On Monday and Tuesday I joined almost 1000 principals and preschool directors from across the state at the Adelaide Convention Centre. The focus of the conference was building local partnerships. The Upper Mid North Partnership includes schools and preschools from Booborowie, Burra, Jamestown, Spalding, Gladstone, Georgetown, Laura, Wirrabara and Crystal Brook and is supported by Education Director Terry Sizer. This year the partnership is meeting regularly with the goal of working together to achieve the best outcomes for children and families in our local area.

The message from the conference was that the curriculum for children should have a strong focus on both academic achievement and on the skills and processes children will need in a rapidly changing world. Learning “dispositions” and processes are a big part of our early childhood curriculum. They focus on how to learn rather than what to learn and our goal is that children transition to school with skills such as confidence, curiosity, resilience, creativity, concentration and problem solving which will support their learning in any pathways they choose in the future.

Jamestown Community School is holding their twilight Sports Day on Thursday 13th March (next week). Kindy families who use buses will need to organize their own transport to and from kindy on the day as buses are leaving four hours later than usual times and there will be no return trip. Kindy children will be participating in Sports Day as part of their kindy day. Kindy events are very relaxed with a focus on joining in and having fun. We will be joining the school at around 1.45pm for some races and novelty relays. Parents are welcome to join us. If you have children at Jamestown Community School you may wish your kindy child to stay with you rather than returning to kindy after their events. Please let us know if this is the case and we will make sure your child has everything packed in their bag when we come to the oval. It is important that you communicate with staff when keeping your child with you so we can mark them off our roll.

Looking at the tadpoles…

March 11
Governing Council 6.30pm

March 20
“Family Time Fun” Session 7.00-9.00pm

April 10
Last day of Term 1 for Kindy

End of term performance 2.15pm

PLAYGROUP

Playgroups are gatherings of parents and young children, usually in a kindy or early childhood centre. The purpose of playgroup is for parents to develop supportive networks with other parents and for children to socialize and try new activities with the security of having a parent nearby.

We could accommodate Playgroup on alternate “non kindy” Mondays if there is community interest. If you would be interested in attending a Playgroup at JCCC or in being the co-ordinator, email: Alison.Arthur669@schools.sa.edu.au
CHILDREN’S PROGRAM

We have some fish at JCCC now! Look in the tank in the foyer and try to find 2 guppies, 4 goldfish and 2 tiny silver "sharks"! Kindy children have been learning about the letter fF and its sound, making fish and threading seaweed to hang from the ceiling. We also have some tadpoles in some very green water from Alison’s pond at home. They started off as eggs which looked just like bubbles and now they are tiny tadpoles. We looked at a wooden model of some frogs eggs, tadpoles, froglets and frogs to learn about life cycles, before making our own.

Concentration, persistence and recognizing our achievements – some of the “hows” of learning!

Yesterday was bike day for the Wallabies and many children brought their bikes, trikes, scooters and even motorized ride-ons. It was great fun to “break out” and ride around on the school paving!

Remember to check your child’s communication pocket for newsletters and notices. Staff are currently writing learning stories for all children – we hope you enjoy yours!