



Mitchell Street Early Learning Centre

August/September 2017

Family Newsletter

Welcome to all our new and existing families.

Spring is here and we are finally getting some nicer weather, we certainly have had a couple of very busy months.

In partnership with our Charity Give Where You Live, for the month of October we will be participating in 'Feed Geelong' where we as a Centre we will have food collection bins located at reception.

Please ensure that you are staying up to date with our emails and the notice boards located in the Centre as there has been lots of information regarding illness and special events.

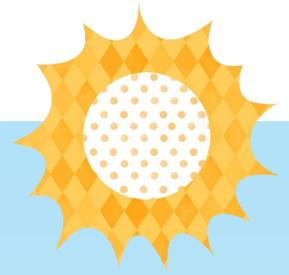
Footy season is over for the year and it was so great to see so many children support their teams and wearing their footy colors. In the spirit of being a good sport congratulations to the tigers, they were the better team on the day (yes my crows gear was promptly taken down!)

This month we say goodbye to our chef who is off to venture new things and we will be welcoming Cale who is very excited to be joining our team!

Please don't forget to bring Christmas holiday forms back to reception. Also the 2018 kinder forms, please return these ASAP as there are limited spaces.

Thank you to all of our families for your participation in the Woolworths Earn and Learn this year, we have managed to collect \$37,000 worth of stickers (wow that's a lot of food shopping) we look forward to receiving our free resources, so again many thanks.

Kerry Lenoble – Centre Manager

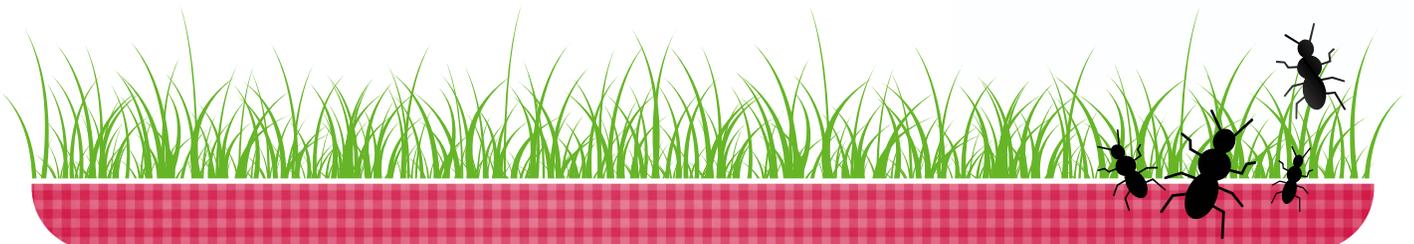


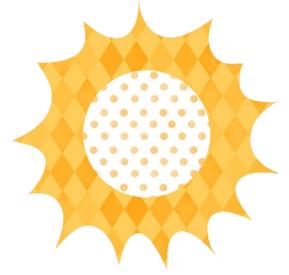
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Important Dates

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- Friday October 20th– CRAZY HAIR DAY fundraiser held by Beck
 - Wednesday October 25th– Geelong Cup Public holiday
 - Tuesday October 31st– Halloween dress up



