



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Dear Parents,

It has been a very busy term for the team at Play Centre with many Educators participating in professional development training.

Behind the scenes, the team have been focusing on completing our Quality Improvement Plan this term. This plan allows educators, management, families and children assess our Centre and put in place action for improvement. We are hoping to have our QIP available to families from August 2013.

From our survey it was identified that many families felt as though they did not have the knowledge or information on our programming and reflection process. It would be great if parents could please fill out how, as a family, information is best received from the Centre. A quick survey is available in the sign out area.

Other changes that we have made in light of our improvement plan are:

- * A Parent Notice wall which is located under the photographs in the hall. This area will hold important notices that may often get missed on the sign out area. We encourage families to check the board weekly. Our senior children will also have a noticeboard placed in front of the sign out in the senior area.

- * Our afternoon tea and late snack routine will be changing from Term 3 2013. Afternoon tea will be served from 3:00pm-3:45pm and children will have the option during this time if they would like to eat or play. Fruit platters will be made available on all tables so children can serve themselves. Where possible children will be able to self serve their own afternoon tea from the table and where not possible, due to being too hot, staff will walk around and hand afternoon tea to children who are sitting at the tables. Children who do not wish to have afternoon tea can play.

- *Late snack will be served at 5:45pm in the junior room. An option of dried fruit will be made available during this time as an alternative to the late snack offered.

Our quality improvement plan is an excellent opportunity for our Centre to evaluate itself on our strengths and areas that we need to work on. All in all, we are always committed to providing the best quality care and education to your child and the process of reflection allows us to do this.

Finally on a personal note, a big thank you to all the families who have provided me with lots of information and support throughout my pregnancy over the last few months.

WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING AT PLAY CENTRE:

As many parents are aware the pom pom craze has hit Darlo Play Centre. Our before school care program, junior program and senior program have all taken up the art of making pom poms. We have had some very creative pom poms being made and we are now progressing to turn our pom pom creations into animals by sewing.

Junior room: Our junior room received some new purchases this term and the children have thoroughly enjoyed the new resources in the room. New puzzles, construction resources and items for our home corner were purchased. As many of the children were excited about Jess's baby we have purchased some dolls, beds and a high chair for the home corner. This week we are starting our winter theme and our craft activities will be focussed about all the wonderful things that make up winter for a few weeks.



Senior room: Our senior children have enjoyed a variety of art activities this term as we have been focusing on different painting techniques. The children have also enjoyed afternoons spent in the new playground and cooking activities. The staff team decided that the senior area and programming needs a revamp and this will occur over the next two terms and be finished ready for Term 1 next year. The team will be actively working with children and families and appreciate any suggestions for improvement for this area.

STAFFING NEWS:

In Term 2 our staffing is as follows:

Director and Nominated Supervisor: Jess

Certified Supervisors: Morag, Sherryl, Michelle

Educators: Desmond, Pete, Emily, Lucy, Vicky

We have welcomed Sarah to our team at Play Centre. Sarah is currently at University and is looking forward to getting to know all our families at the Centre.

Pete's last day will be on Friday 21st June. We will be having a small party for him on this day. We are hoping that he might be able to rejoin us sometime in 2014.

Jess's last day at the Centre will be on Friday 26th July and she will return from maternity leave in 2014.

Our staff profile board is also nearly complete. All staff have filled out a short portfolio on their lives inside and outside Play Centre.

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE:**Pupil Free Day Program:**

Please see attached our pupil free day program for July 2013. Places are limited to 30 children and will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis. Please be advised that all bookings must be submitted on the original form and have the excursion permission form signed.

Parents who pay statements via direct debit will have the fee deducted from their account.

Families who pay via cash or cheque will be required to pay for pupil free day bookings when handing in their booking form.

Donations:

Thank you to Helena and Ruby P and their families for their generous donations. A very big thank you to Angus P and his family who brought in some lovely fish for our fish tank.

Website update:

Over the next few weeks our website will be redesigned and developed and will include new online registration functionality. The website will also have integrated functions which will allow families to get in contact with us online via Skype or through a live chat application. We are hoping this assists families in getting in touch with us easier. We are excited to bring Darlo Play Centre's website into the future using the latest web technology.

Aboriginal Performer

7.06.2013

To tie in with our NAIDOC theme and to give the children a greater awareness and understanding of aboriginal culture Play Centre children were lucky enough to have Jamali from Koomurri Entertainment come to the Centre.

The children got to listen to the didgeridoo and see many aboriginal artefacts. We learnt some aboriginal words, aboriginal dances and aboriginal songs.

We even got our face painted in traditional paint and together we all created a beautiful canvas that will be hung in the junior room. Our artwork represents our Play Centre community, the school community and the greater community and how we are all interlinked.



Learning outcomes:

- 1.1 Children develop knowledgeable and confident self identities
- 1.4 Children learn to interact in relation to others with care, empathy and respect.
- 2.1 Children develop a sense of belonging to groups and communities and an understanding of the reciprocal rights and responsibilities necessary for active community participation.
- 2.2 Children respond to diversity with respect
- 4.3 Children transfer what they have learned from one context to another
- 4.4 Children resource their own learning through connecting with people, place, technologies and natural and processed materials.