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June

Newsletter

**KEITHCOT FARM**

**Staffing Update**

Janet Hazel’s last day at Keithcot Farm Children’s Centre was Friday 27 May. Janet is taking a well-deserved Long Service Leave before officially retiring.

We are delighted to welcome Lisa Edwards to our Multidisciplinary team.

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*My name is Lisa Edwards, and I will be one of the Early Childhood teachers at Keithcot Farm Children Centre.*

*I am a qualified teacher with a Bachelor of Early Childhood Education and have been teaching full time in the Preschool sector for three years.*

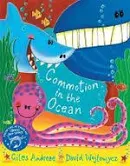
*I grew up in Alice Springs and have now lived in Adelaide for the past 7 years. I have a love for the outback, with my family farm located in the mid-north of South Australia. I enjoy sharing this part of my life with children and discovering the similarities and differences we share.*

*I believe that every child is unique, competent, curious and full of potential. As an educator I believe that I am a co-learner and collaborator in a child’s learning journey and that successful outcomes come from relationships that are genuine, positive, respectful and responsive. I am passionate about creating safe learning environments and invitations for all children to explore and feel comfortable to express themselves in.*

*I love working in collaborative environments and feel privileged to work alongside children and their families. I would like to thank you in advance for the opportunity to work across the Children’s Centre. I look forward to sharing my passion for play based learning combined with early literacy and numeracy skills.*

Roshni has accepted the full time position while Michelle and Lisa will team teach across the week.

**Curriculum**

Our whole of site Book Based Program continues to focus on the text “Commotion in The Ocean”

This has developed into an inquiry as children investigate and learn more about oceans; sea creatures; environmental issues etc

We have been introducing Key Word signing across the Centre. Many of the signs are on display for you to try.

Our Speech Pathologist, Tamara has supported the implementation of “Yacka Tracka” in the Preschool and a similar program “Tiny Talkers” has been introduced in the Long Day Care. The aim of both these programs is to assist Teachers + Educators to reflect on the language learning opportunities provided for children across our site. They are also designed to enable:

* Early identification of children presenting with language difficulties.
* Support children with a range of communication needs.
* Implement language facilitation and stimulation strategies.
* Provide evidence to assist families with accessing early intervention strategies (if required)

Our OT Sarah has assisted Teachers to analyse and develop individual goals in relation to the Preschool Movement Screening conducted in Term one.



Jen has diligently been growing Milkweed for our Monarch caterpillars to eat before turning into a chrysalis and then the most beautiful Monarch Butterflies!

**Health**

If your child is showing signs of being unwell before coming to the Children’s Centre, ***it is important to keep him/her home for the day, and ring the Centre of your child’s absence.***

Advice has been received from the Department of Health informing us that:

*“Children who are suffering from vomiting and / or diarrhoea should not attend the Children’s Centre. Parents / guardians will be contacted and asked to collect their child* ***within an hour*** to reduce the possibility of the illness spreading.

***The child will not be able to return to the Centre until all vomiting and / or diarrhoea has ceased***

***for a period of at least***

***48 hours from the last episode***

***and the child is feeling well.***

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Now that we are in winter, could you please provide a warm **named beanie** and a **named rain jacket** for your child to wear outdoors? This also supports the implementation of our Nature Play Curriculum. We have a large covered outdoor area, but sometimes children get caught in the rain if there is a sudden downpour, leaving the rest of their clothes wet. A warm rain jacket that can be independently removed and hung to dry will reduce the problem of wet clothes in winter.

***Please name all your child’s clothing.***

**2023 Preschool Program**

In August 2022 letters will be sent to families who have registered an Expression of Interest in our Preschool Program and who live in our immediate catchment area

* Bridge Road
* McIntyre Road
* The Golden Way
* The Grove Way

offering a place in our Preschool Program for 2023.

Depending on the number of available positions, offers for families who live beyond the catchment will be mailed out apx 2 weeks later.

The aim of this procedure is to ensure that children are offered a place in their local centre. A consistent state-wide approach, including the establishment of local catchment areas, ensures that all families are provided with the same information about their Preschool enrolment options.