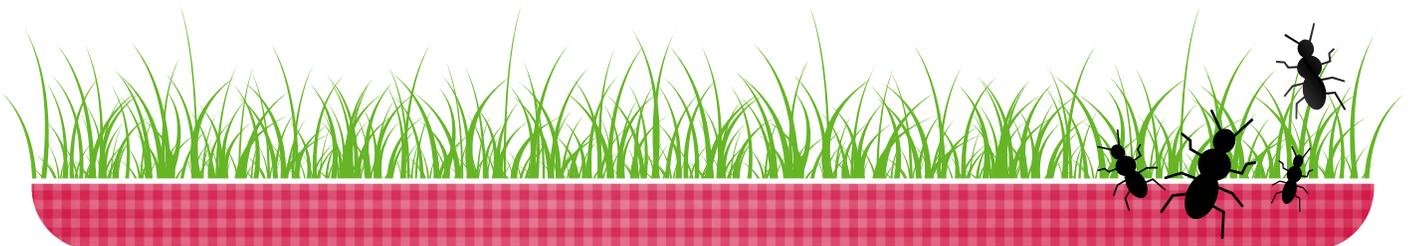


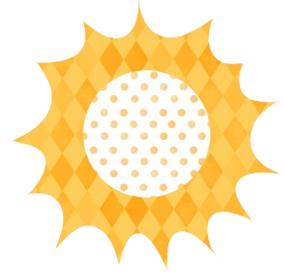
-General information-

- Childcare rebates - please check the back page of your weekly statement to see if it is still applying - with bigger bookings it is beginning to stop until the new financial year.
- Immunisation - please note if your child isn't up to date with their immunisations all government benefits are cancelled - the immunisation register allows 4 weeks grace before your subsidies are stopped.
- Centre clothes - we know children have toileting accidents or get wet with messy play, please provide a few sets of clothes for your child. If you have any centre clothes at home can you please return them as we don't have any left at the moment.
- Finally, family members are always welcome here at Mitchell Street, but can I please request that you supervise children in particular when going into our younger rooms to ensure the safety of all our children—this includes opening and closing doors.

Have a wonderful spring!

Kerry Lenoble – Centre Manager

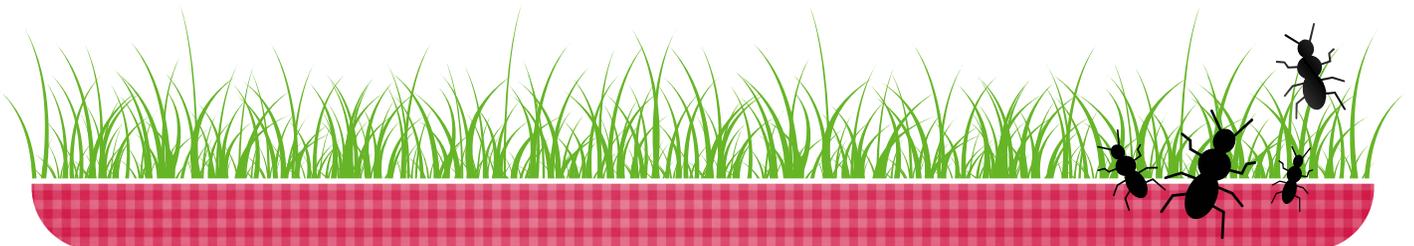




BECKS BIG CHOP

On Saturday October 21st I will be cutting off a large portion of my hair to be donated to Sustainable Salons Australia to create wigs for kids who due to medical conditions cannot grow their own. I am aiming to be cutting at least 30cms off my hair at its longest length, in doing this I am also fundraising for a charity close to my heart, the Cancer Council Australia to raise much needed funds and awareness for cancer research. If you would like to be a part of my fundraiser please come along on Friday October 20th with CRAZY hair and make a gold coin donation, donation boxes will also be located a reception prior to the event. I have been growing my hair for almost 2 years now for the purpose of being able to donate it in some way to children who truly deserve it, this is the longest my hair has ever been and I am so excited to be able to share this experience and fundraising event here at Mitchell Street.

Thank you all so much, I am looking forward to seeing all of your wonderful 'crazy' hair styles on Friday October 20th!



Playspace 1

Reminders

Holiday's

Please give at least 2 weeks notice of any holidays you would like to take, you have up to 4 weeks holiday per financial year, to take at a 50% discounted rate on your weekly fee. All holiday absences should be given in writing either by using the forms provided or email.

Birthday Cake

Forms are available from your child's room and at reception to order Birthday Cakes - 48 hours notice is required when ordering.

Additional days care

Please note if additional days are required for your child it is important that you communicate and check availability of this with Kerry, note the educators in your room do not have up to date information regarding availability.

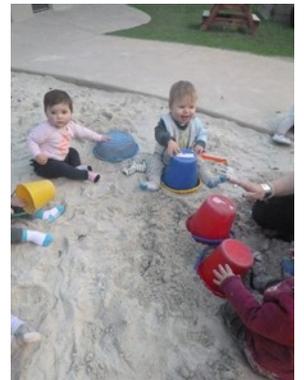
Team: Courtney, Tania.H, Brooke and Tania.C

What a fun filled month in Playspace One. We have been welcoming many new watching them grow, learn and settle into their new environment. Many events have been happening, book week and Father's Day activities to name a couple.

We had our lovely photographer Karen who took beautiful photos for families to take home.

The children are continuing to work on their self-help skills, with the older children confidently using their spoons and the younger children watching on and trying to do the same making this a wonderful sensory activity as they work on feeding themselves.

