DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday 26th June
Preschool Graduation
2:45pm

Wednesday 27th June
Pre-Entry Morning
9-11:30am

Friday 29th June
End of Term 2

Monday 16th July
Term 3 begins

Wednesday 25th June
“Lift the Lip” Dental Nurse visit

Governing Council:
31st July 6:30pm

Wednesday 1st August
OPAL “Think Feet First” performance

PRESCHOOL AND CARE PROGRAM

Have you had a look at our “Children’s Program” book? It is located on the small table just inside the entrance near the photocopier. The book contains the planned program, child-initiated spontaneous activities and photographs taken during the week, as well as a staff member’s evaluation and reflection on the week. We would love your input into the program. Please use a sticky note to record:

- Your thoughts about the program
- Suggestions for topics or activities
- Activities your child has enjoyed or talked about at home

Over the past few weeks we have enjoyed talking about grandparents, fruit and vegetables and winter weather. Please pop in and look at our display of “happy” and “grumpy” photos and our beautiful observational paintings of watermelon and kiwifruit. Today we have dietician Felicity Morell visiting to conduct an “Eat A Rainbow” healthy food session with the children and a “Healthy Lunchbox” session with families. This week we are also making cloud and raindrop mobiles, paint footprints with rubber boots, paper umbrellas and egg-carton crocodiles to help us act out the rhyme, “5 Cheeky Monkeys” which we plan to perform on Graduation Day next week.

Next week we farewell Harper, Abbey, Brooke, Jesse, Callan, Summer and Hannah. At 2:45pm we will perform three short songs and hold a Graduation Ceremony for these children who begin school next term. All families are invited to join us. This is a great opportunity to look through your child’s “KINDY BOOK”. Kindy books will be out on the table and you are invited to come a little earlier or stay after the session to look through them. They contain artwork, photographs and comments as a record of your child’s time at kindy. You are welcome to write comments in your child’s kindy book too. We do ask, however, that you do not look at other children’s books unless their parent invites you to do so.

IF YOU EVER HAVE QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS ABOUT YOUR CHILD’S PROGRESS, PLEASE DON’T HESITATE TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT FOR A CHAT. OFTEN INSIGHTS FROM HOME CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE AT KINDY / CARE.
**CHILDCARE IN TERM 3**

Families wishing to change / cancel childcare bookings for Term 3 are reminded that written notification should be given as soon as possible. Changes require 7 days’ notice and cancellations require 14 days’ notice. Families who do not intend to use their bookings during the school holidays should also notify the centre in writing in order to qualify for the “holding fee” rather than paying full fees during this period. The “Notification of Changes” form is available on the website (or you can email / write a note).

**PERFORMANCES / SPECIAL EVENTS IN TERM 3**

Preschool children are attending two theatre performances in Term 3:

**WEDNESDAY 1st AUGUST**: OPAL “Think Feet First” performance at Jamestown Community School. This is a performance targeted at children from preschool to Year 4 around the topic of active transport. Group B children will attend as part of their regular session; Group A children are welcome to attend the performance with a caregiver.

**TUESDAY 21st AUGUST**: PATCH THEATRE “A LION IN THE NIGHT” performance in Port Pirie. Permission forms will be sent out early in Term 3.

We have also arranged a visit from the Peterborough School Dental Service to conduct the “Lift the Lip” program on Wednesday 25th July. This program consists of a dental care session for the children followed by brief, non-invasive dental checks to pick up any problems requiring referral. Parents will be asked to give consent for their child to have a dental check. More information will be available early next term.

**PLAYGROUP NEWS**

At this stage, Playgroup will not run during Term 3 as we do not have a volunteer to replace our out-going co-ordinators. It is expected that Playgroup will recommence in Term 4.

**REMINDERS**

- Outstanding preschool fees are payable immediately. Please see Alison if you need to negotiate a payment plan.
- Please return all Herb/Flower money to the Centre as soon as possible.
- Updated Health Care Plans for children with medical conditions are required before the end of term.
- Preschool families are asked to return contact details forms including any changes to contact numbers / collection authorities as soon as possible.

**MEDICATION POLICY**

At last week’s Governing Council meeting we reviewed our Centre’s Medication Policy. Please be aware of the following requirements:

All medication to be administered by staff to children attending the Centre must be:

- prescribed by a doctor *
- provided by a parent / guardian in its original packaging
- within the expiry date of the product
- authorised via the Centre’s “Medication Record” form

*A doctor’s letter accompanying the medication or a prescription label on the medication showing the child’s name, dosage and frequency is sufficient.

Note that non-prescription medications such as Panadol and Nurofen require a prescription if they are to be administered by staff.

Parents are welcome to give their own child medication at the centre but the centre reserves the right to ask that children who are unwell are collected, as we do not have the facilities or staffing to care for sick children.

The exception to the above requirements is asthma medication, which can be given without prescription or written authorisation. Asthma medication is also the only medication that is permitted to be stored in bags. All other medications are to be stored securely out of reach.

**PRESCHOOL ATTENDANCE TERM 3**

Next term’s attendances are particularly important as they will determine staffing for Terms 1 and 2 next year. Permanent staff members (Tegan and Deb) who are part of the warranted staffing allocation for Terms 1 and 2 will retain their positions for the full year despite the fact that numbers will fall off steadily as we move to the single Reception intake in 2014. Therefore, if our attendance numbers in Term 3 secure a Director, Teacher and ECW for Terms 1 and 2 next year, we will retain three preschool staff members for the year despite falling numbers. In order to do so, we need strong attendances in weeks 2 and 3 next term, when attendance data is collected.

That’s all for now!

Deb, Tegan, Gayle, Alison, Karen, Dani, Tash, Jo, Joanna, Kimmy, Kylie and Roweena.