

Newsletter No 1, 2020 JANUARY

CENTRE INFORMATION



Welcome to all our new and returning families for 2020. After the Christmas break many families are returning to work and settling into

their routines for the year. Our first few weeks support new families and children to settle into their new environments. This is a time to ask questions and to seek assistance to ensure that all children and families are settled into care. We invite all families to speak with educators in their child's room during morning and afternoon sessions, remembering that all questions are important, so please ask. Throughout the year we will have a number of community events and occasions to meet each other as we share thoughts, ideas and interests.

2020 STAFFING

Directors: Mr John and Miss Maree
Nominated Supervisor: Miss Ashley
Educational Leader: Miss Maree
Bunyips Room Leader: Miss Manu
Bunyips Room Staff: Miss Francesca
Playful Possums Room Leader: Miss Ashley
Playful Possums Room Staff: Miss Rhiddhi, & Miss Amber
Busy Bees Early Childhood Teacher:
Miss Maree
Busy Bees Room Leader:
Miss Jaina
Busy Bees Room Staff: Miss Trish, Miss Bethany
Trainee: Miss Jamie - Lee
Trainee: TBA
 (NQA 1,2,3,4, 5, 6, &7)



PARENT INPUT



We invite all families to contribute to our centre by volunteering throughout the year. Parents have a wealth of

expertise and skills, so please don't be shy. Offering time to support your child builds educator's awareness of culture, celebration and traditions and enriches our Jumpstart community. Through January educators across all rooms will be asking families to complete their child's **Knowing Me** sheet. During these informal discussions we would love to hear each family's ideas and thoughts as we plan our programming experiences for each child. Our **Individual Outcome** sheets assist educators in identifying the goals and skills that each family is supporting in collaboration with educator as we consult, revise and consolidate experiences over the coming weeks.

COUNTRY OF THE MONTH AUSTRALIA - SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY



The recent bushfires have highlighted the essence of community and our bond in helping others in need. To support those in need

we would be appreciative if families could donate any bottles or cans so that we can make a centre contribution to Sydney Zoo. Please place your donate cans and bottles in the bin located in the foyer. (NQA 1,3, 5, 6, &7)

Every Can and Bottle counts

In January we will be celebrating Australia and with the recent and ongoing bushfires children will be concerned for the plight of our Australian fauna and flora.

Children will explore our native animals and will build advocacy as they actively take part in supporting animals who need assistance and care during this time. This experience will allow children to feel that their actions make a difference and that they are contributing to help those in need. We will collect money from our donated bottles and cans over the coming 4 weeks and send this with an accompanying card

from our JumpStart children as we support our native wildlife. Australia has many animals that are unique to our country. Animals such as the Koala and the Kangaroo are part of our world identity. The children will develop their understanding of Australian culture and engage in craft, cooking, reading, music and group activities representative of our Australian culture. We will invite children to learn the Australian National Anthem as we celebrate Australia throughout January.

AUSTRALIA DAY PUBLIC



HOLIDAY

The Australia Day Public holiday will be observed on Monday 27th

January with the centre closing for this day. We wish all our families a fantastic day of celebrations with family and friends.

WELCOME AFTERNOON TEA

FRIDAY 14th

FEBRUARY

4:00pm



We invite all our families to join us on

Valentine's Day afternoon to share afternoon tea. The children will present a welcome song and book reading to families on our outdoor stage. We invite mums, dads, grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends and neighbours to this event. Children spend a great deal of time in preparing for these events and their faces certainly light up when they see their family members there. This is a great time to speak with educators and meet other families. We look forward to seeing all our families at this event and thank families in advance for their continuing support of the centre by their attendance on the day. Each family will receive a gift from their child on the day. Non attending families are welcome to attend with their child for our Welcome Afternoon Tea. (NQA 1,5, 6, &7)

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

2020 (NQA 1,2,3,4, 5, 6, &7)

1 Educational program and practice

2 Children's health and safety

3 Physical environment

4 Staffing arrangements

5 Relationships with children

6 Collaborative partnerships with families and communities

7 Governance and leadership

Each year we develop goals to improve our service to support children, families and community. This continual reflection and cycle allow educators and families to work

together to improve and meet the needs of families at our centre. In 2020 our main focus will be on literacy and numeracy. Literacy allows children to explore, find and develop understanding through discovery and play. Throughout February and March families will be invited to add comments and suggestions to each of these quality areas as we consult and liaise with families to make each child's experiences positive and meaningful through rich and engaged learning. Our Quality Improvement Plan will be visually displayed in our hallway for all families to view.



ROOM STIMULUS AREAS:

BUSY BEES:

1. **Knowing our new friends**
2. **Exploring our families**
3. **Celebrating our Nation -Australia**



Throughout the month of January, the Busy Bees will focus on identifying and reading their first name using name cards.

We would be appreciative if families could bring in a photo of their family for our room display.

This builds a connection with their home and school environment and allows children who may be missing family an opportunity to find comfort throughout the day. We will be discovering animals and plants that are unique to Australia.



