

# Waterloo Street Early Education Centre

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Queensland  
Childcare Services

## NEWSLETTER

January 2012

Editor: Clare Hamilton

*"achieving great things with little people..."*

### Education Through Care.

#### Directors News

# WELCOME

Welcome to another year and a special welcome to all of our new families.

I hope everybody had a lovely Christmas and New Year and is ready for an exciting 2012!

Attached to this newsletter is a copy of our Events Calendar for the year. We have planned many exciting events for the children to help make their time at Waterloo St very exciting.

I would like to ask all parents take the time to have a look at the Events Calendar and engage your child/ren in conversation about what is happening at the centre. The



staff all work very hard to make sure that each day is full of learning and

enjoyment and

the children love to be able to share these with their families. We are also holding a number of fundraising drives throughout the year. These activities are designed to benefit the children and all money raised is put back into the centre and resources for the children.



Last year, the staff gave up their weekend to hold a fundraising BBQ at Office works to raise money for the Christmas party. It was the money raised from this fundraiser along with the money raised from our fantastic Christmas Hamper raffle that allowed us to have books for the children from Santa and to keep each family's contribution to food served at the Christmas party to a minimum. Unfortunately, at the Officeworks BBQ, we only had

one family attend to support the staff and the Centre. So, my

aim for this year and our centre is to encourage families to be a part of the Waterloo St family.

We have organised a Parent Meeting each month starting in February. At our first meeting, we have organised an information evening and I encourage you to come along and meet the staff and find out how each group works and to



ask any questions you may have.

We still have a few vacancies in some of our rooms, so if you know of anyone who is looking for a great centre to send their children to – recommend us. We will put \$50.00 towards your fees if they enrol.

Due to our high occupancy, it is imperative that if you need your children to come an extra day that you call before the day you need care and confirm



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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

whether we have a spot for your child on that day. As the Director, it is my responsibility to ensure that there is the correct number of staff at the Centre. The safety of the children at the centre is my priority.

Parents MUST sign your child/ren in and out of the Centre each morning and each afternoon. The sign in and out sheets are a legal document which is presented to the Department of Education and Employment and Workplace Relations on request and it is used to calculate your entitlement to Child Care Benefit. If your child is not signed in and out, your entitlements (CCB) can be withdrawn. If you are not sure on how to sign your children in and out, please see a staff member.

Lastly, we have said a sad farewell to two of our much loved staff members in January. Debbie left us to move to



Daydream Island and to prepare for the arrival of her first baby and Zoe has left us to work with her Mum and take the next step in her career. We wish them both all the best of luck in the future and we will miss them both very much. Please rest assured that I am in the middle of interviewing for these positions and I will not settle for anything less than the perfect person for our team. I will keep you posted on my progress.

That is all for now. My door is always open for a chat or if you have any questions.

Shanna

### **Toddlers and Junior Kindy News**

It's been a very exciting time in for the Toddlers and Junior Kindy children! We have had lots of new friends starting and they are all settling in well. We have been creating a friendship wall in the Toddlers' Room to welcome our new friends and to help all the children to learn each other's names.

We also have plans to turn our bathroom into an under the sea adventure so keep your eyes out for that.



In the Junior Kindy room, the children are looking at families and we are asking that they bring a photo of all of the special people (and pets) in their lives.

Please remember to bring your children in sun smart clothes – shirts with shirts, hats and to bring a drink bottle as it is hot at the moment. Another important reminder is to make sure that everything is labelled with your child's name as we want to send everything home with the right person.

See you around the centre.

Miss Amanda, Miss Jo and Miss Dilu

### **Kindy News**

A big hello to our new and existing families and we hope everyone had a restful Christmas and is ready for an exciting start to the new year. We have begun our new topic "SCIENCE". We have experimented with ice,



magnets, balloons, blocks and shadows. We are learning about how things

work and how things change and we are incorporating shapes, sizes and many more fascinating concepts. We learn through group discussions, art and craft activities and experiments plus all of your great input from home. Any suggestions or great ideas can be placed in "Miss Michelle's notes" box near the lockers. Parent input forms can also be placed in here.

Could everyone please remember to name all items, including hats and drink bottles so we can keep track of everyone's personal belongings. Sheets and sheet bags are now kept in the cupboard with the beds on hooks. Please collect your sheets if you wish to wash them from this cupboard. Thank you for your ongoing support and please contact us if you have any questions.

