Hello!

It’s hard to believe it’s nearly the middle of the year. There has been so much going on for the Centre that has kept us busy and happy. Here’s an update on what’s been happening. As always any questions, concerns or ideas talk to Maddy, Bec or any of our lovely workers.

Learning news:
Learning is all around!

There is so much learning that happens without us noticing it sometimes, but it’s there, and it’s wonderful to see. As we get towards the middle of our year we are amazed at the progress that all the children are making with their learning and all our educators are monitoring closely how they are progressing towards their individual learning goals. Ask an educator how your child is going this week.

For our littlest children, this may be developing those walking and running skills, for the toddlers it’s about sharing, joining in and exploring with more complex toys and older children. For our oldest children we are amazed by their thinking skills and ability to solve real life problems. The most important part of this is that we encourage children to be interested in things......to be curious about their world. If they have that curiosity it will drive their motivation to try new things, to try harder and to learn. At home you can help this curiosity by helping them “see” the world in new ways; pointing out what you see (develops observation skills), talking about what you are doing while you are doing it (develops words and talking) or exploring nature along side your child (showing that noticing the world is important). Simple things, every day. For more examples go to www.greatstart.sa.edu.au

There are lots of ways to encourage children’s learning– some are though activities and excursions, and others are simply through the conversations that you have with children. This year our centre has been focusing on our relationship with children and how we can help them learn through our talking and being with them. Our goal is for all children to feel good, confident and proud of what they can do as this builds their self esteem. We also know, that caring for our children is really important part of our work and so is helping them to learn to be caring too.

If you want to know what’s been going on in the learning you can:

☐ Look at a display
☐ Look at your child’s learning book; lots of learning stories in there!!!!!
☐ Look at the Program (under 3s and Over 3s have different ones on the walls)
☐ Talk to an educator
☐ Stay and watch for a while.

Learning environment development:

You will have seen since the start of the year we have the 2 spaces working really well together. Our new furniture is all in and gives the spaces a natural feel to them and makes it all look roomier. This is important because it is calming for the children, and also has meant we can plan for better activities, times for resting, eating and learning. Our next stage is to update the Over 3s space with some more natural and lighter colourings on the walls so it isn’t so dark. Going into winter this will be wonderful, but also the current wall coverings are aging and need replacing.

Community Events: Community BBQ
Last Friday of school term July 8
Kids will sing again. Look for flyer about this.
Community Programs: Term 3
*Run in the Yellow Unit at Hackham West R-7 School*
We will be running: 3 kinds of groups

**Parenting support: (PS)**
*Circle of Security* aims at helping parents with their relationships with their children.
*Speech and OT* sessions with Tara and Huong

**Fun with children: (FC)**
*Music and movement* sessions, *Playgroups* (Fri, Saturday), *Feeling connected, coffee and chat*
*Family Friendly Fitness*

**Disability support: (DS)**
*Mytime*; supporting families with a child with a disability (or on the path to diagnosis) or chronic health need

Check the flyers on Karen’s door for specific information or watch the flyers near the sign in book.

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**Sickness:**
As the weather changes the number of colds, coughs and asthma often increases. If your child is unwell, please **do not send them** to child care or kindy. A day at our centre is quite demanding and can be much more so if a child is unwell. In addition, I am sure other children and parents will appreciate you keeping germs at home. If your child has asthma, or develops this during the term, they **MUST** have an asthma care plan, signed by their doctor.

Please see Maddy or Bec for a form if necessary.

**Please bring their medication EVERY time they attend**

**Rug up:**
Our children will play outside in all weather so please send enough warm clothes for them. Going outdoors, even when its cold, is important for everyone as it helps everyone release their energies, get fresh healthy air into their bodies which makes us feel better and helps children manage the emotional and social demands of the day by being able to get away and into their own space. We balance in and outdoor play and make sure children are rugged up before they head outside.

Beanies are great instead of child care hats. We have just bought more smocks which will act as raincoats on the drizzly days when children still need to get outside and play. Bring your own wellies or raincoat if you like as well.

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**Recent highlights:**
- Excursion to see the Cows at Hackham West School!!!
- We welcomed in 2 new child care staff this year– Hi Rachel, Micaelah and Selena
- Student involvement from TAFE and Flinders Uni.
- Welcome to our new Family Services Coordinator, Lee
- Community BBQ was a huge success: 71 people came
- Our Center helped run the CIDKIDZ program in the holidays
- New resources and furniture bought for the Centre to enhance learning
- Staff training and development with a focus on the Under 3s emotional development and self regulation
- Redevelopment of the Yellow Unit has begun– new crèche area, new office space and family space upgrade planned for later this term.
- Welcomed 8 new families into child care and 3 into kindy.
- Kindy and child care programs have been rich and exciting for the children. Loads of new songs being learnt and shared at home

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**Word of mouth.**
Thanks to those of you who are recommending our Centre. We have several new enrolments this term which I am sure are the result of your work.

**Please keep talking about us as our numbers really need a boost!**

We have posters to put up if you know a good spot

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**Paying direct debit…**
*Put child’s name as the reference.*

Otherwise we cant credit your account

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