We will sing Australian favourites such as Waltzing Matilda, Click goes the Shears and the Wombat wobble. We will celebrate our Aboriginal history through arts and craft and respectfully acknowledge the traditional landowners -Darug custodians on which our centre resides as we celebrate Australia.

Busy Bees - WHAT TO BRING FOR YOUR CHILD

Parents are reminded to bring each day:

- **Hat**
- **Drink bottle**
- **Sheets if your child is not attending primary school next year**

Please ensure that all items for your child are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Children in the Busy Bees room are encouraged to develop their self-help and fine motor skills by packing and unpacking their own food from their lunch bag/box. Please provide children with a sandwich, wrap or roll, fruit and a healthy option for morning and afternoon tea. Food in the Busy Bees room is not heated as they prepare for school.

Children will be offered milk and water at all mealtimes. We remind families that juice, poppers or cordial will not be offered but returned home to support oral hygiene and healthy food options for young children.

Parents may wish to visit the below website for healthy lunch box suggestions for children in care environments.
<https://www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au/teachers-childcare/food-and-nutrition.aspx>



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

STARTING SCHOOL IN 2021

Children who commence school in 2021 will be encouraged to engage in quiet reading and table activities during the after-lunch rest period. Children will be offered a rest if required, with educators using this opportunity to focus on small group-based activities to develop numeracy, literacy, inquiry, questioning and investigation skills through play-based activities as children build school readiness skills.

SCHOOL READINESS FOCUS

LITERACY FOCUS. PHONICS:

Each week children will have a letter name and sound introduced using play-based activities.

2 sight words from the Dolch sight word list will support children with the most commonly used

words to support early stage reading skills. This program will commence on the 3rd February. A window display will allow families to identify which sounds are being introduced each week. We encourage families to play Eye Spy and matching games at home to support understanding and knowledge of letter names and sounds as they build early literacy foundations.

NUMERACY:

We begin with 1 and progress throughout the year to count up to 30 with grouping combinations up to 20. It is important that children can identify numbers in groups and in written form. Counting must have meaning and be identified by groupings.



Count out the number of beans on their plate at dinner. Count the number of flowers on a rose bush.

Simple counting in every day experiences will support children in developing numeracy skills.

CONCEPT:

Our concept groups focus on shapes, colours matching, patterns, lengths, space and volume. Children participate in interactive games such as shape/colour hunts to identify targeted shapes and colours. Families can extend on these experiences at home to build skills across different learning environments as we work collaboratively with families.



Reading each night to your child and playing games developing awareness of letter sounds which will support children build the foundations of these concepts as they move towards their formal educational years. Parents are invited to speak with educators to discuss ideas and strategies as we work together in 2020.

Families may like to view the below schedule that will be implemented on the week commencing 3rd February. (NQA 1,2,3,4, 5, 6, &7)

Sight word:	Sight Word:	Letter/ Sound:	Number:	Shape:	Colour:
A	And	A	1	Square	Red
I	Me	M	2	Circle	Blue
My	In	S	3	Triangle	Green
Is	It	T	4	Rectangle	Yellow
Big	Little	I	5	Oval	Orange



Pre-Lit part of the Multi Lit Series

The Pre-Lit Program from Multi-Lit developed at Macquarie University supports children in preschools to build literacy skills for their first year of formal schooling. The Pre-Lit Kit includes 108 short, clearly prescribed lessons that incorporates phonological awareness activities and oral blending and segmentation activities for children through play-based activities.



Each activity is 15-20 minutes and designed to be delivered each day. To support this program, we remind families

to read to their child each night and to introduce letter sounds in the order that is displayed in the above grid. This program will commence on February 3rd, 2020.

BUSY BEES NEWS

Each child in the Busy Bees room will be allocated a day of the week to represent News to their peers. A picture, photo, book, drawing or artwork is requested rather than a toy that can be lost or damaged at the centre. Children will be encouraged to ask questions, take turns and inquire about each child's news item as they build confidence in front of their peers and educators. **So Please NO TOYS.**

OUR CENTRE COMPANION BEARS BUSY BEES & PLAYFUL POSSUMS

PARAMEDIC PETE & NURSE NATASHA



PATIENT PATRICK & SCHOOL GIRL JESSICA



Our Companion Bears represent people in

our community who help and learn new skills every day. Paramedic Pete and Nurse Natasha are the Busy Bee companion Bears and Patient Patrick and School girl Jessica are the Companion Bears for the Playful Possums. Each week children across these rooms will take a Bear home for 1 week. Each Bear comes with their own special bag and book to record their adventures at your home, so please take a few snap shots to paste into your Companion Bears book to share with us. Fun adventures, special activities, and how you cared for our Bears is really important.