Regards,

Miss Michelle and Miss Nicolle.

### **School Readiness News**

Welcome back to a brand new year in the School Readiness Room at Waterloo St. We have lots of exciting things

developing in our room at the moment with the welcoming of our new friends both from the Kindy room and new to our Centre. This month have started to look at the world we live in. Our first focus country is the best of all, Australia, and the children are learning about the states, capital cities, animals and plants. We are also starting to learn the national anthem. We will learn about various countries as the year progresses. While we are learning about the world we live in we will be doing our literacy and numeracy. Literacy being reading, writing, listening and speaking all of which will be modelled to the children daily.



I cannot wait to see what other learning journeys your children take us on and I will keep you informed throughout the year. As always remember to send in a photo and a blurb with your child each month for your family contribution so that your child can share a little of themselves with their friends. This not only helps us to know each child but gives them an opportunity to stand up proudly (with support) and



practise their public speaking skills.

Please remember to label all of your children's belongings so that we can return them to the correct child at the end of each day.

Until next time,  
Miss Deb

### **Schoolies News**

Hello everyone.

As vacation care draws to a close we remember all the fun filled days that we had and are already looking forward to creating our next vacation care itinerary. If you have any ideas please feel free to share them with us.

School is almost back and we are so excited to welcome some of the children from last year into our before and after school care this year, along with welcoming our many new families to the centre.

We would also like to welcome back our families from last year and trust that you all had a fantastic school holiday break. We look forward to seeing you all soon and the many adventures and fun that 2012 will bring.

# HEALTH AND HYGIENE POLICY

## ON A DAILY BASIS

### Health

- Provision of ample and nutritious food and fluids throughout the day.
- Use knowledge of how the children usually look and behave when they are healthy to recognise symptoms of illness. Comfort to any child who becomes unwell and complete of Illness Observation Form. Inform the Director who will inform the family that the child needs to go home as soon as practicable. The child can still remain in their room, as long as interaction and sharing objects with other children does not occur.

### Hygiene

- Tables, chairs and high chairs cleaned with warm soapy water or lavender wash after every meal.
- Clear bench areas and clean with warm soapy water or lavender wash.
- Clean top of rubbish bins with warm soapy water or lavender wash.
- Sweep or vacuum floor.
- Rubbish and bodily excretions removed. Clean bodily fluids with warm soapy water or lavender wash and dry with paper towel.
- Cots, cot mattresses and beds cleaned with warm soapy water or lavender wash.
- Floor mopped.
- Relaxed, comfortable and hygienic meal times.
- Pleasant, hygienic and comfortable environment to meet the needs of individual children.
- Encouraging children to develop personal hygiene habits.
- Regular hand washing throughout the day by both adults and children, eg before and after meals, toileting, nappy changing etc.
- Hygienic food preparation and service (the use of gloves or utensils when preparing and serving food).
- Following Nappy Changing Policy procedures.
- Hygienic storage of soiled nappies and clothing.
- Individual eating utensils for each child.
- Dealing with blood spills – Wear gloves and wash the area of contact thoroughly with warm soapy water or lavender wash. If the contact has been with an open wound rinse the area well with warm soapy water or lavender wash. If the blood contacted mouth or eyes, rinse the area very well with water. In both cases, seek medical advice. To clean up blood spills, wear gloves. Place paper towel over the spill. Carefully remove the paper towel and contents. Place the paper towel and gloves in a plastic bag, seal the bag and put it in the rubbish bin. Put on new gloves and clean the surface with warm soapy water or lavender wash, and allow to dry. Remove and discard gloves. Wash hands thoroughly with soap and warm water.
- Dealing with faeces, vomit and urine – Wear gloves. Place paper towel over the spill. Carefully remove the paper towel and contents. Place the paper towel and gloves in a plastic bag, seal the bag and put it in the rubbish bin. Put on new gloves and clean the surface with warm soapy water or lavender wash and allow to dry. Remove and discard gloves. Wash hands thoroughly with soap and warm water.

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*THANK YOU*

Please fill out the following and return.

I am happy with the current HEALTH & HYGIENE policy  Yes  No

Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

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