We look forward to more sunny days to enjoy outdoor play as much as we can



Playspace 2

Team: : Beth, Jayde, Natalia, Mirella and Jade

What we have been doing the past 2 months:

This month we have been focusing our art and crafts based around recycled objects. The children have been getting creative with things such as used tissue boxes, out of date magazine clippings and anything from our lovely chef Adam that can be reused such as old lids. In addition to this our Centre has now created recycling station at our entrance for families to donate items we can use for our daily crafts. Setting up a recycling station in our facility will give your children the practice they need to educate them in this area. Use the center as a focal point for your recycling efforts.



This month we have introduced a vet into play space 2. This is an extension based on our original Doctors permanent experience in the room where the children role played taking care of their babies, taking temperatures, feeding, checking their heart beat with our stethoscope and giving medicines. The children have been reading a lot of stories in group time relating to animals and due to this huge interest in this area educators decided to create a Veterinary clinic for the children to use their imagination and create their own role play. We are hearing lots of animal noises coming from our clinic and the children have created wonderful role plays such as bandaging their sore animal and giving medicine. Dramatic *play* is a type of *play* where *children* assign and accept *roles* and act them out. It's pretending to be. Sometimes *children* take on real-world *roles*, other times they take on fantasy *roles*. This is such a wonderful learning experience to watch and be involved in.



What's coming up in play space 2?

Warmer weather Yay! We are so excited for spring to begin and coming up this month we have a lot of spring based art experiences and sensory activities ready to go. The children will be spending a lot more of their time outdoors as well as Meal times happening out in the lovely weather.



We also would like to welcome the beautiful new children who have recently joined our play space 2 family.



Playspace 3

Team: April, Rachel.P, Shinae, Sonya and Rachel.L

Over the past few months Playspace 3 has been enjoying all of their new activities with their new educators (Rachel L, Shinae and Sonya). Rachel L, Shinae and Sonya are all looking forward to getting to know all of our family and friends in our room.

At our group times, we have been teaching the children about the days of the week, seasons and the daily weather. We have also been asking the children to share their thoughts on 'things that we share and things that we don't share' with each other. We have also been singing a lot of songs that involve movement of their bodies. When we do our morning group times we like to welcome all of our educators into the room by getting the children to say 'good morning' to each of our educators.



We have carried on with our counting and we have been counting up to the number of the day it is. The children have been getting really good with their counting.

This past few months we have had a few celebratory days/ weeks

We have celebrated

Naidoc week:- we celebrated this with doing all of our different styled paintings, looking through the aboriginal book and spoke about the pictures.

Pyjama day/Teddy bear picnic :- all of the children got to come dressed in their best pyjamas and bring along their favourite teddy bear to show all of their friends and play all day in the comfort of their pyjamas.

Science week:- this was a week where we all got to get our hands dirty and try to do all different types of science experiences from watching the water walk over and meet the next colour to making volcanos



Book week:- this week we got to get dressed up as our favourite book character or super hero



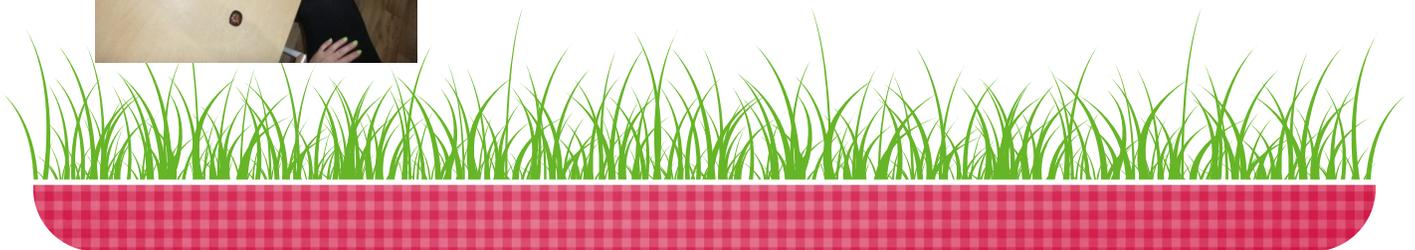
Father's day:- on this special day we got to celebrate with our children parents by hosting a sausage sizzle and handing out the gifts that we had made for our dads.



Playspace 3 have all enjoyed themselves while celebrating all of these different days with doing activities that suited each event.



