



# Adelaide Miethke Preschool & Occasional Care

Occasional Care Newsletter - February, 2020

Dear families

What a busy start to 2020 we've had. We have welcomed over 30 new children this year. With 60 Occasional Care places each week that means over half our children are commencing with us in Occasional Care for the first time. For this reason we have had lots of children beginning with stay and play sessions where a parent stays with them. This gives our staff an opportunity to get to know your child and for us to talk about your child's routines, interests and needs. As Leesa and Veenus are new to our centre too it is not only the new children they are getting to know but every single child. Their planned focus for these first few weeks is primarily on developing relationships and I'm very supportive of the plans they have put in place to do this. Obviously they are also feeling their way and establishing a routine that suits the children we have enrolled. We have a small number of places still available but will not be commencing any new children until mid-term. We are also getting a feel for the groupings each day and we may ask families to consider swapping days if we feel a different session would better suit their child.

Often at the beginning of the year it can be a bit daunting for families (and staff too) as they are stretched supporting each child and family to settle in. We ask you to be patient and please speak to us if you have questions. There is lots and lots for staff to learn about each child and family and this takes time. We encourage you to email us if there is anything extra you'd like to let us know but haven't found the opportunity to as yet.

Please email [Suzanne.Dawson531@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:Suzanne.Dawson531@schools.sa.edu.au)

I will forward all information to Leesa and Veenus.

Leesa and Veenus are experienced at working in similar programs and are mindful of the quality learning experiences suitable for mixed aged groupings. They understand the need to get to know the children well so that they can plan interesting and challenging learning experiences that are also safe for a mixed age group. In coming weeks this planning will be evident and on display for you to see.

For the first few weeks of every year the **Tuesday and Thursday** group do not come across for integration. This is because we are settling a new group of children into kindy too. In the coming weeks we will plan as a staff team how we will provide opportunities for the older Occasional Care children to join with the preschool program.

In the holidays we purchased a new lounge suite and curtains for the room. The staff have some new ideas about how we can set up the room down the track & we are working together on these. On Friday we had 3 new pin boards installed and we are in the process of obtaining some quotes to have the rooms painted in the next school holidays.

*Suzanne - Preschool Director*

**Occasional Care**  
**Direct Phone Number**  
**8445 6936**

**CLOSURE DAY**

**Thursday, 26 March**

This is a professional learning day for all preschools in our partnership.  
There will be no Occasional Care on this day.

## Occasional Care Staff Profiles



### Leesa

ECW Occasional Care and Preschool Support  
**B. Ed Early Childhood Education**

I have a Bachelor of Education (Early childhood & Special Education) and a Bachelor of Disability Studies. I've been involved in Early Childhood Education for

nearly a decade. My experience includes leading a pre-kindergarten program, teaching in kindergartens and being a Mum to my 3 year old daughter. I enjoy spending quality time with my family - Daniel, daughter Charli and our Labrador Ralph. I like to spend time outdoors caring for our garden and plants and love reading and learning new things. I look forward to working with families and staff to ensure every little person attending has a wonderful year full of learning, development and fun! I will be working in the Occasional Care and in the kindy each afternoon.



### Veenus

ECW Occasional Care and Preschool  
**Diploma of Early Childhood Education & Care**

I completed my Diploma in October 2017 and have been working with the children since 2018. I chose this career

as I love to work with children & helping them discover & understand the fascinating world we live in. I enjoy each day as it is a new learning experience for both myself and the children within my care. I speak 3 languages, Punjabi, Hindi and English. I will be working in the Occasional Care Program and in the preschool over lunch.

### Contact details

If any of your details (including email) have changed please let us know and remember to keep your emergency contacts details up to date throughout the year.



### Spare Clothes

While we do have spare clothes at kindy it is helpful if you can pack a change of clothes in your child's kindy bag so that if they are wet or soiled we can change them into their own clothes.

### Nappies

Please pack nappies for your child into their bag as these are not supplied by the centre.

