

Crestmead Early Education Centre

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Queensland
Childcare Services

"achieving great things with little people..."
Education Through Care.

NEWSLETTER

January 2012

Editor: Clare Hamilton

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

Dear Parents, welcome to the first newsletter of the year. We hope you all had a good and relaxing holiday. We at Crestmead are very excited to get started.

On the Kookaburra side, the staff have all changed rooms, children have moved up and we are all getting ready for a new and hopefully interesting year. The Cockatoo side children and staff will all move to their new classes on the 23rd of January once our much loved children in our Eagles group go off to school for their first day as a big school child.

Miss Shannon and Miss Bente have been working on the event/show calendar and we are getting all the fundraisers ready for you, look out for the full calendar in the hall way. We have got some new shows booked in for the year and

some fabulous dress up days as well.

The first event is our Australia Day Celebration which is on **Friday the 27th January** –



starting at 9:30am come and join us for a morning filled with fun activities such as our annual thong throwing competition and sand sculpting designs.

This year we will also be supporting some very valuable causes such as the Leukaemia Foundation and Pink Ribbon Day for Breast Cancer as well as Jeans for Genes. These days help us support our community.

We are having a Parent Committee this year to keep you up to date with everything

that occurs in the centre, policies and procedures and to assist with fundraising ideas etc. The list of these dates will be put out to you this coming week.

STAFF NEWS

On the Kookaburra side we said goodbye to Miss Kerriann, at the end of the year. Kerri decided to try a new line of work and we wish her all the best luck for her future choice of career. Later this month we will be welcoming Stacey Waller back from Maternity leave, it will be good to get Stacey back but unfortunately we will then have to say goodbye to Miss Melissa from the room.

On the Cockatoo side, Miss Sam has completed her Diploma! This was a very exciting day for us this month. Miss Anna and Miss Rebecca are also both due to finish in February. Miss Lauren has



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF
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NEWS UPDATE

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The Australian Institute of Early Childhood Studies (AIECS) is the Registered Training Organisation for the management and staff of Queensland Child Care Services (QCCS). The training college was established in 2002 to act as the primary resource for the QCCS staff professional development and training in Childcare qualifications. The AIECS also provides nationally recognised qualifications in Early Childhood and Training and Assessment as well as first aid and CPR training. The college is run by a team of dedicated Early Childhood specialists, each with over 10 years' industry experience.

The AIECS is currently leading the way in training in industry changes for centres across Queensland. A very important focus for both the college and the centre staff at present is the implementation of the Early Years Learning Framework, which came into practice in July 2010. AIECS and QCCS are amongst the first in Queensland to train and be trained for the transition to an Emergent Curriculum.

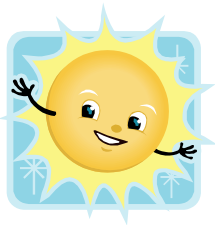
AIECS offers

- Certificate III in Children's Services
- Advanced Diploma in Children's Services
- First Aid & CPR
- Diploma in Children's Services
- TAE
- Professional Development

started studying her Diploma as well. The more knowledge we have the better teachers we become.

SUMMER TIME

It has been very hot lately and we have been keeping the children inside for a bit longer in the afternoon. However we are still going outside in the mornings and we would like to remind you to bring a hat every day. Also to apply sunscreen to your child preferably before you arrive at the centre or else upon arrival so the children don't get burnt. We have a supply of sunscreen for you to use, both in the hygiene basket and on the shelves. A drink bottle for water is another important thing to remember to pack in your child's bag, so our little darlings don't get dehydrated in the heat. Please be mindful of the weather when dressing your child/ren. String strap dresses and shirts and singlets may be cool for the heat but are not the best sun protection for young children's skin. It is recommended that children wear t-shirts and dresses that cover their backs and shoulders.



SIGN IN AND OUT SHEETS

As the majority of you would have already seen, we are now using Quarterly Sign in and Out Sheets. Each child has their own sheet and they are in alphabetical order. Please remember if your child is absent on their booked day you

must sign for them being absent. Also when there is a public holiday on your child's booked day, please ensure you sign over that date.

NEWS FROM FINCHES

What an exciting but full on month we had this month with finalising all for the end of the year. We hope you all liked your wonderful gifts that your special ones put so much time and effort into making for you for Christmas. We hope that 2012 brings us as much joy and fun as 2011 did.

But now moving along to the beginning of a New Year. First of all we would like to say a big Welcome to all our new Babies and families; we are looking forward to getting to each and every one of you over the next few weeks. Simone and I cannot wait to share this special year watching and being a part of guiding the children through their first year of milestones.

This month we will be focussing on settling into the New Year and getting to know one another. We will also be doing



a display on Australia to tie in with our Australia Day.

