

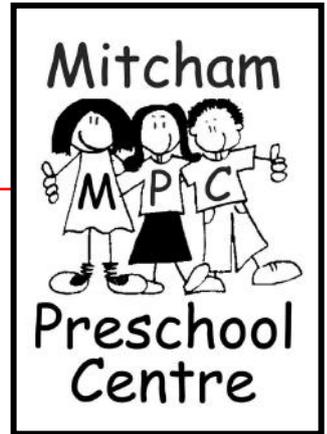


Mitcham Pre School Centre Newsletter

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Term 3 in review

I cant believe this is the last week of term 3. It means that when we return from the October school holidays, your child will have only 9 weeks of preschool left until they "graduate". Where has the year gone to!!!

What a truly amazing term of teaching and learning we have had, exploring our focus on

"Measurement".

Last week, we brainstormed

"What have we learnt about measuring?"

The children's answers were amazing and depict just how much they have learnt about

- Linear measurement
- Weight and
- Capacity

There have been many highlights throughout the term,

- hearing the children use the language of measurement in their play,
- to see them using measurement tools as they work and play
- They have demonstrated curiosity, exploring the

STEM centre , numeracy table and special interest areas / activities

- They are inquisitive asking so many amazing questions about measurement (as well as other areas)
- We have asked many open questions with...Who, what, when, where, why and how?
- They are so knowledgeable answering questions, problem solving, predicting outcomes of experiments on measurement and hypothesising.
- They are working so independently in a wide variety of experiences
- The children have been participants in STEM challenge tasks as well as Fine motor and mark making challenge tasks
- Explored measurement both indoors and outdoors

To support our learning we have had

- A number focus on our dedicated maths / numeracy table

- Had "letter of the week "supported on the name card board and as a special activity each week
- Had a wide range of creative tasks
- Enjoyed challenge tasks such as higher order number hunts, 100+ piece puzzles,
- Enjoyed STEM / mark making and fine motor challenge tasks
- Established a STEM centre in which we had a range of tools to explore, length, weight and capacity
- Carried out a wide range of experiments
- Learnt many new songs.

We have had several special events over the term to support the curriculum. These have included

- Mobile junk and nature play day with Glen
- Our excursion to the Adelaide Central Market
- Funtastics
- Had our special funtastics at the creek / park last week.

- this week, we have our celebration days to conclude our focus of learning.....Crazy, mixed up, upside down, inside out day"

And Kelly came and took our photos!

These are just a few snippets from our wonderful term.

Your children have been amazing learners. You should be so proud! We certainly are.

We look forward to more exciting teaching and learning in term 4.

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Term 4 focus of learning

Term 4 Calendar

Term 4 focus of learning will be
"An ocean full of plastic? Not so fantastic!"
An inquiry into the impact of marine debris on the ocean, marine life and us.

We have decided to implement this focus generated from some children's interest in "looking after earth" and our commitment to sustainability. It is an area that we researched a few years ago, and created a lot of interest and curiosity for the children. However, we will implement this curriculum based on current children's interest.

So we will inquire further into marine life, finding out more about the types / groups of creatures that live in the sea, how the debris gets into the sea, the impact the debris has on sea life and us. We will also explore what we can do to stop the debris entering the oceans.

Term 4 is a very busy one, as it includes transition visits to schools (and into kindy) as well as leading into Christmas. Therefore, our term 4 focus of learning is a short one, usually concluding in week 5 (or 6). Following week 5 / 6, our focus is the celebration concerts, transition visits and Christmas activities.

It promises to be a wonderful way to end our year of teaching and learning.

Look out for the term plan, term overview and term calendar in the note pockets in week 1 of next term.

I am sending out term 4 calendar early this year. It is going out with this newsletter.

As our calendar is already finalized, I wanted to give you advanced information of dates, so that you can keep them free, for all our special events. Details of events will be out early next term.

The excursion in week 2, will be a picnic at Marshmallow Park. **I will send out information towards the end of the holidays.** Parents / carers may like to join us on this excursion. Due to the number of kindy children we have, we cannot younger siblings.

Please remember, to attend the excursion, you will need to have WWCC or current DCSI and RAN-EC training.

It is a busy term.

Special events— times / details

Parents have requested advanced notice of the times for celebration days and graduation days, so you can plan time off from work.

Below is information on our celebration days and graduation days. With COVID restrictions, the staff are still working through how we can safely run both special events and keep within the restrictions of COVID (1 adult for every 2.5 metres). Both these events have traditionally been indoors.

We will definitely have the events (unless something untoward happens with COVID). But how we manage the event is still in discussion.

It may be that we only have 1 adult per child with filming of the event by educators, that can then be shared with other members of the family.

Also, we are not allowed to share food at these events, so we are also looking into catering options.

COVID has certainly made us rethink so many aspects of our lives! However, our number one priority has to be the safety of all children and adults.

So for now, put the following dates & times in your diary and we will let you know next term, how we will manage these special occasions.

