



Dear families,

Welcome back to Term 4. This is always a very busy and exciting term with lots happening so please touch base with us if you have any questions. We can't wait to begin our final term of learning together with your child and seeing them grow further this term. There are a few really important things to remember this term so please have a good read of this newsletter and mark dates in your calendar.

Covid-19 restrictions

Given there have been some relaxation to a range of Covid safety measures and to keep in line with other centres locally we have decided to welcome parents on site within these guidelines.

- Only ONE parent per family on site.
- Parent **MUST** do the Covid check-in at the gate both in the morning and afternoon.
- Parent **MUST** wear a mask whilst on site.
- Parent **MAY NOT** enter the kindy building but can wait outside and enter under the veranda (max 4 parents at any one time).
- Parents are asked to keep 1.5 metres from others and move off site quickly once dropping or collecting their child.

It is possible that we will need to return to at-the-gate drop-offs and pick-ups at short notice but for now please come on in!

Hat and sunscreen

Please remember to pack your child's hat each day as they must wear a hat outside when the UV rating is 3 or above.

Please also remember to apply sunscreen each morning. We will re-apply it prior to afternoon play. If your child has specific sunscreen please check with us that not run out & still in date.



Statements of Learning

Monica, Jess and I have begun writing each child's Statement of Learning (SOL). The statements will be ready for you to read and sign in week 7. We will then make copies for school and for us to keep. The original will be placed in your child's portfolio.

Supporting Transition

We have invited staff from all the schools that children will be attending in 2021 to visit kindy on Monday 25 October and Wednesday 27 October. Many schools have already informed us they are coming. This is an opportunity for school teachers to visit your child here at kindy to get to know them a bit more and to chat with our staff.

Kindy Fees

Most families have paid their kindy fees in full in term 1, 2 and 3 and will not receive any further invoices. Those families with outstanding fees or those who commenced late in the year may receive an invoice for their final instalment.

Paint the Westside REaD

To celebrate Lizzie's birthday in November centres in Inner West will be making cards and drawings for Lizzie as the message for November is **'drawing everyday helps our brain to grow!'**

We're sure Lizzie will be visiting centres too!



Closure Day

Thursday, 18 November

There will be no kindy on this day for Group 2.

End of Year Celebrations

Group 1- Tuesday, December 7

Group 2 - Thursday, December 9

Our last day of kindy for the year is a very special occasion when we celebrate the year and say farewell.



We will be having a performance and eating lunch all together.

Please pack children's lunch as normal on this day.

Parents need to arrive at **12 noon** for our final very special group time. We will sing some favourite songs then farewell the children in small groups. Each child will be presented their work portfolio to take home. At the end of the presentations you are invited to chat with staff and say goodbye.

There will be more detail about this event as it gets closer as we need to consider Covid restrictions.

Kindy will finish at 1:00pm

Dates to remember

Mon 11 Oct	Term 4 begins
Thurs 21 Oct	Suzanne & Monica absent (Mandy & Zia teaching)
Mon 25 Oct	TEACHERS FROM LOCAL SCHOOLS INVITED TO VISIT
Tues 26 Oct	Governing Council Meeting - 7pm
Wed 27 Oct	TEACHERS FROM LOCAL SCHOOLS INVITED TO VISIT
Fri 29 Oct	Suzanne @ Inner West Partnership Meeting
Tues 2 Nov	Excursion, Adelaide Botanic Gardens - Little Sprouts
Thurs 4 Nov	Excursion, Adelaide Botanic Gardens - Little Sprouts
Fri 12 Nov	IWP Preschool Educators Professional Learning Day
Thurs 18 Nov	CLOSURE DAY (GROUP 2) NO KINDY
Fri 19 & 26 Nov	2022 children transition visits.
Tues 7 Dec	Group 1- Final Kindy Session. Pick-up 1pm Performer, Party Lunch, Final Group Time. Farewell
Thurs 9 Dec	Group 2- Final Kindy Session. Pick-up 1pm Performer, Party Lunch, Final Group Time. Farewell
Fri 10 Dec	Term 4 ends



Paint the Westside REaD

Our PTWR message for September and October is -

'Messy play together everyday helps our brain to grow'.

We plan for the children to have lots of different types of sensory play at kindy to support their learning.

Messy play is sometimes referred to sensory play. Here is some information about why mess and sensory play is important.

Why Sensory Play is Important for Development?

From birth... children use their senses to explore and try to make sense of the world around them. They do this by touching, tasting, smelling, seeing, moving and hearing.

Providing opportunities for children to actively use their senses as they explore their world through [messy or] 'sensory play' is crucial to brain development – it helps to build nerve connections in the brain's pathways. [Messy and sensory play] supports cognitive growth, language development, gross motor skills, social interaction and problem solving skills.

Sensory play includes any activity that stimulates your young child's senses: touch, smell, taste, movement, balance, sight and hearing.

Sensory activities facilitate exploration and naturally encourage children to use scientific processes while they play, create, investigate and explore. The sensory activities allow children to refine their thresholds for different sensory information helping their brain to create stronger connections to process and respond to sensory information.

4 reasons why sensory play is beneficial:

1. Research shows that sensory play builds nerve connections in the brain's pathways, which lead to the child's ability to complete more complex learning tasks.
2. Sensory play supports language development, cognitive growth, fine and gross motor skills, problem solving skills, and social interaction.
3. Sensory play aids in developing and enhancing memory
4. Sensory play can be very calming and provide an outlet for frustration and anxiety.

Reference: Educational Playcare

<https://www.educationalplaycare.com/blog/sensory-play-important-development/>



Don't forget to bring you borrowing bag each week so your child can swap their library book.

Have any of your child's enrolment details changed?

Please let us know if any of these need to be updated -

- **Address**
- **Parents phone numbers**
- **Emergency Contacts phone numbers**
- **Custody or Access arrangements**
- **School your child will be attending**
- **Allergy, health or medical details**

Healthy Eating Guidelines

It's really important that families follow our healthy eating guidelines as closely as possible. Our policy is written to help us support children's health and wellbeing. Eating fresh, healthy food is important for brain development and nutrition.

For snack time please only provide fruit, vegetables or cheese and plain crackers. Chips and treats are not snack time foods.

For lunch time please provide a main lunch item such as a sandwich, salad, rice or pasta dish. Children will be encouraged to eat this first. Families may provide **up to 2 small** snack items - plain yoghurt, chips, cup-cake or sweet biscuit.

Please DO NOT pack chocolate, candy, fruit roll-ups, muesli bars or fast food such as hot chips.

Water is the only drink that should be sent to kindy.



Keeping everyone healthy at preschool

This term we have had unprecedented levels of staff illness. We understand that when working closely with young children we are likely to pick up the odd cold or cough. However, we need families to help keep everyone well by keeping children who are sick at home. You are reminded that we will call families if children appear unwell and families will be expected to collect their children promptly.

There are a few non-negotiables about children's health that everyone should follow:

- **Children MUST be kept at home for 24 hours following any vomiting episodes.**
- **Children who have a temperature, cough, runny nose, sore stomach, sneezing or complain they feel unwell MUST stay home.**
- **Children SHOULD not attend preschool if they are given Panadol or Nurofen in the morning because they are feeling unwell. These medications can mask pain and fever.**

Families should also consider Covid-19 safety precautions and seek medical advice if their children are unwell.