PLEASE DO NOT PLACE our BEARS IN THE BATH OR NEAR WATER. They have not had their swimming lessons YET!!!!. We ask that each Bear is returned in the state that you received them. Our Bears like to be kept clean and tidy as they want to look their best during each visit. **It is important to return our Companion Bears after 1 week, so all children can enjoy this experience.** We can't wait to see what adventures our Bears go on. (NQA 1, 3, 5, 6, & 7)

ROOM STIMULUS PLAYFUL POSSUMS

1. Tell me something about **YOU**
2. Who is in your family?
3. Let's explore the country where we live – Australia





In January educators will be assisting the children to become familiar with their new environment, peers and teachers by engaging children in small group experiences and games that capture their interests. We will focus on the meaning of family and what makes Australia unique by exploring the animals and plants that are associated with Australia.

We will encourage children to learn each other's names and to form friendships that foster care, respect and turn taking.

We will share stories about Australia and participate in cooking experiences to create beautiful lamingtons and of course a glass of Milo will be fantastic with our vegemite sandwiches. If families would like to share any Australian books, songs or craft ideas we would be appreciative. We will explore Dream Time stories and share the story of the Rainbow serpent with the children on our data projector.



Concept/ Numeracy/ Literacy for February

The concept focus will be on name recognition. The children will have the

opportunity to learn the names of their new friends as well as begin to recognise and identify their name through the use of cards as visual prompts.

The numeracy focus will be on the number 1 and the literacy will be on the letter Aa. Children will learn to identify the numeral and letter as well as sound it out. They will be encouraged to identify things that begin with the letter A.

BABY BUNYIPS STIMULUS:

- 1: My new surroundings
- 2: My new educators, friends and play spaces



3: Exploring outdoors and my Country - Australia

Focusing on supporting the Bunyips to feel safe, secure, supported, confident and comfortable in



their learning environment will be achieved through small group activities, songs and activities of interest. We will be

discussing each child's needs with their family and encourage families to share suggestions and ideas with educators as our Bunyips settle into their new environment.



We will explore our indoor and outdoor space and develop children's sensory skills through painting, and dot painting as we explore

our Aboriginal culture through stories and songs such as the Wombat Wobble. We will identify Koalas, Kangaroos, Emus, Platypuses and Echidnas and use yellow paint to create our Australian wattles.



WHAT TO BRING FOR YOUR CHILD

Parents are reminded to bring their child's belonging with labels every day.

1. At least 8 nappies and a packet of wipes.
2. Hat
3. At least 2 changes of clothes (season appropriate)
4. Sippy Cup /Water bottle (water only, no juice or cordial)
5. Lunch box: at least two snacks for morning tea and afternoon tea (include 1 portion fruit and 1 portion of veggies) as well as lunch. (Healthy options only)
6. Dummy or Comforter
7. Please bring in a family photo so staff can add it to our family tree (NQA 1,2,3,4, 5, 6, &7)

YARNING BOOK

Our Family Yarning book allows families and educators to share home and care experiences with each other. Educators will place pictures, a short paragraph, simple caption, or an experience that your child has enjoyed at the centre to share with families. Families will then reciprocate this by completing the same process at home by sharing an event, celebration or activity with the Bunyip's room. Sharing home experiences support educators in developing and planning activities that are enjoyed by your child while in care.



Families are provided with the Yarning book for 1 week. In the month of January, the Yarning book will be shared with Alonzo and George parents to share their experiences. (NQA 1, 5, 6, &7)



CHINESE NEW YEAR - RAT

During the week commencing the 28th Jan and early

February we will explore Chinese New Year as we create craft associated with the RAT.

KIDS INVENTION DAY



To celebrate the imaginative skills of children educators often use materials that are donated to our sustainability box located in the foyer.

Children through their imagination create and manipulate common household items for a variety of purposes. We encourage families to provide and donate resources so that children can use their imaginative skills to build and create inventions as they investigate and engage in problem solving skills.

OUTDOOR PLAY FUNDAMENTAL

Running



MOVEMENT

Throughout the month of January our FMS focus will be on running. Children across the centre will engage

in indoor and outdoor activities that will focus

on the elements of running. Educators will observe each child performing the running



motion and assist them in



developing the correct procedure and skill to stop and start effectively. We will offer games and activities such as running in a circle, running slow/fast, running on the spot and mini games of soccer for the appropriate age group.

NO HAT NO PLAY CLOTHING

Parents are requested to pack their children's hat every day and to wear clothes that have sleeves that cover their shoulders. Children must wear closed in shoes, NO THONGS. Parents can pack their child's own sunscreen in case of any allergy or reaction. Educators will instruct all children to apply sunscreen 20 minutes prior to any outdoor activities.

FAMILY NOTICE:

Families will be invited to confirm their emergency contact details, immunisation records and complete their Confirmation of Attendance during January. This will assist us in ensuring that we have accurate records for all families.

DONATIONS

We are always appreciative of Donations for our Raffles and recyclable items. If families have received any unwanted gift over the Christmas period, please consider the centre.

★ HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ★

POSSUMS Romeo 9th
BUNYIPS George 16th

FINAL THOUGHT

Every successful individual knows that his or her achievement depends on a community of persons working together. Let's work together in 2020 to make the most of each child's achievements.

JUMPSTART 4 KIDS

STAFF