We look forward to many more adventures ahead this year



Playspace 5 - 3 year old Kinder Room - upstairs

Team: Julie, Bec, Sam, Mel and Rach

It has been a very busy few months in the upstairs pre-kinder, we have welcomed Rachel to the Playspace 5 team who is joining us from Playspace 3 and we have also welcomed new children to the upstairs room, so welcome to you all.

Over the last few months we have been focusing on letter recognition and being able to identify the first letter of our names, the educators have been spending one on one time with each child to focus on a work sheet consisting on the first letter of their names.

The children also took part in a listening game, where they were sat with by an educator in a small group and given a series of instructions along with a work sheet the complete tasks on for example 'color in the chicken, put a line on the cow' this was a really great listen game for the children and they were all very eager to participate.

We have a visit from Braveheart's this month where the children were educated on personal safety and what to do if they have a 'no' feeling and who they can turn to for help, the children were all very intrigued by this incursion and had lots of fun joining in with all the songs and dances about 'yes and no' feelings.

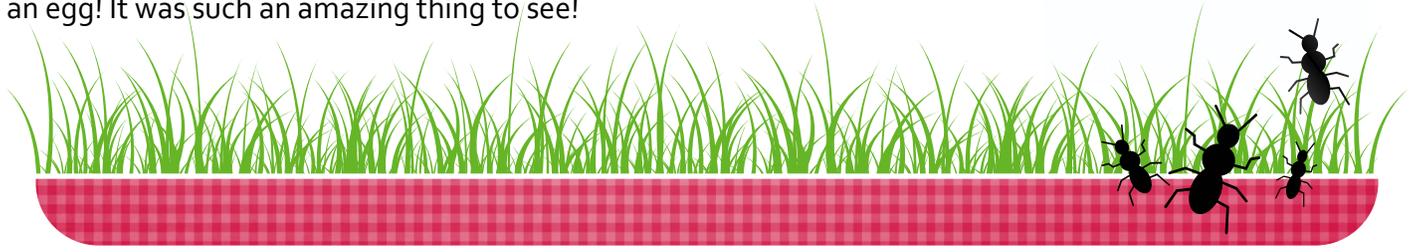
We were so excited about having the chickens in the down stairs room this month, we did a cut and paste activity learning about the life cycle of a chicken, we did chicken themed art work and the chickens were the topic of many discussions on several weeks, the children were always very eager to come down stairs to see the chicks and also had to opportunity to be able to come back down stairs when a chicken began hatching from an egg! It was such an amazing thing to see!



Medicare and dental information

This website has some helpful information outlining the CDBS with Medicare for any parents that were not aware or would like some information

http://www.kidspot.com.au/health/family-health/real-life/i-will-have-no-choice-but-to-neglect-my-kids-teeth?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=post&utm_campaign=editorial



Playspace 5 - downstairs

Team: Beck, Mel, Sam, Bec, Rach and Julie

The past few months in Playspace 5 have been very busy and full of excitement, as you would have seen during August we were lucky enough to be apart of the hatching program where we saw 15 little baby chicks hatch from their eggs, this was such an exciting time for the children, as educators we felt so fulfilled by watching the faces of all of the children light up has they watched an egg hatch for the first time, this special experience has bought so much joy to not only the children but to us as educators too. With the help of the children we names our chickens and regally took them on little excursions within the room! We also took this opportunity to teach the children the life cycle of a chicken and turn part of the room into a farm play activity. We were very sad to see the chickens go but some of them were lucky enough to go home with some of our families.

We welcomed Rachel into the room this month, Rach is joining us from Playspace 3!

We had a visit from Braveheart's this month where the children were educated in person safety and what to do if they feel unsafe and have a 'NO' feeling and who they can talk to if they have a bad feeling, the children were very actively involved in this incursion and all had fun dancing with Ditto the bear.

Book week was lots of fun this year, all of the children (and the educators) had lots of fun dressing up as their favorite book characters and we all go to enjoy sharing each others special books.