### Sickness and attendance

Regular attendance is very important to ensure children build friendships and learn however children who are sick should be kept home. This includes children who have vomited or had diarrhoea within the last 24 hours or have a high temperature. See policy for more information. Please phone us if your child will be absent for any reason.

### Hats and Sunscreen

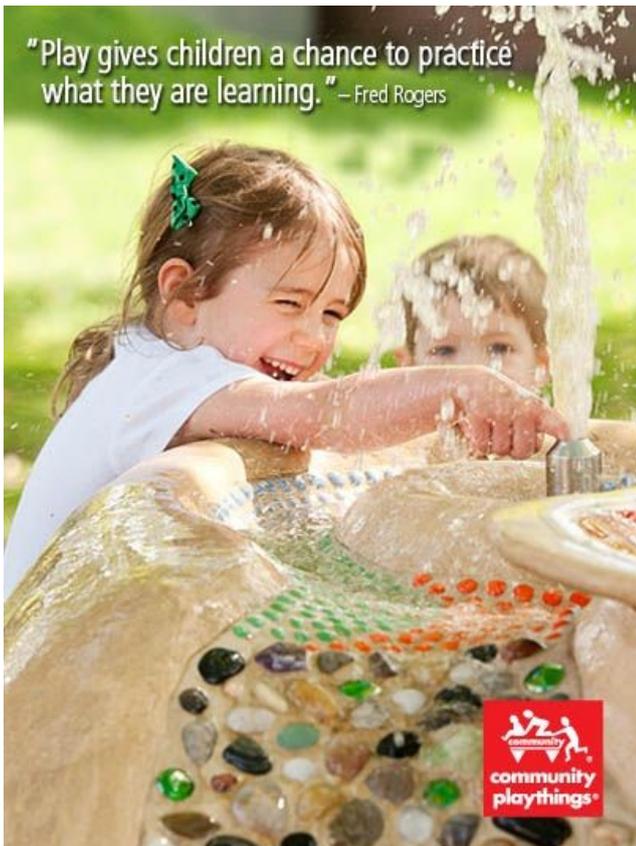
Please apply sunscreen each morning and remember to pack your child's hat.



### Drinks and Snacks

Please bring a water bottle, piece of [fruit or vegetable or other healthy food](#) for snack time and bottles for babies & toddlers if needed.

- On **Tuesday and Thursday** snack is a shared fruit/vegie platter which children choose from.
- On **Monday and Wednesday** children eat their own snack.



## Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, 18 February @ 7pm

All welcome.

The centre has a Governing Council that supports staff with the operation of the kindergarten, fundraising and events.

We are very keen to have parents from both kindy and occasional care join the Governing Council.

We meet twice each term for 2 hours in the evening.

If you'd like to join please speak to a staff member and come along to the AGM.

### Occasional Care Fees

Invoices will be sent home during week 2 and 3 for this term.

We ask that payment is made by **February 17th** where possible.

Our preferred method of payment is **via DIRECT DEBIT**. The banking details can be found on your invoice.

Please write your "*child's name* and **OC**" in the details of your payment.

If you need more time to make payment please speak to Leesa and we will be able to negotiate part-payments.



### Paint the Westside ReAD

Preschools in our Partnership are part of the Paint the Westside ReAD project. Each month we promote a literacy message from our mascot Lizzie the Literacy Lizard. This will be a core element of our literacy program in both the Occasional Care and kindergarten.

If you are looking for books to read at home we have book-swap box in our room that you are welcome to borrow from at any time.

Please **DO NOT** send foods containing nuts.



Includes muesli bars & nut-butter products.

### Term 1 - Dates to remember

Tues, 18 February	AGM - From 7pm
Thurs, 27 February	State-wide Leaders Days (Suzanne)
Fri, 28 February	Literacy Leader Day (Suzanne, Jess & Monica)
Mon, 11 March	Public Holiday - Adelaide Cup
Thurs, 26 March	<b>CLOSURE DAY</b> - Thursday Occasional Care Staff Professional Learning Day
Friday, 12 April	Term 1 ends