

## CENTRE INFORMATION

Our new families and children have settled in and we are excited to begin the year as we plan and prepare motivating and engaging experiences for all children at JumpStart. Our yearly calendar is well under way and we have planned several incursions to arouse children's creativity as they use their imagination and engage in hands on experiences to ask questions to extend their awareness, interests and knowledge in respect to the world around them. We remind all families that the yearly calendar will be available for families in the foyer mid- February.

Miss Justine will take holidays from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February and return on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

## CREATIVE KIDS VOUCHER



The NSW Government is helping kids get creative with the new Creative Kids program. Parents,

guardians and carers can apply for a voucher with a value of up to \$100 per calendar year for each student aged 4.5 to 18 years old enrolled in school. If parents have older children enrolled in primary and secondary school, they may like to investigate this program.

The voucher may be used with a registered activity provider for registration, participation and tuition costs for creative arts, speech, drama, dance, digital design, coding, and music lessons and activities. (NQA 1,3, 5, 6, & 7)

[https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-creative-kids-voucher?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIsoClisTI3wIVUB0rCh2cIguOEAAAYASADEgI5KPD\\_BwE](https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-creative-kids-voucher?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIsoClisTI3wIVUB0rCh2cIguOEAAAYASADEgI5KPD_BwE)

## WELCOME AFTERNOON TEA FRIDAY 15<sup>th</sup> FEBRAURY 4:00pm PLEASE CONFORM ATTENDANCE WITH EDUCATORS LIST IN FOYER



We invite all our families to join us for our Welcome Afternoon Tea on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February.

The children will prepare a short presentation and will provide their attending families with a small gift as we commence our new year. This is a great opportunity for families to meet other families, connect with educators and see the progress that their child has undertaken by viewing their first portfolio entries. We encourage all families to attend and we look forward to spending the afternoon with children and families. To assist with catering, we ask that all families confirm their attendance during the first week in February on the list located in the foyer. (NQA 5, 6, & 7)

## COUNTRY OF THE MONTH: AUSTRALIA

Throughout the month of January, we have been exploring Australia and the Australian culture. Across the Busy Bee and Playful Possum room the children have been singing our National Anthem "Advance Australia Fair" and "Waltzing Matilda." The Playful Possums



Australian flag and talking about the colours that are represented on our flag. Decorating Australian animals by

using our creative skills to choose craft items and colour choices was extended as children developed their fine motor skills as they completed dot art work that is reflective of art design used in Aboriginal paintings.

The Busy Bees were excited to make some delicious cheese and vegemite scrolls.



They painted our Australian flag, completed dot paintings on leaves

and created the Aboriginal flag using their handprints as they reflected on culture. The Playful Possums enjoyed cooking "Milo" biscuits. The children used their counting skills as they added the ingredients before taking it in turns at mixing the ingredients together. Tasting the Milo throughout the experience was a treat for all the Possums.



The Baby Bunyips listened to Australian music including the national anthem and waltzing matilda and read books based on Australia. Through these experiences they developed their creative skills, and expanded their knowledge of the world we live in. They enjoyed cooking a traditional Australian Damper as they assisted their educators in placing ingredients into the bowl and mixing them together, exploring their sensory skills and



mathematical concepts of more and less. (NQA 1,3, 5, 6, & 7)

## ROOM STIMULUS AREAS: BUSY BEES:

1. Chinese New Year
2. Emotions
3. Weather
4. Music



Throughout the month of January, the Busy Bees have been settling into their new room and routine. They have really enjoyed learning all about Australia and have done well learning the songs *The Australian National Anthem*, *Waltzing Matilda* and *the Wombat Wobble*. They have also enjoyed reading some different books including *Aussie, Aussie, Aussie* and a Dreamtime story called *When the Snake Bit the Sun*. The Busy Bees showed their creative skills through art and craft as they took part in doing dot paintings on leaves and making different types of Aboriginal and Australian flags.

During the month of February, the Busy Bees



will be learning about emotions and how to express them. They will also experiment with musical instruments and develop their knowledge of tempo and volume. This will be enhanced through our incursion on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February when the children will explore musical instruments from around the world. (NQA 1,3, 5, 6, & 7)

Please remember to bring in a **FAMILY PHOTO** and pass on to the room staff so we can create a family display in the Busy Bees room.



## **SCHOOL READINESS FOCUS**

### **LITERACY: SOUNDS LETTERS MAKE :**



During the Month of February, the children will be focusing on the Letter A, M, S , T. It is important that families use these sounds at home.

Perhaps play a game of “eye spy” and encourage children to identify these letters and sounds as you read to your child.

