



Mitcham Pre School Centre Newsletter

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This week at kindy!

The children have been amazing learners in our focus on "measurement". They have shown curiosity, interest and enthusiasm for investigating, predicting, hypothesising, and experimenting. They use standard tools (tape measures, rulers, scales) and non standard tools (such as blocks) for measuring. We often see the children around the preschool, indoors and outdoors, investigating measurement.

They are using comparative language as they measure and explore such as the longest / shortest; heaviest / lightest; biggest / smallest etc. These concepts are so important in all areas of maths.

So our focus of learning is certainly capturing their interest and attention.

We will continue on with our focus of learning this week, with an inquiry focus on

"How can we measure weight?"

and will explore weighing scales as a tool to find out how much items weigh.

To support our focus of learning this week, we will have inside

- STEM centre with

a range of measuring tools (numeracy)

- Numeracy table—STEM champion—How heavy are the objects? (numeracy / science)
- Playdough with sticks, rulers etc (sensory)
- Bug book making (literacy / mark making / fine motor)
- Puzzle table—100 piece puzzle (challenge task)
- Palette—letter of the week—initial sounds "Gg" (literacy)
- Palette—Zingo (numeracy)
- Ladybird game on interactive screen (numeracy)
- Mark making table—add bug paper (literacy / fine motor)

Outside we will have

- Measuring bags (numeracy)
- Spider web threading (fine motor champion)
- Footy table with kids on the block (dramatic play / social skills)
- Sandpit -Can you build a cubby? Add

hard hats, signs (dramatic play / sensory)

- Cutting table—making a dice (fine motor)
- Story table—Who sank the boat? (literacy / language)
- Loose parts eg barrels, tyres, rope, crates on the lawn (problem solving)
- Digging patch with boots, spades & bones (gross motor)
- Milo seeds for measuring (sensory / numeracy)
- Swings—add pulley (gross motor / measuring)
- Number hunt—find multiples of 2 (challenge task / numeracy)

Also this week we will focus on

- Letter of the week is "Gg"
- Alliteration—words that start with "Gg"
- Revisit Rhyme
- Subitising

This week is another busy week at kindy!

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Just a reminder,
that next
Monday August 24th
is a pupil free day.
No kindy on that day.

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Games and puzzles

Did you know?.....

Engaging in board games allows mathematical ideas to emerge as children notice new patterns, relationships and strategies. They are an important tool for learning mathematics, providing opportunities for children to explore fundamental space and number concepts such as forward, backward, up and down, the counting sequence, one to one correspondence and even basic computation strategies.

Playing games encourages

- Social interaction
- Turn taking
- Strategic mathematical thinking
- Problem solving
- Understanding of number
- School to home connection.

Puzzles also stimulate executive function as children's involvement in shape awareness, attribute recognition, information storage and retrieval and puzzle completion supports their

- Working memory
- Cognitive flexibility

Playing board and card games are so much fun as a family. Working on puzzles together is so much fun as well. Whilst enjoying each other's company, you will be supporting your child's mathematical and numeracy skills, through playing games and doing puzzles.

Here are some great games to play

- Uno
- Yahtzee
- Memory (using cards)
- Snap (using cards)

Gum boots

As part of our nature play focus, we are planning to set up some wet weather gear, that allows children to play outside on those rainy days, (Not the pelting rain) if they wish too. So far, we have purchased 15 rain coats. We want to obtain gum boots, but it is too difficult to judge the sizes we need. So if you have a pair of gum boots, that no longer fit your child (and you don't have a younger child to hand them on to), please think about us. We would love to have them. We will also purchase some clear umbrellas to use as part of our wet weather play.

Please note, children won't be made to play outdoors in rain. The experience will be there, if they wish too.

UV rating

The UV rating is continuing to climb to 3 (and on some days it has been 4). Whilst the rating is sitting where the Cancer Council would recommend wearing a sun hat, it has been between 10.40am—1.50pm. During this time, we are inside for 11am mat time (for 30 minutes) then lunch at 12.20pm. (for 60 minutes)

So it isn't compulsory to wear a sunhat this week.

