



Children's Educational Care Centre
Preschool, Early Learning & Long Day-Care

531-533 Glynburn Road
Hazelwood Park S.A. 5066
Koala Room: 8364-5466
Possum & Joey Room: 8364-0794
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Newsletter March 2007

A warm welcome to all new families. We hope you enjoy your time at the Children's Educational Care Centre.

New Staff

The centre would also like to welcome two new staff. Sarah Titley, who has (just) arrived from England to take up the challenge of Child care co-ordinator. Her main aim will be to support staff on an on-going basis through guidance and improvement in work practices to continue to provide high quality care. Sarah has more than 15 years experience working with young children in her homeland England and is also the mother of nine year old twins (Chelsea and Callum). Welcome Sarah.

Julie-Anne is also a new staff member. Julie-Anne is a qualified Children's Services Professional and will be working in a job share role with Rukhsana and those delightful Joey children. Julie-Anne completed her Diploma in Children's Services in 1997 and has worked mainly with baby and toddler-age children. Julie-Anne is a 'mum' to six year old Harrison. Welcome Julie-Anne.

Wedding bells for Tracy

Congratulations to Tracy (Possum Team leader) on her recent engagement to Ben. Wedding plans are for early next year. Fabulous news Tracy!!!

Kidding about Adelaide

This booklet is a guide to Adelaide's playgrounds. It is a comprehensive guide to promoting "...a healthy, vibrant, lifestyle for kids". A booklet is on display near the Possum entrance if you wish to have a closer look. They are for sale for \$15.00 and are a perfect size for the car glove box.

Entertainment Book Fundraiser

I have already received 6 orders for the new Entertainment book for 2006/2007 which is a great response. If you would like to purchase a book early please let Wendy or any of the staff know. \$12.00 of each book sold goes to the centre to purchase new toys and resources for the children.

Credit card facilities

I have been discussing with BankSA the choice of introducing credit card payment options. They have advised me that the set up and ongoing costs are quite high (2% per transaction charge on the payment amount) and approximately \$30.00 per month to set up the imprinter. To make it viable, I need to know if parents are interested and if so, how many. Please fill in the 'Credit card facilities' form at the centre if you are interested and if there is a large response of parents wanting this form of payment then I will go ahead with this option.

Late payment fee

From Monday 26th of March a 5% penalty fee will be charged to all outstanding accounts (that is, unpaid fees). If your child's account is not paid by the week ending date on the invoice/statement, 5% of the outstanding fee will be added your weekly fee until payment is made.

Hello from the Possum Room

The Possums have had an exciting first term .We have all been enjoying our new room and exploring the big yard with our Koala friends. There is a lot of space for riding bikes and dancing (which are our favourites). Our most popular dances are the 'Chicken dance', 'Dr. Knickerbocker Number 9' and of course 'The Wiggles'.

As new Possums begin we have been focussing a lot on how to help each other and ourself. We talk about what we can do when we feel sad and how we can help make our friends feel happy and safe. Everyday involves learning about shapes, colours and numbers through many songs and games.

We continue to program fortnightly and use each child's book to record individual observations and how we can support their learning. Please feel free to look at your child's book or talk to the staff.

Tracy, Jess, Keira, Nadia, Kathy.

Greetings from the Koala room

We have had a very busy time this summer enjoying lots of outdoor play in our new environment. The children continue to investigate and explore our exciting play area and are enjoying sharing both time and play space with our Possum friends.

Our program continues to offer children a wide variety of experiences based upon their interests and developing skills. Our program is developed using the SACSA framework and we also use the Letterland program as a focus each week.

The children love learning about each individual character and their adventures they have in Letterland. Through this fun and exciting delivery, they are learning about the sounds and formation of letters and their use in words.

On Friday mornings we have Gryff's grandma (Woo Woo) playing her piano accordion to the children. They enjoy hearing her play and singing songs, some familiar rhymes and some new ones. We also have 'teenagers' from Pembroke School and Marryatville High School, who come in to the centre for work experience and community care. The children enjoy their new friends.

If you have any questions about our program or your child, please do not hesitate to speak to the staff.

Deb, Robyn, Dania Chrissie, Mardi.

Hi from the Joey Room

The Joey staff would like to welcome all the new families to our room. We have been very busy settling in new children and getting to know their routines. There have been a lot of changes in the Joey's room lately. Our older children have moved to the Possum Room and a lot of new children have started. Staff and children have been slowly adjusting to our new building. There is plenty of room for both indoor and outdoor play. Children have done really well with settling in to our new environment. We have a great time in the afternoon riding our *push cars* along the front verandah

and watching the 'big' cars, trucks, motor bikes and buses go pass, waving to people and shouting *Hooray* with excitement. We have a lot of new toys which the children are enjoying and we are all having a great time exploring. 'Nana Grace' is a regular visitor on Tuesday morning and the children love to sit on her lap and read stories with her.

Rukhsana is in the Joey room on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Julie-Anne is here on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. If you have any concerns about your child, come and see the staff for a friendly chat.

Rukhsana, Julie-Anne, Nadia, Candice.

Reminders

A reminder from all the staff-

- Please label your child's bottles as 'mix ups' happen very easily especially when new staff are *learning the ropes*.
- Please send your child in *sun safe* clothing eg dresses with sleeves
- Please ensure your child's hat is also *sun safe*- no base ball caps
- Please make sure your child wears appropriate *climbing shoes*
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Music Lessons

I am very keen to offer music lessons at the centre in the evenings and Saturday mornings to any interested students young and not so young. If you know someone (e.g. uni student or part time musician) who would like to use the centre for this purpose please speak to Wendy. I have a uni student who is studying a Bachelor of Education who is keen to start Guitar lessons. I will keep you posted.

Internet banking

Don't forget, internet banking is presently one of the cheapest ways to pay your account. Many parents are using Internet banking which is proving to be more convenient than carrying cash or drawing a cheque. It also helps you as you can set up periodical payments. Let me know if you are interested in this form of banking. Here are the details:

BankSA

Account name: AR & WA Butcher BSB: 105-146

Account number: 22360740

Return your account envelope or Internet banking receipt marked ***Internet Banking*** and the ***date of transaction***.

From the staff at the Children's Educational Care Centre.