

## 4 September 2017 Term 3, Week 7

The children enjoyed storytelling, craft activities at Mulga Street Primary School library and joining in the dress up parade for Book Week. This week we will celebrate Literacy and Numeracy Week including a '**Let's Read**' book pack for every child, sponsored by The Smith family.

### **LIBRARY BORROWING**

**80 % of Kindy children** borrow books at Mulga Street Primary School Library.

We wish to encourage **every child** to bring along a library bag and borrow a book each week.  
Library Times: Monday 1:30pm, Thursday 10am

The children each have their own library card and learn how to scan the books into the computer and where to return their books.

Visiting the library and working with the librarian, Mrs Pink, helps to build the children's confidence and becoming familiar with the school learning environment to support their transition to school.

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Children are valued and contributing citizens**

The preschool children wrote to Mayor Lee and he came to visit to talk to the children about what they would like to see developed at John Powell reserve.

The children and staff also spoke with Mayor Lee about the possibility of the children creating art for the park. Projects include the provision of a picnic table and bench seating with the children painting a mural on the picnic table and seats.

The Mount Gambier City Council is drawing up a user agreement with the Children's Centre in developing John Powell Reserve and we welcome your ideas and involvement.

The first project planned, following up on parent suggestions, is the latest nature craze 'SA ROCKS'. The children will each paint a pet rock and we will take these over to the reserve.

## **Best Wishes for a Happy Father's Day**

We hope you had a great day. It was wonderful to have 18 families join us for the recent 'Dads and Kids' bowling evening.



### **BUSH REPAIR** with Ken Jones

Wednesday 6 September 10:30 to 12n

Thursday 7 September 10:30 to 12n

**Aboriginal art, Dreaming story and campfire, cooking damper / jam and potatoes**  
**Families are welcome to join us**

### **GOING DIGITAL**

We have finalised exploring options for communicating with families via a digital platform. Governing Council have approved extending the Mount Gambier Children's Centre facebook page to include general information for preschool families including a daily reflection on learning outcomes, important dates and special events. Daily reflections will commence from September.

Like us on facebook

Visit our existing website:

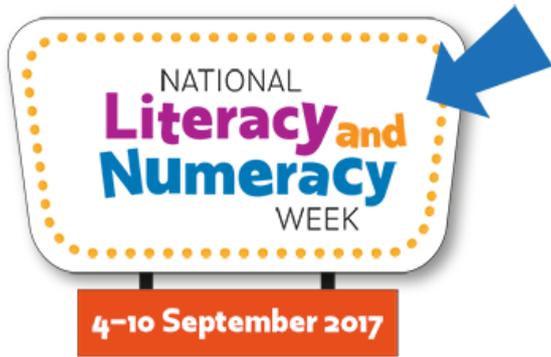
<http://www.mountgambiercc.sa.edu.au>

### **DIARY**

Mon 11 September Governing Council meeting  
7pm All welcome.

**Thursday 14 September Kindy Closed**  
**Staff Professional Learning Day**

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



Mem Fox is an Australian author of award winning books including *Possum Magic* and *Where is the green sheep?*



Mem Fox's Ten Read Aloud commandments  
<http://www.memfox.com/ten-read-aloud-commandments.html>

**LITERACY / NUMERACY experiences** are incorporated across the curriculum following children's interests. Literacy incorporates songs, music, dance, socio-dramatic role play, technology and art as well as a focus on listening and speaking, reading and viewing, drawing and writing. Our current story table is *Rosie's Walk*. The art studio is proving to be a valuable space to explore visual arts and creative expression.

Numeracy skills are demonstrated as children use mathematical concepts in their everyday lives and make meaningful connections as they notice, compare, sort and pattern etc. Currently the children are exploring patterning and designing with glass pebbles to create a mosaic.

Cooking fosters lots of literacy and numeracy skills including following a recipe and concepts of measurement. The children have enjoyed making vegetable soup and pizzas.

### KINDY / SCHOOL LEARNING

Mount Gambier Children's Centre kindergarten educators and Mulga Street Junior Primary teachers are working together on a Results Plus inquiry project exploring:

How do children demonstrate critical and creative thinking through loose parts play?

The preschool children work with junior primary classes on Friday morning and Thursday afternoon in loose parts play with a focus on developing 4 key competencies:

- Communication
- Cooperation
- Creative thinking
- Critical problem solving

### YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Parents and carers can have a big impact on their children's education. Over 40 years of research from around the world shows that when parents are involved in their child's learning, it really can have a positive impact:

You are the first and most important influence on your child's values and attitudes toward school and learning. Creating a home environment that encourages a love of learning from an early age can help your child to do better at school.

Explore: <http://www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au> for more information and Top Tips for Parents

1. Spend at least ten wildly happy minutes *every single day* reading aloud.
2. Read at least three stories a day: it may be the same story three times. Children need to hear a thousand stories before they can begin to learn to read.
3. Read aloud with animation. Listen to your own voice and don't be dull, or flat, or boring. Hang loose and be loud, have fun and laugh a lot.
4. Read with joy and enjoyment: real enjoyment for yourself and great joy for the listeners.
5. Read the stories that the kids love, over and over and over again, and always read in the same 'tune' for each book: i.e. with the same intonations on each page, each time.
6. Let children hear lots of language by talking to them constantly about the pictures, or anything else connected to the book; or sing any old song that you can remember; or say nursery rhymes in a bouncy way; or be noisy together doing clapping games.
7. Look for rhyme, rhythm or repetition in books for young children, and make sure the books are really short.
8. Play games with the things that you and the child can see on the page, such as letting kids finish rhymes, and finding the letters that start the child's name and yours, remembering that it's never work, it's always a fabulous game.
9. Never ever *teach* reading, or get tense around books.
10. Please read aloud every day, mums and dads, because you just love being with your child, not because it's the right thing to do.