HI EVERYONE,

This term is flying by and we will shortly be meeting with parents for our Half yearly progress reports. If you haven’t made your appointment please see Helen or Wendy soon.

Last week as you know the whole staff team attended the Numeracy Project training on our Pupil Free Day. This is the first day in a project which will continue for the rest of the year. During the morning session the staff team heard from Flinders University Professor Martin Westwell about Executive Functions, which are skills that interact are seen to have long term benefits for children’s learning. These Executive functions are skills which can be developed by support from educators and parents when they are interacting with children. I have attached a handout for your reading on the back of this newsletter to give you a little information about this.

Also attached for your information is a copy of the recently released Preschool Numeracy and Literacy Indicators. This coming Wednesday Helen, Wendy, Charmain and Renee will be attending training together to deepen our understanding of these. Reference will be made to these in your child’s Statement for Learning, both in the half yearly and end of year reports. It shows very clearly how Numeracy and Literacy is not just about 123’s and ABC’s but rather relates to the whole realm of communication, expression and representational thinking and skills. The key elements, indicators and learning processes relate directly the Foundation Year content of the Australian Curriculum used in all schools. At Preschool we aim to build on children’s existing knowledge to assist them to move forward towards school. If you feel that perhaps your child is not progressing as you would expect, or, that you know that your child has further skills than what is indicated in their Statement for Learning, we welcome your comments and input towards their report and Individual Learning Plans.

These last 2 weeks the children have been talking about a range of environmental issues including litter and waste, and finding recycling symbols on packaging. Digging for Dinosaur bones and dinosaur play have been part of our “emergent” curriculum from the children’s interest and this will be further extended this week. Also this week, our Uni SA student, Renee, is doing some science work with the
children around planting and seed growth, as well as planting in our Vegie garden. Charmain has been looking at shape and has been using a wagon wheel as a provocation in her group time. We have also been doing some investigation with balance scales and will further build on this during the week.

Coby’s mum Masako came last Friday to do some Japanese cooking with the children, and on Friday the 5th June we went for a walk to the Zwerner Drive creek bed to look for litter in recognition of World Environment Day. Remember to keep checking the Floorbooks and Weekly Snapshots if you want to see what we have been learning about. Also remember that at any time you want to know how your child is going or if you gave a specific concern about any aspect of their learning, please speak to one of us.

**KINDY PHOTOS UPDATE:**

Kindy Photos are on their way, after a small glitch they will be available for your viewing, purchase and reorder very soon. We will let you know on the sign in table when they are available. You are welcome to come and have a look prior to purchasing however, all photos and reorders must be paid for prior to leaving the kindy. ($40 for 4 in folder or $10 each)

**FEES REMINDER**

Everyone’s fees were due at the end of Week 5, Friday 30th May. Reminders have now been placed in pigeon holes for all outstanding fees. Please pay outstanding fees as soon as possible.

We ask that fees be paid by the due date to assist with our payment of Utilities, purchasing of basic resources and upkeep of our Preschool. We are hoping to soon purchase new chairs for kindy to give our kindy a much needed facelift, as the existing ones are looking old and outdated. However currently we are only just keeping up with expenses such as cleaning, gardening and materials, and so we can not yet purchase our chairs. Please pay your fees, it is only fair to the families that pay theirs promptly.

**DONATIONS:** To help keep our costs down can you help us out with a box of tissues or a pack of toilet paper. These small donations are one less thing we need to buy.

This year we are hoping all parents will participate in our parent teacher interviews at the end of the term/beginning of term 3. Please return this slip to make a booking. You will receive this slip back with a confirmed time and date on it for your information.

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**Please confirm with us which School your child will be attending:**

Schools are starting to get organised for classes for next year, please can you confirm with us which school your child will be attending. Hallett Cove School in particular is asking for names for enrolment packs and other schools will be soon too. If you haven’t decided yet that’s ok just let us know

| Child Name: | School: |