



Mitcham Pre School Centre Newsletter

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Term 2
Newsletter 3

Term 2 in review

We are now in the last week of term 2. It is hard to believe that term 2 is at an end and your child is half way through their year at kindy.

Term 2 has certainly been a busy one with our focus of learning

"All about me and people in my world"

underpinned by the Child Protection Curriculum.

When I think back over the term, there have been many highlights including

- Guess the baby game where children brought in their baby photos
- kindy stars—where children described what they persist at
- children and families working together on their posters
- completing a portrait of themselves
- we have had a variety of dramatic play such as home corner, hospital and of course the Royal Palace along with the tea party
- we participated in funtastics
- We went to bush

kindy in preparation for our excursion to Kuitpo Forest

- We had 2 wonderful days out in the forest, exploring taking risk, trying new challenges
- we participated in a wide range of creative tasks
- we participated in a trust activity and completed our trust balloons.
- We had many live animals and displays of preserved creatures, from the Nature Education Centre.
- We have continued on with our challenges to support children in developing persistence, risk taking and having a go at "hard work". These have included 35—100 piece puzzles and cutting tasks each week.
- We have had the letter challenge on the name card board where children have to look a different letter each week, in their name

We participated in brainstorming & discussions on our focus of learning such as

- feelings
- safe / unsafe
- Warning signs
- relationships
- fair / unfair
- Trust & networks
- recognising & reporting abuse through the use of the story "Everyone's got a bottom"
- strategies for keeping safe
- Persistence

Of course, we will celebrate a wonderful term of teaching and learning with Special Person's day, this week.

In term 2, we also found out more about the Royal wedding and more recently, about the World Cup (soccer) in Russia. We have followed the Socceroo's in their games and have enjoyed

Playing soccer with our kids on the block and a fun soccer / numeracy game at mat time

These are just a few snippets of our learning in term 2. It has been a very busy term of teaching & learning.

The children are certainly ready for a break. They are certainly very tired. Some much needed rest and relaxation could be the order for the school holidays!! (maybe even a pyjama and DVD day).



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Term 2 in review (cont) / Outdoor area

Of course, term 2 learning has also involved watching the outdoor area evolve. The children have loved talking with Gus and James each day. They have been really interested in what they have been doing and often copy their work with pavers in the sandpit. Gus and James have both mentioned how they have really enjoyed working and chatting alongside the children, answering their questions and joining in their conversations.

I know the children will miss having Gus and James here, but they will be SO HAPPY to get out into the redeveloped play space. The yard has really taken shape over the last couple of weeks. There are still some things to finish off but the majority will be finished

over the next week or so.

To ensure our new play space meets Australian standards and is safe for your children to go back into, "Kidsafe" will carry out a safety inspection on July 17th. Any minor problems can then be rectified before we return from holidays. Andrew has liaised with Kidsafe throughout the redevelopment process, so we are expecting no significant problems to arise.

It will be a wonderful day, when the children can explore, climb, take risks, accept challenges, play and have fun in our new outdoor area.

We will have a special ceremony to officially "open" our play space, early term 3.

Head lice

We have had 3 cases of head lice reported to us from blue group. Please check your child's hair. Head lice is very contagious, so please ensure your child's hair is treated if you suspect head lice. If you are unsure, please speak with one of the staff,

Term 3

Term 3 focus of learning will be

"What is outer space?".

It will be an exciting term which will include many wonderful learning opportunities and special experiences, such as an excursion to the Planetarium, a visit by Trent Hill (Aboriginal Story Teller), an incursion by Mobile Junk and Nature Play Day, a family night at kindy, funtastics, and a celebration day to end our term of learning. A term plan, term over view and calendar will be in your child's note pocket on the first day of next term.

We had this focus of learning in 2017, and it was much loved by the children and parents made so many positive comments about their child's learning. So we have planned for it again this year, adding in some extra experiences. We look forward to another wonderful term of teaching and learning about Outer Space!

Special Persons day

Special Persons' morning is this week

Blue group—Tuesday July 3rd

Gold group—Wednesday July 4th.

