WELCOME TO KINDY FOR 2016.

Hello Everybody, The children are starting to settle into the routines of Kindy and are getting to know each of their teachers, as well as make some new friends. We have been trying to get to know each of the children and finding out what they like to do.

FYI, A little bit about our routine: Each day our timetable may be a little different but it follows the same basic pattern.

8:30-9:00am Arrive at Kindy. Play inside until the yard has been checked and all staff team have arrived.

9-10 Inside & outside play
10-10:15 Group time with teachers followed by AM snack time.
10:45-12 Indoor outdoor play learning
12-1 Group time, followed by lunch, quiet time(a video or book)
1-2:15 Indoor outdoor play
2:15-2:40 Pack up time
2:40-3:15. Group time, PM snack and story time

We try very hard to have a flexible drop off and pick up time to support working parents and parents with a “school run” for their other children but please remember the safety of our children is most important; we do not want children outside at any time without either you or their teachers. Please always
- say goodbye to your child
- bring your child inside before you leave
- let us know if you see any child outside without a teacher and
- only let your child out the gate as you enter or leave.

If your child is upset (and this could happen anytime) please talk to us and we will be more than happy to support you and them in any way we can. Please be aware if there is an child standing near the gate, especially if they look upset, bring them to the attention of a teacher immediately.

Similarly, if they are tired let them have a sleep in or give them a short day and pick them up early.

TERM 1 DIARY DATES

Wk3 Family Pages will be sent home
Wk 4 Living Eggs
- Kindy Fees Due
Wk 6- Wed 9th March
7pm-Governing Council Annual General Meeting
Wk 7 Adelaide Cup P/Hol
Wk 8 Indigenous Storyteller
Wk8 Tue 22/3 CAYH 4yr old checks at kindy
EASTER 25-28/3/16

FRIDAY KINDY DATES

Group 1 Mon/Tuesday
19th Feb, 4th March, 18th March, 1st April, 15th April
or 1st April, 15th April

Group 2 Wed /Thursday
26th Feb, 14th March, 8th April
Annual General Meeting: 9th March 7pm. All parents, grandparents welcome....

We are hoping to secure a guest speaker about children’s wellbeing/learning. You will get to hear what has been achieved at HC preschool in 2015 and what is in the pipeline for 2016. We will also be electing our new Governing Council for 2016, a great way to have your say about what happens at kindy. We welcome your questions and/or nominations.

NATURE EDUCATION CREATURES.
This week we have Bruce the Blue Tongue Skink at our Kindy. He will be returned to the Nature Education Centre on Wednesday and we are collecting a Bearded Dragon to have at Kindy for the next 2 weeks.

Our own chickens and ducks are laying lots of eggs for us. Did you know we sell our Kindy Hen Free Range eggs for $3.50 per dozen. Ask a staff member if you would like to purchase some.

On the 22nd of Feb we are expecting our annual delivery from Living Eggs. We watch a new lot of chicks hatch from their eggs.

***Yertle our Turtle will be back soon too. Thank you to Denver’s family for looking after him in the holidays.

Our Draft 2016 Quality Improvement Plan will soon be on display for your comments and feedback. (Parent Info area by the main door)

Do you have a suggestion let us know?

DONATIONS: Each Term
We ask for donations of some everyday items for use at kindy.

This term we are asking for Toilet Paper, Tissues, Paper Towel

When you are shopping you may like to buy an extra packet to donate to us.

We also welcome any interesting bits, boxes and other making craft items you may have sitting around at home. Unfortunately we cannot accept polystyrene, toilet rolls, and medicine packaging.

If you have a special craft or skills you would like to share with the children we would love to hear from you.

If you have any unwanted clothing at home
We currently need spare Summer clothes size 4+

CAYHS 4 YEAR OLD HEALTH CHECKS

On Tue 22nd March, our regular CAYH Health Nurse Andrena is coming to do Health Checks at the Kindy. If your child has not yet had their 4 year old check and you would like them to, we can highly recommend making an appointment. She will check your child’s development for height weight, hearing and vision. She can also answer any questions/ concerns you may have about aspects of your child’s behavior and age appropriateness.

We have been told that GPs are no longer doing Health Checks and they usually do not do the vision/hearing tests which is important to check prior to starting school.
Skills of Independence

We know it is early days yet but it seems some of the children are not yet confident with a whole range of self help skills which we thought you may be able to help practice with your children. We also know many of the children are still young, and will develop these skills with time. However, one of most independent children at kindy this year is not even 4 yet but because she has been taught the skills she knows how to do many things for herself! So, what sorts of things are we talking about?

For some children this is about putting away their jumper when they get hot, being responsible with their hat or shoes when they take them off to put them in the right place, or how to put socks and shoes back on again.

For others it may be their toileting routine, including wiping their own bottoms.

These are skills they need to be taught and to practice. At kindy we encourage children to be independent and we will help them if needed. However, it is also about them developing confidence in their own skills of independence.

At kindy we will encourage all children to do things such as

- Put on their socks and shoes, (we will gladly do up shoe laces and buckle)
- Apply their own sunscreen at lunch time
- Put their hats, jumpers away in their bags
- Put their lunch boxes and drink bottles away in their trays
- Place their shoes in the red shoe tub near the sand pit when they take them off.
- Help to pack up
- Clean up a mess if they make one
- Write their name on their work so they know it is theirs

In the bathroom we will ask your child to:

- Go to the toilet, not in the garden
- Go alone, Shut the door for privacy
- Wipe themselves if they can
- Flush after they are finished
- Wash their hands, every time.

All of these things take time to learn and with quiet encouragement and a little persistence they will get there.

Please help us help your child and practice these types of things with them at home.

We know that sometimes it is quicker to do it yourself but they need opportunities to practice and that’s where kindy is a good year to practice ahead of going to school.

Thank you for support in this and don’t forget to talk to us if you have a specific problem in this area.

PS We are very proud of some of the children who...
Children’s FAMILY PAGES

Next week as part of our focus on the children’s SENSE of IDENTITY, we will be sending home an A3 page divided into 2 sections. It is basically a page just for your child to share with us about them and your family. 1 half is dedicated just to them and what they like to do, the other to who is in your family including extended family and pets. Please identify it clearly with your child’s name and then with some images; photos, drawings etc.

The page will be folded so please keep photos and other things off the centre line so it can eventually go into your child’s folder.

KINDY ROSTERS

Each term we also ask for Parent helpers to help with the following rosters to help lighten our load.

- Weekend Chicken and Duck roster
- Weekly Washing
- Cooking with the children.

We would love to have your help out and the children enjoy you being involved.

Please make sure your child has their hat and sunscreen each day!

☆ Also please send 1-2 spare sets of clothes as we will be getting wet and mucky in the sandpit and planting our vegie garden going!

☆ Please make sure your child’s bag has their name somewhere clearly on it, so teachers can identify it. (But not so large that it may endanger their safety from strangers)

☆ LASTLY, VERY IMPORTANT HEALTH ALERT 1

Due to children’s allergies please Please do not send any nuts or nut products or boiled eggs or egg sandwiches to kindy.

Boiled eggs are very crumbly and pieces can fall a long way from the table. As they pose a serious threat for some children it is safer not to have them at kindy at all. Thank you for your help in this matter.

HEALTH ALERT 2

We have had a child at kindy this week diagnosed with Glandular Fever. Please see the notice board for the symptoms.

Thank you to everyone who has paid their Kindy Fees already. Remember you can pay by cash, cheque or online.
Kindy T-Shirts can be paid by the same methods.

Thank you for a great start to the year and I hope you and your child are enjoying kindy. Please let us know if there is a problem.