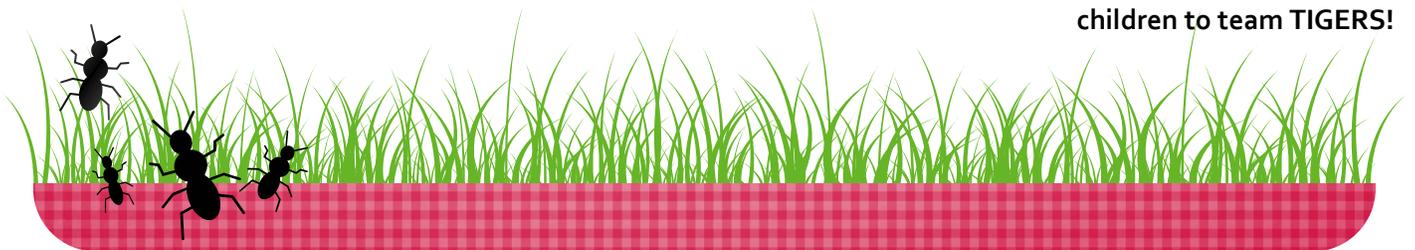
We have focused our art and crafty activities around the theme of spring! Creating lots of beautiful and bright spring inspired creations, we also had fun creating special father day art this month and we were lucky enough to enjoy a wonderful Fathers Day BBQ together at the Centre, this was such a great day enjoy by all whom attended.

In the upcoming months we will be learning about the alphabet and the letters that our names start with.

Thank you all for a wonderful past few months in Playspace 5, we value or relationships with all of our families very much and we are looking forward to the next few months!



Mel and Beck were very excited to see Richmond become premiers this year, they also apologise for converting any children to team TIGERS!



Playspace 4 - 4 year old Kinder Program

Team: Brooke.C, Brooke.H and Emma

The past couple of months have been a very busy time within the kindergarten program. Much of the program has been focused on the children's interests which engages and excites all involved. Children have been learning about the human body and healthy eating, with activities such as cutting out pictures and creating their own healthy lunchbox and looking at the 5 senses of the body. Furthermore, children thoroughly enjoyed being involved in the physical activities such as running races and obstacle courses that were set up last month.

Living Eggs, the chicken hatching program was a very enjoyable experience for all involved and the children loved learning about the life cycle of a chicken and how to care for them. In addition, we had Bravehearts come and visit us. Bravehearts are a company that teaches young children about what to do if they feel unsafe, and who they can turn to. Ditto the Bear was very funny and made the show come alive.

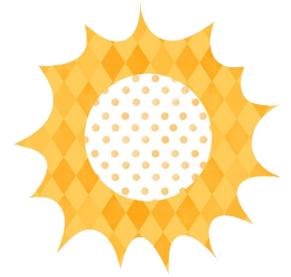
Throughout our room, children are becoming more actively involved in their learning and given the opportunity for choice as much as possible. On a daily basis, children have the choice if they would like to go upstairs for the morning. This allows smaller



group activities and more hands on and intentional teaching to occur. When the actual program starts at 10am each day, our first group time occurs. This involves 'Welcome to Country' which is an experience the children really seem to enjoy. Children are beginning to learn about the Aboriginals and how they used to live. The book titled 'Welcome to Country' is read and it is wonderful to see children remembering the words, and reading aloud with the educator. The projector is then set up with a traditional dance, whereby children have the opportunity to use the clapsticks they painted and get up and dance to the music. The focus board is also done in this time which changes on a weekly basis. This entails the alphabet, numbers, sight words, our French word and the daily chart. We look forward to finishing off the term and getting ready for Term 4, with the main focus being that the children will be ready for school.



A word from our chef....Adam Peterson



Adam

With spring around the corner I thought it was a great time to encourage everyone to bring to our attention any changes to a child's allergy, intolerance or cultural preference information. Please feel free to email the centre or discuss with your child's room leader any new information you may have or to review that the information we have is current. Keeping us up to date with any new information helps ensure that we are providing the children with the best variety of meals available and that dietary requirements are being met. Thank you for your assistance and bring on the sunshine!

I thought I would share our carrot cakes recipes which has become a favourite of the children's. If you skip the icing and lower the amount of sugar it can be quite a bit healthier.

Self-Rising Flour	2.5 cups
Brown Sugar	.5 cup
Cinnamon	1 tsp.
Eggs	2 each
Vanilla	1 tsp.
Oil	50 ml
Milk	200 ml
Golden Syrup	1 Tbsp.
Carrot	1 medium size

Method:

1. Pre heat oven to 150° C
2. Finely grate Carrot
3. Mix Dry ingredients
4. Combine all ingredients
5. Spray Oil and line with Baking Paper a 20cm x 20 cm Pan. Fill with cake Mix
6. Bake for 45 min to one hour or until you can stick a tooth pick in the middle and it comes out clean.

Thank you-

Adam, Centre Chef



making damper for NAIDOC week with PS5'

