

Redbank Plains 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

Directors News



Welcome to another year at Redbank Plains Early Education Centre! Firstly welcome to all of our new families and a sad goodbye to all of our School Readiness children that have left us ready to take on their next adventure. We wish them all the best on their first day at Prep.

Just a reminder, please ensure your weekly fees are paid up to date each week. Statements are sent out each Monday via email and printed off at the Centre. If you would like your statement emailed please provide me with your email address so we can ensure these are getting sent.

Upcoming events

Keep an eye out for our Yearly

Calendar of Events for all of the fun activities we have planned throughout the year. Just a reminder of the upcoming public holiday for **Australia day**



is on the 26th January. We will be closed on the

Thursday but opened again on the Friday.

Water Bottles, Hats and Shirts

As the weather is warmer children need to be hydrated throughout the day. We would like it if all families could supply their child with a named water bottle so they can access this throughout the day from their fridge in the rooms. I have some of the water bottles with



the Centre logo on them if anyone is interested in purchasing them please come and see me

For sale

We have: *Centre T-shirts* for sale these are \$15.00 each and *Centre Hats* are \$8.00 each (Please see display in foyer for colours and sizes.)

Staff Changes

As most of you already would know our staff has changed rooms already for the year. Just a reminder of the room changes:

- Nursery Donna & Tash,
- Toddlers Stacie & Kristy
- Junior Kindy Angela & Kylie
- Kindy Katrina & Wendy,
- School Readiness Bek & Amanda
- Schoolies Belinda
- Float Staff Janelle, Katy, Becci & Marlene

Any questions throughout the year please come and see me my door is always open.

Until next time Sheree



TRAINING NEWS – AIECS

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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's staff professional development and training in Childcare qualifications. The AIECS also provides nationally recognized 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 new *Early Years Learning Framework* that came into practice as of July 2010.

QCCS centres' staff are amongst the first in Queensland to be trained by AIECS for the transition to an *Emergent Curriculum* in order to effectively implement the new framework. QCCS management strives to ensure that all their staff receive the most up to date and relevant support and training. These specialized training opportunities are offered on regular bases to all staff to ensure children attending QCCS centres and their parents receive the highest quality of professional care at all times.

Nursery News

Hi everyone and welcome to the Nursery for 2012. My name is Miss Donna and I will be the



Group Leader for the Nursery this year and Miss Tash is the Assistant. We are both very excited at the

opportunity to spend our year with your Babies.

We look forward to building strong bonds with you and your children and look forward to being a part of their lives. Both Tash and I are parents as well and understand the dynamics of the bonds formed between parents and their children. We look forward to being able to work with you to help your children grow into bright and aspiring individuals. If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to speak with us as we are here to help you and to care for your children.

Just a few reminders of what is needed for your child's day in the Nursery :- a few changes of



clothes, nappies, wipes and bottles/cups.

We know it has been hot outside lately so singlets and shorts are appropriate however we are fully air conditioned so please pack a warmer (T-shirt/tights) set of clothes in case your child becomes cold in the room. Our air con is set to 24 however it sometimes feels cooler. Again we look for a great year with you all. Miss Donna and Miss Tash.

Toddlers News

Hello and welcome to 2012 in the Toddlers Room. My name is Stacie and I will be your child's Group Leader and Kristy will be the Assistant. Over the first few weeks you will notice a few changes within the room as we reorganise and personalise it to suit the Toddlers. If you have any suggestions on things that you would like to see or would benefit us please feel free to give us as much feedback as you would like.

Some of you may have already noticed that this year we have started to use the personal communication books which are to help us keep in contact about your child's day. These are able to go home with you each night but please ensure you read them and bring them back the next day for us to fill out. This will also help you and I communicate as I am on the open and close shifts from week to week some days you may not get to see me until the afternoon so leave me any notes that you want in these books and I'll get them throughout the day.

This year I would like to work together with you to ensure the best possible care and learning possibilities for you and your children so your feedback is appreciated. Can you please ensure **ALL** items are named clearly even bags, sheets, shoes, socks and clothes so that things are not lost (**we will name them for you if things come in unnamed**) as we will be

encouraging each child to learn to put their own things away a lot this year.



When we go outside, we have been taking out the toddlers' drink bottles as some are

still too small to reach the bubblers so please ensure you bring in a named drink bottle for your child. This can stay at the centre if you choose so that it's here when required.