Within the next couple of weeks we will be handing out some paper for you to do a family display. On this paper we would like if you could place some photos of your family to be put up in our room. This

could include: parents, guardian, grandparents, siblings, and even pets. Well that's our lot for the month and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to come and see Simone or myself.

NEWS FROM BUDGIES

We welcomed our first new Baby for the year, Shreya to our class this week. Shreya has already made a little friend in



the class is settling in so well. We had a visit from one of our Babies that is starting next week, Savanah.

Our big friends in the Nursery have been transitioning up to the Wagtails group with Miss Anna and Miss Rebecca. They have been enjoying a lot more child interactions and the new activities that Miss Anna has them doing. In the Nursery, we have been getting the children to explore their spacial awareness through painting and floor play. Rolling balls of different sizes has been an activity the children seem to want to be a part of quite a lot. To expand on this, we have used roller coasters and texture balls.

We have an "All about Me" sheet which we shall send home to you all so we can find out all the things your child enjoys at home.

LORIKEETS' ROOM

Welcome everyone to the Lorikeets room please feel free

to speak to myself or Miss Shelly with any matters. We have had a great week getting to know your children and making sure they feel comfortable with us in the room, we have had lots of fun with our artwork this week enjoying a range of drawing with crayons and felt pens to painting with paint brushes and hand painting.



Over the next few weeks we will be learning new songs and reading lots of fun books the children have shown a great interest in animal stories and songs this week by picking them of the selves and making the different animal noises we have extended on their interest by singing "Old McDonald" and then reading lots of stories with animals in them. So we will be continuing with animals over the next few weeks. Just a quick reminder, please name all your child's belongings. Miss Jo and Miss Shelly.

NEWS FROM WAGTAILS

What an exciting start to the year we have had. We are welcoming our new Teacher Miss Rebecca from the Nursery group joining us from the 23rd. We have enjoyed having many of the Nursery children up to our class room this week before they officially start the week of January 23rd.

We have created an Art Area (Pod) for the children to access throughout the day. This gives

the children the opportunity to explore art and craft at their time. We are also teaching them about getting out an apron and putting it on. You will see some of our creative work on the walls and hanging already from our little master artists!

We welcomed our new friend Emily to the class this month also. Emily is already settled in to our little Toddler family at Kindy.

Our topic of the month is 'All about Me'. We are encouraging the children to learn about themselves as well as each other. This is a great way for the children to build and develop their little friendships with each other.

NEWS FROM SWANS

First of all I would like to welcome you all to the Swans room for 2012. Both Amy and I are really looking forward to getting to know you all and forming some great relationships with you all.

I would firstly like to let you know a bit about what we have planned for 2012. As you may have all noticed we have a parent information board this is to help give you all a bit of an idea about what is going on in the room each month, on this board there is a parent area where we would like you all to write and inputs or ideas you may have for our room on here. This month our multi-cultural focus is Australia, if you have any items linking to this topic please feel free to bring



them in so we can make a wonderful display in our room.

Also this month we will be looking at colours we will be doing activities like rainbow painting, flash cards and building blocks (naming colours as we build). Miss Marie and Miss Amy

NEWS FROM PARROTS

Welcome back from the holiday season. We hope you all had a great break. Our children have started to transition to the Fairy Penguins group over the last few weeks to give them the opportunity to explore the bigger group. The children



have been enjoying learning about transport

since coming back from their holidays. We have been talking about the transport on the land and water as well as the



types we see in the air. The children have been talking about how they come to Kindy as some walk; some come in the car and others on their bikes. Each morning at group time, we would take some time for the children to share their 'how they came to Kindy this morning' responses. Another important part of our programme this month has been hygiene and how to ensure we wash our hands correctly and when. Miss Tina has been doing some close

supervision on this so we can ensure that they are practicing the correct method. We have been discussing how Gerry Germs can make us sick so we need to wash him away.

We have been having some of our Toddler friends up to play getting ready for their transition on the 23rd and with them they brought their interests of dolls and home corner so we have expanded on this interest by bathing the dolls and getting high chairs for the dolls to be fed at as well as allowing the children the chance to have a play in the Nursery at different times of the day.

Until next month – Miss Tina and Miss Jenny.

NEWS FROM ROSELLAS

Welcome to a new year in the Rosellas' Room. We would like to welcome the new families moving up from the Swans Room and a welcome back to the children from last year. We would love to introduce ourselves Miss Jessica is the educator for the year with Miss Rachel. Any queiries worries or inputs we would love to hear them.

To start the year off we are happily getting to know our friends and ourselves this month's topic is covering our body and since there is so much to look at when it comes to the human body we are starting with our senses. The



first week we had a look at touch.