Just a reminder, this year due to the restrictive space, we are only allowing one special person for each child. We will have a special morning tea on the day, which will be provided. It will consist of biscuits and fruit platters.

We look forward to a very special morning with your child and their special person.

Children's work folders

Have you looked in your child's work folders recently. We have added children's voice photos, photos / drawings from Kuitpo Forest and art work (if they were at the last funtastics).

Please come in and share your folder with your child. They are so proud of their work.

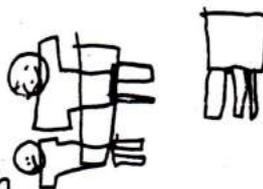
After Special Person's morning we will take down all the art work in preparation for term 3. The baby photos and kindy stars will go in their folders. The children will take home on Thursday / Friday their posters and self portraits. Look out for your children's work.

Just some thoughts.

WAYS TO LOVE A CHILD

Give your presence more than your presents. Laugh, dance and sing together. Listen from a heart-space. Encourage. Understand. Allow them to love themselves. Say yes as often as possible. Say no when necessary. Honor their no's. Apologize. Touch gently. Build lots of blanket forts. Open up. Fly kites together. Lighten up. Believe in possibilities. Read books out loud. Create a circle of quiet. Teach feelings. Share your dreams. Walk in the rain. Celebrate mistakes. Admit yours. Frame their artwork. Stay up late together. Eliminate comparison. Delight in silliness. Handle with care. Protect them. Cherish their innocence. Giggle. Speak kindly. Go swimming. Splash. Let them help. Let them cry. Don't hide your tears. Brag about them. Answer their questions. Let them go when it's time. Let them come back. Show compassion. Bend down to talk to children. Smile even when you're tired. Surprise with a special lunch. Don't judge their friends. Give them enough room to make decisions. Love all they do. Honor their differences. Respect them. Remember they have not been on earth very long.

Author unknown



Thankyou's

There are many thankyou's to end our term of learning.

Many thanks goes to Bec Richards who lends out and checks the kits for blue group each week. Thankyou to everyone for their support with funtastics, the excursion to Kuitpo Forest and bush kindy.

Thankyou to those people who have taken home the kindy washing. Thankyou to the Governing Council for their ongoing support in managing the kindy.

No matter how you help out, we really appreciate your support. It ensures that we can continue to offer all the wonderful learning experiences at our preschool.

Farewells

This term we say farewell to 3 children. William Guo from Gold group is leaving us to go to an Early Learning centre full time for the rest of the year.

Joshua Phillips and Albert Eastaugh are starting at St Josephs' Primary School in the mid year intake.

We hope you all have a wonderful and exciting time in your new learning environments. We will miss you all.

A game of hopscotch

A game of hopscotch helps children develop gross motor skills (hopping, jumping), counting skills (counting forwards & backwards, counting on), number recognition (numbers in order, what number comes before, what number comes after, what number comes first, what number comes last) special concepts (on, next to, between, in-front etc) and social skills (listening and taking turns). So once we experience some beautiful spring weather, help your child to draw a hopscotch course with chalk on cement. You can make the course as long as you like, but it usually has about 8 or 10 squares. Draw a set of single and double squares - like a ladder, but with extra bits. Write a number on each square of the course.

"Let's write 1 on the first square and 2 on the next square. What number comes after that?"

Once the hopscotch course is set up you're ready to go. Talk about the game with your child as they play.

"First we need to find a little stone"

Gently toss a stone or beanbag onto the first square and hop over it. Keep hopping to the end of the course. When there's a pair of squares you can jump instead of hop. Try to land with a foot in each square.

At the end of the course turn around and hop and jump back again. Don't forget to stop and pick up the stone along the way.

"You made it all the way there and back again. That's great! Now can you get the stone to land on number 2?"

It is a fun, physical game that will support your child in developing numeracy, literacy and gross motor skills.



Finally

Thankyou for your wonderful help and support over what has been a very busy term. It has truly been appreciated. Enjoy the holiday break with your child.

Your children are your most precious asset. Enjoy spending time with them over the holidays.

See you next term. We return on July 23rd.

Kind regards

Chris, Laura, Amber, carol, Robbie, Lyn and Debbie.