Kristy and I are so excited to get to know you all and your wonderful children as we help them learn and grow into such clever, independent individuals. Please feel free to approach us about anything and we thank you for the opportunity to look after your wonderful children. Miss Stacie and Miss Kristy

Junior Kindy

Welcome back Junior Kindy children and parents, we hope you enjoyed your Christmas break. My name is Miss Angela and will be the Group leader in the room this year along with my Assistant Miss Kylie. We both look forward to working with you and your children throughout this year. We also welcome Asher and Patrick into our class this year and they have both settled in well and made friends in our Junior Kindy Room.

A few of us are starting to try to go to the toilet, this is going really well. If the parents could provide a sleep nappy for sleep time and a few sets of clothes and underwear for the

potential accidents that may occur.

Also parents please bring in a hat, water bottle, sheets and a bag. We are trying to encourage parents to bring in a named water bottle for this year.

This month we have been looking into celebrations that happen in January such as New Years Eve and Chinese New Year and focusing on fireworks. If you have taken your children



to a fireworks display and have a photo to show us that would

be great. We will put it up on the wall next to our fireworks poster we have made.

We have also looked into the



summer experience.

We have been talking about how

hot it has been and how blue the sky looks. From these discussions we have made our own suns, made a group rainbow and printed our hands around the rainbow and did some summer printing using butterflies, flowers, dolphin play dough cutters and bright colours.

Next month we will continue on with our summer experience with water play (I will tell you which days ahead of time and if you could put in spare clothes for that day that

would be great), sandpit play including building sandcastles and summer collages. If you have any concerns please see Miss Angela or Miss Kylie.

Kindy

We would like to wish our families a happy New Year.

The majority of the Kindy children are moving up to the **BIG** School Readiness Room. We would like to wish them all the best and know they are all more than ready for the challenge. We now welcome new faces to our room from Junior Kindy. We hope your time with us is an enjoyable and memorable experience – which I am sure it will be. New lockers and pockets will be ready on the first day of the transitioning week. Please ensure you place your child's belongings in their named locker as this is teaching them to be responsible for their belongings and name recognition. Pockets are located just outside the Kindy door. Please ensure these are checked regularly.

The children have just started to discuss learning about fires and fire safety. This interest has been sparked by the bush fires that were occurring on Morton Island. We have learnt about people that put out fires; Fire men. The most fascinating



fact we have discovered is when a hose is on the fire truck it is flat.

When it is plugged into a fire hydrant and water is flowing

through it then gets bigger and causes it to be round. Interesting! We hope to have a visit from the fire department as well. If there is any topic you would like us to cover please let us know as your input is valuable.



We have had 2 Birthdays to celebrate already: Happy Birthday Nathaniel and Hera who both turned 4. We hope you had a great Birthday.

If you ever have any questions, please don't hesitate to come talk to either one of us. We are very welcome to all new ideas that you have.

Until next month, Miss Katrina and Miss Wendy.

School Readiness

Welcome to a New Year within the School Readiness Room, as it is a new year I'd like to introduce ourselves - Miss Bek and Miss Amanda. We will be working in the room alongside your child, and your families throughout 2012.

We have started on our new learning pods, and they look great. As a group we've started to build our own construction site and buildings as well as following safety. From this we have also worked on our safety rules for our classroom. The children are now practicing safe walking, sharing with friends, hands and feet to our selves. We have also focused on group time rules when we are all together.

In the School Readiness Room this year we are planning to focus on name writing, the



alphabet, counting and writing

numbers, as well as many other learning obstacles to challenge the children with whilst still working within a fun environment. If you ever have any questions, please don't

ever hesitate to come talk either one of us. We welcome to all new ideas that you have. Miss Bek and Miss Amanda/

TRANSITIONS AND ROUTINES POLICY

All children need an amount of predictability in their day, while still having the flexibility to accommodate one another's needs. We utilise the following guidelines to ensure we are able to balance both needs and provide genuine learning experiences through transitions and routines.

- The daily routine is displaying for parents and visitors and is discussed in relation to each child upon enrolment.
- The routine is to be flexible for individual needs. It gives security and predictability to children as they learn to know what will occur next in the day.
- Routines should be treated as learning experiences to foster children's self help and independence.
- Transitions should be planned for on a daily basis, and children should be moved in small groups.
- Children should all be given a warning when a change of activities is about to occur.
- Wait-time should be kept to a minimum and should be filled with simple finger plays, stories, songs etc.

Staff are encouraged to keep a card file or poster on simple transition experiences they can utilise at a moment's notice.

THANK YOU

Please fill out the following and return.

I am happy with the current **TRANSITIONS AND ROUTINES** policy Yes No

Suggestions: _____