The children had lots of fun feeling all the different textures with their fingers and using them in art form. We are also looking at the feet and hands as they are what we use for touch. Over the next weeks we will be covering the rest of the senses taste smell and see. Any input would be greatly appreciated weather bringing in a flower for the children to smell or a picture of something your child saw on the weekend to show the class so they can "see". Please don't forget to label children's belongings as it can get confusing when children have the same items

NEWS FROM FAIRY PENGUINS

Welcome to some of our transitioning Parrot friends this month! We look forward to getting to know you and your families. The children have been extremely interested in creating their 'play areas'. Our most recent interest play area was the road system and transport. The children assisted us to make roads and talk about what they would see at the side of the road such as houses, buildings, rivers etc. This explores their knowledge of infrastructure and community awareness. The children continued this interest with using boxes to create forms of transport to which we took outside to play with some more.

The children have been doing lots of sharing about their holidays and special day visits they have attended. This is a great skill for the children to be comfortable doing. We have

been encouraging the children to draw pictures and paint pictures of the stories they are



telling us as an extension to this. During this time we talk to the

children about what they are painting and allow them to continue creating.

Until next time, Miss Kaycee, Miss Colleen, Miss Kayla and Miss Malarie.

NEWS FROM OWLS

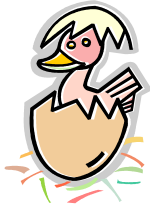
Hello and welcome back to the start of an exciting year in the Owls' Room. Currently your educators are Miss Miriam and Miss Melissa. We are also looking forward to the return of Miss Stacey who has been on maternity leave, she will take over from Melissa at the end of January. To start off the year we have had a big emphasis on doing art work to brighten up our rooms walls, it's already looking great! This week one of the children suggested bubble painting, this ran for two days and we extended on it by also doing straw blowing painting which the children all loved! Next week we will get into the Australia day spirit and look at all things Australian, this will carry through till the end of the month. If you have any input on this topic we would love to hear from you. That's it for now, see you in the playground.

Miss Miriam and Miss Melissa.

NEWS FROM EAGLES

We had many sad goodbyes over the last few weeks in our room but we are excited for our children to be going off to school this month. We have had a smaller group over the holiday season so we have been taking the opportunity to give the children more chances to practice their School Readiness skills such as pre reading and writing skills.

Our friend Hayden told us all about his duck having ducklings



just recently. Have a look at our started project on the wall in our room. To foster this interest we have been doing life cycles and incorporating the children's knowledge into this. We are having the 'Hatching Program' coming to the centre in February which will continue this interest and further develop the children's knowledge.

This is expanding to our life cycles of plants. Miss Shannon has ordered us some new seedlings and plants and we

are going to experiment and become good parents to our seedlings. Coming up is Australia Day – we shall be doing some cooking and exploring the Australian culture including the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture as well. If you have anything you would like to share with us please come and see Miss Bec.

MEDICATION POLICY

Medications will only be administered to children during Centre hours when it is absolutely necessary for the child's well being. Parents are required to complete the medication form before staff can administer any medication. This form is to be signed by two authorised staff members, when the medication has been checked and administered. Staff are permitted to administer oral or skin medications only. Staff are not permitted to give injections, however if injections are necessary for the welfare of the child, i.e. epilepsy, diabetes, etc, parents must make arrangements with their medical practitioner and the Director.

ALL MEDICATION MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE CHILD'S NAME PRESCRIBED OR NON-PRESCRIBED MEDICATION.

Please do not leave your child's medication in his/her bag, as it is easily accessible to children.

PRESCRIBED MEDICATION:

A Director or Assistant Director (or a Group Leader if neither of these are present at the Centre) can administer prescribed medication, however a letter from the doctor with instructions must be supplied or an accurate and up to date label on the medication detailing:

- Child's Name
- Date
- Name of Drug
- Dosage
- Doctor's Name
- Times to be Administered

NON-PRESCRIBED MEDICATION/HOMEOPATHIC MEDICATIONS: (OTHER THAN PARACETAMOL / IBUPROFEN)

A Director or Assistant Director (or a Group Leader if neither of these are present at the Centre) can administer non-prescribed medication. Administration of a non-prescribed medication/homeopathic medications must be accompanied by a doctor's letter/ chemist label stating:

- Child's Name
- Date
- Name of Drug
- Dosage
- Doctor's Name
- Times to be Administered

MEDICATIONS CONTAINING PARACETAMOL/IBUPROFEN:

Medications containing paracetamol/ibuprofen such as Panadol or Nurofen can act to reduce fever, and can mask signs of infection. As such, these can only be administered at the Centre (other than on an emergency basis) when accompanied by a doctor's letter and labelled by a pharmacist. The letter must define the length of time it is to be administered and in what circumstances eg; three times daily for 1 week from the date.

THANK YOU

Please fill out the following and return.

I am happy with the MEDICATION policy Yes No

Suggestions: _____

