



St. Dunstan's Preschool

Newsletter September 2019.

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 experiences 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.

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

- Police visit Mon 9 Sept and Thursday 12 Sept.
- Nurse Noelene visit Thursday TBC
- Visitors' days: Wed 11 Sept & Fri 13 Sept. 9am – 11am.
- Zoo mobile (a visit from the Taronga Zoo, Animals of the Dreaming by Colin Hardy OAM) Mon 21 Oct and Fri 25 Oct.
- Family Fun Day Saturday 26 Oct, 11am – 1pm
- Denistone East school excursion TBC
- Last day/party days finishes at 1pm
3 day group Wed 18 Dec
2 day group Fri 13 Dec

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 placed on top of your child's locker which they can collect at morning tea time (just like at school).

- A progressive morning tea format.

There is 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.

- The 2 day children will also require a separate small snack for afternoon tea

Litter free lunches

As a part of our sustainability practices at the preschool we are now encouraging waste free lunches for the children.

Terrie has found some interesting information together with some ideas as to how you can support us in decreasing waste. We have attached a fact sheet to this email and further information can be obtained on

<https://healthy-kids.com.au/waste-free-lunch/>

Visitors Day

Every year we enjoy inviting visitors to our preschool. The visitors can be yourselves, the 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 11 Sept and Fri 13 Sept, from 9am -11am.

VISITORS DAY SCHEDULE 2019

9am Visitors and children arrive.

The Grandparents/ Visitors can play both indoors and outdoors with their child.

10am Pack away ready for morning tea which we will have together.

Welcome to preschool: Julie

Acknowledgement of Country: Maxine

10.30am Assemble for the presentation of songs and dances.

11am Sadly, time to leave.

Working Bee changes

Earlier this year we planned a working bee for Saturday 26th Oct. unfortunately we have to move that working bee to the week before, Saturday 19th October 9-11am.

This allows us to have our Family Fun Day on the 26th and without clashing with the Granny Smith Festival.

If you are able to assist us on Saturday 19th October 9 – 11 am, please see Stacey.

Tea towel fundraiser

Michelle Tannous (Emilie's Mum) has generously organised a tea Towel fundraiser for the preschool. The tea towels will feature your child's artwork with their name and age. The cost is \$20 per tea towel and they will make excellent gifts and keepsakes for family and friends. More information regarding ordering will be placed in your child's note pocket this week, with a sample tea towel on display.

Tracky Dack day

Thank you for supporting the Preschool fundraising ventures.

We are happy to report that we are able to donate \$150 to TLC Kids, supporting sick children and their families in hospital.

Tuning into Kids workshop

We are into week 4 of the Tuning into Kids (Emotionally Intelligent Parenting) Workshop and there has been positive

feedback from both the parents and the staff members who are attending.

The main theme of the workshops has been to learn and practice strategies in order to create a strong emotional bond between parents and children, so children are more responsive to their parents' requests.

Esther has found another course for Korean families starting in September, more information has been attached to this email.

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 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.

Transition to school information

At this time, many of our families are choosing primary schools for their children for next year. It is important to find the school where your child learns best and they are supported in an environment which gives them joy.

Stacey found an interesting article in her local newspaper, we have attached a copy as it provides excellent questions that you can ask during your school visits.

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, particularly staff 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.

Most importantly: do not leave children of any age unattended in the car.

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.

