



6 February Week 2, Term 2, 2017

The children settled into Kindy well for their first week and it was great to see them happily exploring and working together.

CHILDREN'S WELLBEING

Children's wellbeing and a sense of belonging is our number one priority and to ensure this we allocated additional staffing to support children on the first day and across the week to help them feel secure. The successful staffing allocation included Brooke being part of the preschool team on Monday to assist children transitioning from Occasional Care.

The children enjoyed mapping the time of day by moving the ladybird along the visual timetable of the Kindy routine to indicate when it was fruit time, story time, lunch, packing up and home time. Having a consistent routine helps children to feel secure as they are able understand the flow of the day.

The children enjoyed fun 'getting to know you' songs and games incorporating learning each other's names and lots of time to enjoy free play together to begin to develop friendships. The children have also enjoyed sharing their family photo pages and proudly displaying these on the Kindy Family Tree, near the lockers.

FEES

Preschool fees are currently being issued, these are for the year. Fees can be paid in full or term by term with four equal installments or a regular weekly payment plan with the school.

Calculation for Fulltime Kindy

Preschool fee is \$2 per session
5 sessions per week = \$10 x 10weeks = \$100 term

Lunchcare fee is \$1 per session
2 lunch times per week = \$2 x 10weeks = \$20 term

Preschool fee \$100 + Lunchcare fee is \$20 per term = \$120 per term (\$12 per week)

Please ensure prompt payment of fees, so that we can purchase necessary beginning of year resources for the children and stay on budget to pay for necessary utilities such as electricity, water phone, grounds maintenance etc.

PUPIL FREE DAY

Kindy will be CLOSED on Friday 17 February along with Mulga Street Primary School.

Mount Gambier Children's Centre staff will be engaged in a professional learning day to focus on the National Quality Standard. In 2016 our centre was assessed and rated as Exceeding the National Quality Standard in all 7 Quality Areas. We have now been invited to be involved in an inquiry project to learn more about criteria for an Excellent rating. Our work will focus on the area of collaborative partnerships with families and community and improved outcomes for children.

ACQUAINTANCE EVENING

Tuesday 21 February

4.45pm to 5pm Information Session

5pm to 5.30pm Kindergarten Open Session

Rainbow Fruit /Vegetable platter to share

This is a great opportunity to find out more about the educational program and to meet with your child's Primary Caregiver.

We also invite you to visit the centre's website: www.mountgambiercc.sa.edu.au for helpful information including the Information Handbook or collect a copy from the Sign In table.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Parents are reminded to please be respectful in the appropriate use of social media.

You are welcome to take photos of your child at kindy and special events during the year but please be mindful not to include photos of other children without parental permission or to post these on the web.

DIARY

Every Monday 1:35pm Library Borrowing
Every Thursday 10am Library Borrowing

Friday 17 February Kindy Closed

Tuesday 21 February 4:45pm to 5:30pm
Kindy Acquaintance Evening
5:30pm School Acquaintance Evening
6:30pm Governing Council All Welcome

Yours in Education and Care,
The Children's Centre Team



Program Guide



The national Early Years Learning Framework 'Belonging, Being, Becoming' guides our educator principles, practice and outlines 5 learning outcomes:

- Children have a strong sense of identity
- Children are connected with and contribute to their world
- Children have a strong sense of well-being
- Children are confident and involved learners
- Children are effective communicators



Over the next couple of weeks we will continue to focus on building up the children's **confident sense of identity and belonging**.

The children have loved adding their photos to the Kindy Family Tree. These provide a great link between home and Kindy and a great way for us to get to know the children as they proudly share their family interests.

Educators are currently getting to know the children and each child will have a dedicated 'Primary Caregiver' to ensure we promote the well-being and effective teaching & learning for each individual child. We invite you to the acquaintance evening to chat with your child's Primary Caregiver and value your input as we get to know your child's strengths, interests and capabilities.

We will continue to incorporate fun getting to know you songs and activities including:

- Hello, Good morning
- If you're happy and you know it
- Listening name games - Hermit crab song
- Parachute games

Children are connected with and contribute to their world when they become socially responsible and show respect for the environment. We have been learning about caring for the environment and identifying and sorting waste into three key categories:



1. Organic materials; for feeding the chickens, wormery and compost
2. Reusable; plastic containers, boxes, card, paper, glass, tin
3. Non organic; general rubbish

We are fortunate to be involved in the school's **Land care** work as part of a **WOW community to Wipe Out Waste** and look forward to visiting the school's Land Care yard.

We will continue to guide the children in developing **sun smart practices to support their health and physical wellbeing** including checking the UV rating on the Smartboard. When the UV rating is 3 and above we need to follow SunSmart practices.

Sensory play

Creating rock pools, Shaving creme fingerprint

Fine motor skills

Palette painting, Threading / necklaces

Gross motor skills

Digging water channels and making sand castles with loose parts play

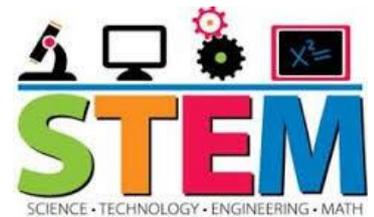
Acton songs: Hokey Pokey, Heads and shoulders



Engaging the children as **confident and involved learners** in sharing their interests and working together on collaborative projects including their interest in building with loose parts in the sandpit and making water channels with the plumbing materials.

Engaging children in learning processes for

STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics...



developing learning dispositions of curiosity, investigation, experimentation, problem solving, cooperation and communication as they work out how to join the plumbing materials together to get the water to flow to where it is needed and engaging the children in recycling water as part of environmental sustainability.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support children in being **effective communicators** in building a **love of books** and encourage you to send a library bag to Kindy for your child to borrow books from the school.

This week our focus book is:
Is there room for me?

A 'shell bay' has been set up for matching and sorting shells. To support children in developing a rich vocabulary we will encourage descriptive language as we talk about the characteristics of shells (pointy, spotted, spiral, fan, cone, spikey, smooth etc). It is wonderful to share in the joy of their discovery as they listen to the 'sea' inside the conch shells. We will extend on this mystery with the story 'A sea in my bedroom' and encouraging higher order thinking as they share their theories about shells and the sea.



Yours in Education and Care,
The Children's Centre Team