But with September a week away, it won't be long before our

"NO HAT NO OUTSIDE PLAY" comes into affect.

Some children are already independently choosing to wear their sun hat.

I will inform you by APP/Email when the hat policy comes into affect.

Suitable Sun Hats

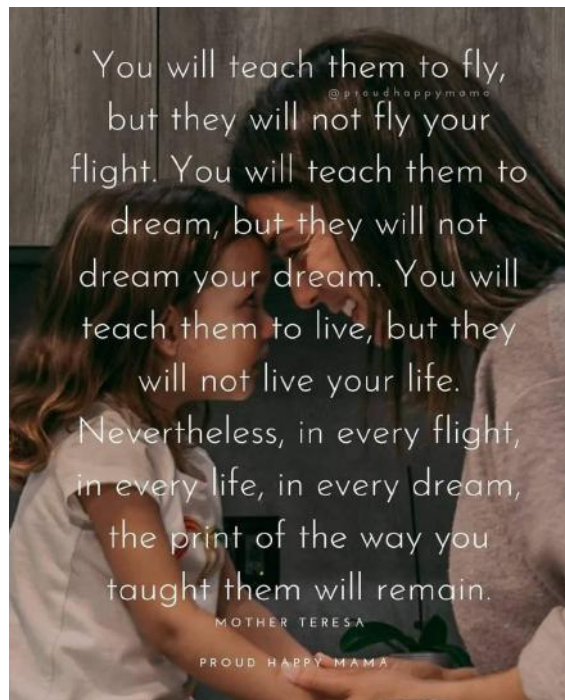
A sun hat for the purposes of preschool is classed as a

- Broad brimmed hat
- Bucket hat

A cap, hood on a jacket, or beanie **is not** suitable as a sun hat for kindy.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to speak with one of the staff.

2020 has seen many challenges, with COVID changing much of what we do. It has meant, that with social distancing, the educators and parents haven't had the opportunity to have as many conversations about the progress of their child. Whilst we had interviews / phone conversations in term 1, and some parents have emailed or phoned to discuss concerns about the child, since the interviews, ongoing conversations have been limited. Maddie, Suzi and myself are currently reassessing each child. The assessing will occur at some point, during term 3. We will then book a time to meet with you, to provide feedback on their progress. Please be patient. We have lots of children to get through (assess and report on) but we will be in touch once, your child has been assessed. We look forward to sharing your child's learning and progress with you.



You will teach them to fly,
but they will not fly your flight. You will teach them to dream, but they will not dream your dream. You will teach them to live, but they will not live your life. Nevertheless, in every flight, in every life, in every dream, the print of the way you taught them will remain.

MOTHER TERESA
PROUD HAPPY MAMA

We are in desperate need of boxes for the making table. We need boxes of all shapes and sizes such as cereal, tea bag, toothpaste and biscuit boxes.

Please make sure the boxes are no larger than a shoe box.

We do not take milk / juice cartons or plastic bottles, and washing powder boxes.

Our supplies are very low at the moment. So please start collecting them soon for all our architects, builders, engineers and designers.

Thankyou

The next Governing Council Meeting is next **Monday August 24th**, 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Making dice at funtastics



CaYH Screening

Last week, I put out a message regarding CaYH screening on Monday September 7th. I had an overwhelming response by families wanting their child to have hearing / eye sight checks. I have been in touch with the CaYH's nurse to see if there are options of further dates. I will let you know, once I hear back.

This week at funtastics, the children made a dice, by cutting and drawing the numbered dots and then joining the sides to form a dice.

As described above, subitising is a very important maths / numeracy skill. The children could use their dice to play dice games

- such as snakes and ladders.
- throw the dice to see how many times they throw a 6 or a 4.
- Roll their dice. If it lands on a 3 find 3 blocks. Throw a 5 and find 5 spoons etc

Finally...

As always, thankyou for your continued support. It is very much appreciated.

Kind regards

Chris, Maddie, Suzi, Lyn, Robbie, Karen, Jan & Nat