**NUMERACY:** Our school readiness program focuses on identifying numbers from flash cards, bingo game and number tracing sheets to develop their writing and cognitive skills. We



encourage children to count by starting with pictures on large flash cards, counting using hands on materials such as colourful counters and by using

spinners and dice to identify numbers and their collection of groupings. Children are encouraged to identify numbers through simple games like musical chairs, where numbers are placed on chairs with children having to identify numbers during a play- based experience.

**CONCEPT:** We are focusing on numbers 2, 3, 4, 5 and shapes circle, triangle, rectangle and oval. We will also focus on different colours in February like blue, green, yellow, orange. Repetition of these skills will be enhanced with parents using these concepts in their home environments with children.

### **SIGHT WORDS**

**A I me and in  
my it is little big**

The above sight words will be introduced to children . Parents may like to reinforce these words at home by asking flash cards , reading these in books or simple asking children to show families the learning that is displayed in the Busy Bee room .

**Pre-Lit:** The pre-lit program focuses on children’s pre-literacy skills. In February we are focusing on 6 books which are “Dear Zoo”, “Aaaarrgghh, spider”, “The very hungry caterpillar”, “Found you little Wombat”,

“giraffe Can’t Dance”, “I Know a Rhino”. In these books, we start by introducing the front page, back page and title of the book and then asking children to participate in the questions about it. The educators also talk about the focus sight word and letter of the week if children are able to find from the text. We take pauses to make children understand the vocabulary words.

We ask children at the end “what do they like about the book?” Educators talk about the simple concepts that come in the book like heavy or light and big or small and relating them to their daily life experiences. We close the session by revising the focus sight words that children learnt during the pre-lit session.

### **BUSY BEES NEWS**

We encourage children to bring something from home on their news day. It can be any photo, their favourite book , their art and craft or sharing any experience like



what they did at the weekend? We encourage children to speak in front of their peers to develop their confidence in speaking. Other children are encouraged to ask questions to the child presenting news. Each child is designated a particular news day which is displayed on the chart located on the door of Busy Bee room.

We request parents to prepare your child by providing at item for their news day and practicing their talk at home to build their confidence. We ask that toys be left at home as these can be damaged.

### **SIGN IN STATION BUSY BEES:**

We encourage children to identify their names located in the box with the support of their parents. Take out your child’s name and assist



them in tracing their name on the laminated cards. At the end, they leave it on the **BEES IN side.**

During pick up time, parents can help their child to put their name card back in the box on **BEES OUT side.** (NQA 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7)

**COMPANION BEARS BUSY BEES & PLAYFUL POSSUMS**



**WAYNE WINCH will be visiting Obadiah, Ilona and Brandon and TOMMY TENNIS will be visiting Maisie, Sebastian and Thisali. Please remember to return him after 1 week. We can't wait to see all the adventures he goes on. A REMINDER TO ALL FAMILIES THAT THE COMPANION BEAR MUST BE RETURNED AT THE END OF EACH WEEK. (NQA 1,3, 5, 6, & 7)**

**PLAYFUL POSSUMS**

- 1) Chinese New Year
  - 2) Transport
  - 3) Circus
  - 4) Music
- Throughout the month of January the Playful Possums loved dressing up role playing as well as using their imaginative skills in the dramatic play area.



**Concept:**

Throughout February the children will be focusing on gender looking at the difference between a girl and boy. The children will identify as one gender.

**Numeracy and Literacy:**

Throughout February the children will be focusing on the number 2 and 3 looking at groupings of 2 and 3



2 as in 2 butterflies



3 as in 3 hearts

We will be investigating the colours red and blue and the shapes circle and square.



During the Month of February, the focus will be on Chinese New Year having the children explore the Chinese culture through arts and craft and cooking experiences. Please don't forget to bring in your family photo for our family tree.

**BABY BUNYIPS:**

1-2: Musical instruments



3-4: Farm animals



Through the month of January, we focused on helping the children settle back into routine and encouraged them to get to know each other through group activities including construction, dancing, bubbles and music. Some of the new children are still trying to find their feet and we will continue to build relationships with them to help them feel confident and comfortable in their new environment.

During the month of February we will focus on musical instruments. Music brings the children together, developing their social skills, creativity, exploration skills and developing knowledge of sound and tempo.



We will be focusing on farm animals using dramatic play experiences, songs and music to capture their interest and

teach them the names of different animals and the sounds each of them makes. This will assist in developing the language and communication skills of the children.