Celebration days (kindy concert & lunch)

Blue Group—Tuesday November 24th

Gold Group—Wednesday November 26th

- Children arrive at 8.45am as normal. Parent / carer return at 10.15am for a 10.30am start. Concert is from 10.30am to 11.30am. Lunch follows and we finish between 1pm—1.30pm. There is no kindy in the afternoon.

Graduation Mornings

Blue group—Thursday December 10th

Gold group—Friday December 11th

- Children arrive at 8.45am as normal. Parents return at 10.15am for morning tea under our beautiful pergola. Graduation ceremony starts at 11am. We finish by 12noon. There is no kindy in the afternoon.

In past years, if parents were not available to attend these 2 special events, grandparents, Aunties / Uncles or family friends attended so their child had someone special to share the occasion with.

End of term celebration days

Parent survey

To end this terms focus of learning, on
"Measurement"

We are going to have a special celebration day just for the children. This is just a special way for teachers and children to celebrate the wonderful term of teaching and learning.

It will be a
"Crazy, mixed up, upside down, inside out and space day"

Blue group—Tuesday September 22th
Gold Group—Wednesday September 23rd

The children can come dressed to kindy in clothes that are inside out or back to front, odd socks, a mixture of stripes & spots, wearing pyjamas, their hair crazy, wearing dad's tie or something related to space, anything that makes it a

"Crazy mixed up, upside down, inside out and space day"

(Please note, it is not compulsory to come dressed in crazy, mixed up clothes. It is only if your child wants to)

NO SUPER HERO COSTUMES PLEASE

Also as part of the fun, we will have crazy mixed up activities such as climbing inside. At lunch time, we will eat our yogurts first then sandwiches etc second

(it's usually the other way around!!)

In the afternoon we will have choc chip biscuits that we made last week (we weighed and measured as we cooked) In our nutrition policy, we can have up to 2 occasions per term, where we have sometimes food.

This will be the second for term 3.

It promises to be a fun way to end our term of teaching and learning.

I have sent out 2 emails previous to this newsletter about the parent opinion survey.

Last Thursday, we have had an update from the Department for Education, on our responses to the Parent Opinion Survey. So far, we have had 16 out of 74 families complete the survey.

Please check the email I sent on Friday September 18th as it has the direct link to the survey.

We would appreciate it, if you would complete the survey. It only takes 10 - 15 minutes and the feedback will be invaluable for our planning for 2021.

The survey closes
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th. All responses must be entered by this date.

Thankyou in anticipation of your support in completing the survey.

Sun hats

The UV rating is now consistently 5 or above for most of the day. This means our Sunsmart policy has come into affect. That is

"No hat no outside play".

If children do not have their hats they play inside or under the verandah.

Unfortunately a few children have been forgetting their hats. We don't share hats due to the risk of headlice. So that means, they have had to spend the day, mostly indoors.

Please send a sun hat, everyday!

Sunscreen

Sunscreen is available to all children. If your child arrives without sunscreen, feel free to use our sunscreen. We will apply sunscreen after lunch. (children are supervised but actually apply their own sunscreen)

If your child requires their own sunscreen please let us know.

It is certainly warming up and feel so nice to be heading towards summer!

Number/Alpha Blocks

Have you heard of "Alphablocks" and "NumberBlocks". Both are educational sites via Youtube, that are fabulous in supporting children's number skills and phonological awareness.

Whilst I don't promote children spending long periods of time on devices, these 2 programs appear to support children's skills.

My leave

I am on leave from Wednesday to have my eye surgery. Maddie will be the certified supervisor in my absence. Maddie or any of the staff, can help you with any query. If it is urgent, they will be able to contact me.

Pupil free days

Just a reminder there are 2 pupil free dates next term

- Monday November 2nd
- Tuesday November 10th.

There will not be kindy on those dates.

Santa's Wonderland

My daughter Bec, is one of the managers running "Santa's Wonderland" this year at the Adelaide Show grounds. She is going to be Santa's boss!!!

I thought I would let you know that if you are interested, they have an early bird deal which concludes on September 30th.

The early bird deal is \$27.50 per person. Save \$70 off door prices for a family of 4.

<https://santaswonderland.com>.

Au

I am not here to promote Santas Wonderland but just thought, if you usually take your family there at Christmas time, you may like to know about the great deal.

It is hard to believe, Christmas is 12 weeks away!

Work folders

This week, we will take down the art work from the term / children's voice about Measurement and place it in the children's folders.

Have you checked your child's folder recently. There is some wonderful work in there, including an observational drawing from their trip to the creek, last Monday.

Return Form

Please return the form placed in your note pocket last week, regarding communication processes if there is a COVID outbreak at pre-school.

This information is vital, if I need to contact the pre-school community urgently. I appreciate your support.

Finally

Thankyou as always for your continued support.
It is very much appreciated.

Have a wonderful holiday break. Enjoy spending time with your most precious assetsyour children.

See you on October 12th for a wonderful term 4.

Kind regards

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