have also been encouraging children to show respect for our learning environment with a clean-up song we found on YouTube. The children are responding well to the pack up routine.

The Teddy Bear's Picnic at our Community Hub was a fantastic community event which was definitely a highlight of October. Our occasional care children went on an excursion to the event and were able to engage in lots of activities including plaster painting, water play, and a very special up-close and personal view of a real fire truck. The children were able to get onto the fire truck and see all the different parts including the long hose. The firefighters were amazing and really engaged with the children providing a



fantastic learning experience.

There were also opportunities to listen to stories from our Bookaburra volunteers and to also be a part of the amazing interactive story telling



theatre company – the Flying Bookworm.

It was so nice to see so many families from the community joining us and engaging in fun activities. What a fantastic children's week – we can't wait for 2020's Teddy Bears Picnic.

#### Dates to Remember

**Monday 11th November**  
Remembrance Day



**Monday 11th to 17th November**  
National Recycling Week – recycling activities



A reminder to all parents that it is Sun Smart time so can you please bring in a named sun hat for your children to be able to play outside. The hats must be wide brimmed in line with our Sun Smart Policy. Also remember to dress your child according to our Sun Smart Policy.