**YARNING BOOK:**

We use our Yarning book to share stories with families about



their children while in care, the families then can take the yarning book home for 1 week and share some of their child's interests from home with us. Once it's returned we will send it out to another family. Kalani and Ryker will be the first children to share their stories. (NQA 1,2,3,4, 5, 6, &7)

## OUTDOOR PLAY FUNDAMENTAL MOVEMENTS

Throughout the month of February, we will be focusing on the Fundamental Movement Skill (FMS) of 'Skipping'. Children will learn the basic concepts and skills in relation to skipping with encouragement and support from educators. The children will participate in games involving skipping such as 'skipping, run, skip stop' and pretending to be horses as they engage in mini activities. Skipping skills are reinforced during indoor activities as children skip from one activity to the next. Parents are encouraged to practice these skills with their children at home so that can develop these skills with accuracy and precision. (NQA 1,2,3,4,5,6&7.



(NQA 1,2,3,4, 5, 6, &7)

## HEALTHY EATING CHAMPIONS



We thank parents who are encouraging healthy food choices by offering fresh fruits and vegetables for children each day. Cheese and vegetable sticks, salad sandwiches, yoghurt and crackers low in fat and sugar support children's nutrition.

We remind families that chip, chocolates, products containing nuts, shell fish and whole eggs are not permitted at the centre.

## COUNTRY OF THE MONTH

### CHINA THE YEAR OF THE PIG

During February the children will engage in cooking experiences and craft activities to reflect Chinese culture. We



invite families to share their culture, through story, craft, songs and recipes as we broaden our awareness, respect and appreciation of all cultures.



## FREE SOCCER DEMONSTRATION

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February  
10:30 am

We will be inviting children to take part in a free soccer trial on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb for children in the Possums and Vees room. Parents who would like their child to take part in the soccer program can nominate a day on the sheet located in the foyer. The Fee is \$90 for a 30-minute session that runs for a school term and hosted at JumpStart 4 kids at around 10:00am on the nominated day. For a class to run there will need to be at least 8 children on the day. Parents can take a flyer located in the foyer and can speak to staff for further information. Having active kids creates healthy minds and bodies. (NQA 1,2, 3, 5, 6, & 7)



## Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February VALENTINES DAY

As a service we celebrate Valentine's day to support children in understanding and identifying the people who care about them and the significance of saying thankyou to those people. As the children explore feelings through the month of February it is important that children understand the concepts of love.

This means speaking nicely to our friends, taking turns, saying thankyou and asking our friends and family if they can help with tasks. We wish all our families a vey special day as they express their kindness and love for those around them. (NQA 1, 5, 6, & 7)

## MUSIC AROUND THE WORLD

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 10:00am



This hands-on show will engage children in variety of musical instruments from around the world. Children will

explore different sounds and tempos and will continue this experience by making a variety of musical instruments from donated recyclable material. Families will be charged an additional \$10 for this incursion. Non-attending children and welcome to take part in this experience with an accompanying adult.

## EMERGENCY EVACUATION

DRILLS Week  
18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>  
February



To support children with safety we will be conducting emergency evacuation drills each day for the week commencing 18<sup>th</sup> February. This will ensure that all children have experienced an emergency evacuation drill and that they are familiar with exiting the building if a situation occurs. We remind families that they may like to speak with their children at home about these experiences and discuss possible exit points and evacuation meeting points in case an evacuation is required in their home setting. (NQA 1,2,3, 5, 6, & 7)

## EASTER EGG DONATIONS

We ask that all families donate an Easter Egg to our Easter Egg raffle . Please place your donated Easter Egg in the baskets in the Foyer by Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.



## QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

### PARENT FEE STATEMENTS

As part of our quality Improvement plan for 2019 we will be sustainably responsible by reducing paper statements with electronic statements. Parents will receive electronic statements for January during the first week in February. Parents who do not receive a statement are asked to speak to Maree or John so that we can amend or add your email address correctly. (NQA 12,3,4, 5, 6, & 7)

## PEST TREATMENT:

To ensure the continued safety of children the centre will have a pest treatment on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February after close down to ensure that children are safe from spiders and crawling pests. The centre conducts daily check each morning and afternoon to monitor both the indoor and outdoor setting for safety. (NQA 2)

## DONATIONS

We are always appreciative of Donations for our Raffles and recyclable items that we can reuse for our craft, indoor and outdoor play experiences. If families have received any unwanted gift over the Christmas period, please consider the centre as we prepare for our Mother's Day Raffle.

★ HAPPY ★  
BIRTHDAY!

*Bees - Kamel 3/2&Emiliana 27/2*

*Possums - Thisali 26/2*

*You're Invited!*

## FINAL THOUGHT

*Congratulations to all our children who have settled in so well over the last 3 weeks. We are excited to see all our families at our Welcome afternoon Tea on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February at 4:00pm so we can celebrate and showcase the uniqueness of each child. Please join us for this very special event. We have great hopes and aspirations for all the children in our care, so take the time to speak with educators and our wonderful families that make JumpStart 4kids such a great place.*

**JUMPSTART 4 KIDS**

**STAFF**