***Please encourage friends and families to register their child for 2023!***

**No Department for Education Preschool on Friday 10 June**

Our core Educators from **across our site** will spend the day monitoring the progress of our Prior to School Quality Improvement Plans (PQIP) and review Policies and Procedures.

***Long Day Care will be available to families who have children with a regular LDC booking each Friday.***

Last day of Preschool for Term 2 will be **Friday 8 July.**

Long Day Care will continue through the Pre School holidays.

***Preschool*** ***families who need Long Day Care (at the full rate – CCS) need to confirm with Cathy (Admin Officer) their preferences for their child’s attendance during these upcoming Preschool holidays ASAP.***

The Preschool Program will recommence for Term 3 on

**Monday 25 July.**

**End of Year Closure**

Our whole Centre will

**CLOSE**  from **12.30pm** on

**Friday 16 December 2022**.

The Long Day Care program will then resume on

**Monday 9 January 2023**

**Community Development Update**

**Play in the park:** Has been well supported this year. Upcoming sessions on 8 and 28 June. This program gives families the opportunity to have social connection, as well as to discuss any concerns or issues around their child’s development with our Occupational Therapist – Sarah.

B**eing with Baby:** Has booked out again this term.

Parents from Term One said that having social contact and being able to meet other people in group settings like this is great as they have felt somewhat isolated over the last 6 months.

**PJ story night:** we have not confirmed a date yet, but we are looking at later in June, or early July.

**Getting Ready for mealtimes:** This session was facilitated by our OT Sarah. We are also going to trial this information session online, on the 8June from 6:30pm.

**Infant Massage:** Will run this term for 5 weeks. From 3 June 3 until July 1on Friday mornings. There has been an overwhelming response to this session again, with it being booked out in only a few days, with a waiting list for cancellations, and an extra group being added for term 3.

**First Aid Information Evening:** Heather Palmer from Palmers Education, has agreed to facilitate another First Aid evening. This will be held on the 8June at KFCC. This is not an accredited course, but a general information session in which Heather covers topics like allergies, bandaging, bites, burns, choking, CPR (with mannequins) head injuries, rashes and respiratory management. This is a great course for parents that might not have done first aid for a while and especially for grandparents.

**Northern Area Midwifery Group Practice** offers a midwifery service Mondays and Fridays.

**GP Shared Care** offers a midwifery service on Wednesdays.

**Please contact Nathan (CDC) for more information**

* **in person at the Centre**
* **by phone 0435 219 942**
* **Email:** [**Nathan.mcguinness3@sa.gov.au**](mailto:Nathan.mcguinness3@sa.gov.au)

Sarah (Occupational Therapist) has provided this article from

Perth Children's Occupational Therapy:

**Go to the crying child.**

**Especially the child under 7.**



The wrong coloured pencil, the sand in their shoe, the book that they didn’t want to read - it is all a big deal to them.

Think about the life experiences they have had. They haven’t experienced what we have and therefore have no frame of reference for how big their problem objectively is.

Their brain is also still in the egocentric stage of development, where everything is all about them.

Plus, their prefrontal cortex isn’t anywhere near as developed as an adult’s, meaning they do not have the ability to regulate themselves, or are only just beginning to learn this.



Dismissing their feelings (e.g. “you get what you get and you don’t get upset”…) or leaving them to deal with their emotions on their own stays with them. They may not be able to explicitly recall being left to cry on their own, but it will be stored in their brain and body along with other similar experiences (in their implicit memory), and contribute to their core beliefs (schemas), perceptions, and assumptions about the world as they grow up.

Meeting a child’s feelings with shame, ridicule or punishment also puts their nervous system under stress and their brain in a more reactive state, meaning they will remain in a heightened state and be more likely to become upset or triggered again.

There is just too much research and evidence behind this for it to be ignored.⠀

If a child is upset, go to them.

And as always - parents, teachers, anyone caring for children - you won’t get it right 100% of the time. We are all still learning and doing the best we can with the resources we have.

#EvidenceBasedPractice #StopCountingTo3 #KnowBetterDoBetter #Empathy #EmotionalIntelligence #ItsOkayToCry #YouGetWhatYouGetAndYouMightGetUpset #Neuroscience #Parents #Teachers #EarlyChildhood #OccupationalTherapy