



St. Dunstan's Preschool

Newsletter August 2018.

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

It has been lovely to see parents coming in to help in the kitchen. We have also had some wonderful parents sharing some cooking and craft talents with the children. We also appreciate the support of the families at working bees. Most of the children have been on excellent adventures in the term break and we have enjoyed sharing the photos and stories in their black books at "show and tell" time.

Morning/Afternoon tea changes for this term

To assist our children with the transition to school process, we have introduced the following morning tea changes for this term:

- The children bringing their own morning tea.

"Please bring an individual morning tea for your child. Your child's morning tea should be a **healthy** snack such as fruit, cheese and crackers or vegetable fingers etc. The morning tea should be kept in your child's bag which they can collect at morning tea time (just like at school)". We have included some fact sheets you may find helpful for choosing nutritious lunches and snacks for your child.

As you are aware, some supermarkets have made a significant positive change to the way we shop to help our environment by going plastic free. It would also help our environment if you could send children's food in reusable containers rather than prepackaged or plastic wraps and bags. This is a good opportunity to talk to your child/children about how and why the changes have come about and the benefits to the environment we live in.

- A progressive morning tea format.

There will be an allocated time and the children can choose to eat their morning tea within that time.

- During and following morning tea time, the children can play inside or outside, therefore, mixing with the other group.

Thank you. Esther.

NSW Health Department, Munch and Move program says "Live Life Well."

Here are a rundown of all the final events for this year.

- Steps eye testing this week and next week for the Haizi group.
- Family Fun Day
TBC 11am – 1pm
More information to follow
- Zoo mobile (a visit from Taronga Zoo) Tues 7 Aug and Fri 10 Aug.
- Paramedic visit. Wed 15 Aug. 2 day TBC.
- Nurse Noelene visit Tues 21 August & Thursday 23 August.
- Book week celebrations. Wed. 22 Aug & Fri 24 Aug.
- Visitors' days: Wed 29 Aug & Fri 31 Aug. 9am – 11am.

Book week celebrations

We are encouraging all the children and staff to bring their favourite book to preschool and to dress as a character from the book. Wed 22 Aug & Fri 24 Aug.

Visitors Day

Every year we enjoy inviting visitors to our preschool. The visitors can be your child's grandparents, relative, neighbour or anyone who is important to your child. The

children make morning tea, share the preschool activities with them and then we have a short concert. Please tell your visitors to put the following dates in their diaries. Wed 29 and Fri 31 August from 9am -11am.

Assessment and Rating September 2018.

We have been notified by the Department of Education that our Assessment and Rating visit will be in the month of September.

“Assessment and Rating is designed to support continuous quality improvement in the provision of early childhood education and care services. The assessment process allows services to demonstrate how their practices meet the requirements of the National Quality Standards. Authorised officers from the Department of Education follow a structured assessment process to determine the rating of services in NSW.”

We had our last assessment and rating 5 years ago and achieved an Exceeding rating in all 7 quality areas. I am confident that with the support of the wonderful team at the preschool that we will do well again.
Julie

Family communication board

The Early Years Learning Framework highlights the importance of working in partnership with families. “Children thrive when families and educators work together in partnership to support young children’s learning”. (DEEWR, 2009 pg. 9)

Recently we have had parents and grandparents visiting us to share cooking and craft with the children. We would like more family visitors, so please consider visiting the preschool and sharing an activity with the children.

Michelle

DEEWR (2009) *Being, belonging, becoming: The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia*: Commonwealth of Australia.

Sun safe reminders

With the warmer months coming up please continue to remember to bring your child’s hat. Remember to apply sun screen on your child for morning play protection. Sun screen, broad spectrum 50+, will be available for you to use at the outside sink and on top of children’s lockers, which you can apply when you arrive at preschool. The staff will be helping children to apply sunscreen for outside play later in the day. It is now part of our daily practice to follow sun smart practices when the Ultra Violet (UV) index is above 3. We would also like to remind you to dress your child in appropriate clothing for outdoor play in the sun. Sun smart clothing requirements are that, shoulders are covered, long sleeves, collars on shirts and long pants being sensible options.

Car park safety

We are having increased reports of damage to cars in the carpark. If you damage a car or witness an incident please report it to a staff member.

Always reverse park into our parking spaces.

We have also had some concerns expressed from families regarding the supervision of children in the car park. Please ensure that you are holding your child’s hand at all times and do not gather in the middle of the carpark to chat.

The car park is a **10KM shared zone** please keep to this speed limit at all times. Please consider our families with Additional Need children and only use the disabled parking place if you have a Disabled Parking Pass.

Thank you.

All the friendly staff are here to help you, so please feel free to approach any of us if you have questions.

Julie, Michelle, Maxine, Stacey, Esther, Terrie, Sephine, Young and Simone.

