



March/April Newsletter 2016

Important Dates:

Please place the following important dates on your fridge or calendar, ensure you read from Tracey's desk to understand your commitments as a parent to some of these events

April 22nd Earth day

May 3rd World Asthma day

May 8th Mother's day

May 20th Walk to school day

Centre closed on the following days:

**April
25th Anzac day**



2nd Birthdays

Sienna 30th March

Ada 31st March

3rd Birthday

Flynn 13th April

4th Birthday

Victoria 30th March

5th Birthdays

Archie 22nd March

Travis 6th April

From Tracey's Desk:

By now I hope everyone has secured their days for winter, and I am pleased to say it is going to be a busy winter. We have had to close the baby's room with only 4 places available each day. This is mainly due to the number of older children and the limited staff we have.

As you all are aware we have had some staff changes. Anne will be joining us 5 days a week from June until summer and we have employed two new staff members:

Hannah who will be working 5 days a week

Jo who will be Tuesday & Wednesday

Staffing over winter will be-

Gumnut room: Sam & Tracey

Wombat room: Anne, Sara, Hannah, Jo & Leah will continue on a Friday.

I would also like to remind families that I am unable to make changes to your child's booking each week. If you work on a rotating roster then I take this into account and your booking is set up as such, or if your child only attends on a fortnightly basis etc, but I cannot change them from one week to the other on a regular basis. If you are going on leave for an extended period of time you can drop your booking down to one a day a week, if your regular booking is going to be available on your return and I do not have a child on a waiting list. If you are unclear or have issues where this is concerned please ensure you arrange to speak to me or a committee member to ensure you understand the requirements.

Staff development

Most of the staff will be attending the Early Years Professional development and Expo at the end of the month thanks to the professional development grant we have been receiving over the last 12 months so here's hoping they come newly inspired and full of new ideas for the children.

Staff news

It is with much pleasure that I advise that Sam will be going on maternity leave mid-September to welcome the arrival of Venn baby number 2. So I'm sure you will all join me in wishing them the best for a growing family (come on we need more of these)

I am very pleased to annoy you all with the news I am now a Nana. Miss Frankie Wallace arrived this morning the 8th April making her parents and grandparents (both sets) very happy people. She is the first grandchild for both families so I'm sure very spoilt. So Tony and I are off to Adelaide next week and I will be returning to work on the 26th April. Sam will be the nominated supervisor while I am away.

Tracey



Dates to Remember:

❖ **April**

17th-23rd Food Allergy Week

22nd Earth Day

25th Anzac day

Fundraising:

I hope you are all doing your utmost to sell the tickets in our wonderful raffle. If you need more tickets please see a staff member or Tenille (Travis & Zahli's mum) who is in charge of tickets. There are some great prizes so come on start selling.

Ladies.

The ladies dinner is to be held again this year on Friday **3rd June at Black Bear Inn**. Bec (Lewi's mum) is our chef this year and in charge of making it a wonderful night. More information will follow in the coming weeks with a special event or save the date through the facebook page. The more the merrier and we are hoping for 50 to 70 this year so start getting family and friends involved.

Families

There are many other fundraising events and activities planned for the year and there is even a special event for the dad's so keep watching



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Wombats:

We have had a busy few months with the children enjoying many challenging activities. We have also welcomed Ada and Sienna into the big room and they have both settled in very well.

We started the month off with our **Ride to school day**. As many of us can't ride to school the children bought their bikes along to day care so we could all go for a ride together. So after morning tea we all headed off to the new tennis courts. During our ride to the courts we practised our road rules and then on the courts we took turns giving way and stopping to let others through. For the younger children it was a great opportunity to practise their bike riding skills.



One thing we have all noticed over the last few months is the amount of collaborative play that has been happening around the center. Not just during group activities but also while we are developing new skills. The children decided to challenge themselves in relation to balancing. Ada had been watching the older children balance on the walking frame so she decided that she would give it a go. Very soon Travis was alongside to help Taylor support

Ada and to encourage her to continue to walk along the frame. Was great to see an older child having empathy for a younger one and assisting them to achieve. Collaboration is also evident here in the sandpit photos and the using the duplo on the mat.



The children have also used our new resources. The children have had a whole new look at our bones, see like with the light behind items with the light



been experimenting with some. The light cube has offered a learning resource, they can see what shapes and objects look like and even tracing around behind the paper.

Tracey & Anne



Sam's and the Gumnut's

We have jumped into the year with a flying start! I am so proud of my Gumnuts; Sienna, Ada, Luca and Charlie in these first few months of the year:-

- Charlie has been standing on his own although usually when no one is looking (he clearly doesn't like the attention) and is becoming so confident climbing up the stairs and attempting the slide on his own.
- Luca is STILL expressing his interest in music and dress-up, I love his confidence... He loves having a chat with all staff members with the most expressive hand gestures
- Sienna has accomplished toileting! Hooray! She took it upon herself, I just provided the underwear so I feel quite lucky considering
- Ada is my little cheeky monkey who is very quiet and just seems to cope with any change or activity that is thrown her way. Her language is very good and she is able to explore the environment and choose her own activity or play group suiting her interest at the time although we are starting to see the more verbal side from her in recent times!



I will be so sad to lose my 2 girls at the end of this month ☹ but I think they are well equipped to handle those wombats all on their own! We have had a visitor over the last few weeks that will be a new addition to the gumnut room in May (thank goodness) and hopefully more to come!!!! 😊😊😊

