NEWSLETTER No.1 29th January 2013

WELCOME
Welcome to all families. If you are an ‘old’ parent who has been at kindergarten last year, welcome back and if you are a new family beginning with us this year welcome! I hope you all found time over the summer break to spend quality time with family and friends.

Profile Folders
We hope all full time children’s families enjoyed looking at their child’s profile folder over the holidays. These need to be returned as soon as possible so that more of the children’s work can be added this term. If you wish to take the profile folder home and look at it over a week-end, just let a staff member know. You are encouraged to add to the folder if something special has happened at home. You could put photos or stories in the profile book for us to share with your child. The education of children is a partnership between families and staff, the more we can work together, the better the outcome for your child.

Staff 2012
We welcome Margaret Yates back as the teacher for 2013 and Charmaine Maulitz as the ECW. We also welcome Jill Clarke back this year who will be working on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons as our Preschool Support Worker, working with individual children who may require additional support.

Acquaintance Night and AGM
We are having an ‘Acquaintance Night’ and AGM within the next few weeks. A date hasn’t been set yet but we will let you know as soon as possible. Parents and children are invited to the Acquaintance Night, parents attend the AGM and children have a clown to entertain them. There will be an information flyer with details of this event next week.

Help!
Do you have some spare time and would like to do something to help at kindy? We would love to hear from any parents willing to help at session time. Jobs include helping with library/story kit borrowing, library book covering, reading with children etc.

The kindergarten relies on the generosity of parents to help out with rosters and fundraising. We are able to keep kindy fees low because of this. Please help out wherever you can to ensure we are able to keep our fees low.

Thank you!
Thank you so much to the Currie family for looking after the garden during the school holidays. Not an easy job when you see the amount of bark that comes off the trees! Thank you for clearing the bark and leaves ready for the start of the kindy term.

Gardening/Laundry Rosters
All families are placed on a roster for laundry (washing kindy smocks etc) and gardening. The new rosters are in children’s newsletter pockets if you have been chosen for gardening or laundry this term. If you are not sure what you need to do please ask a staff member.

Diary Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 29th Jan</td>
<td>Day 1 of term</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 2nd Feb</td>
<td>Incursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 4th Feb</td>
<td>First playgroup session for the year 9.00-10.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 27th March</td>
<td>Sports Day combining with Tea Tree Gully Primary School</td>
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School Term Dates 2013
Term 1: 29th Jan - 12th April
Term 2: 29th April - 5th July
Term 3: 22nd July - 27th Sept.
Term 4: 14th Oct - 13th Dec.

Please name all your child’s belongings
Lunch box, drink bottle, hat, shoes, socks, jumpers and jackets (anything that may be taken off during the day). It is impossible for staff to keep track of children’s belongings if they are not named. The kindergarten has permanent markers which you are welcome to use to name items.

Kindergarten starts at 9.00am.
Prior to this staff are setting up for the day.
If you arrive earlier than that please wait outside or go to the playground for a quick play!
**Visitor’s Book**

If you are staying at Kindy for more than 10 minutes (which you are very welcome to do) please sign in the visitor’s book next to the children’s sign in sheets. It is a requirement of OHS&W in case of an emergency that we know who is on the grounds at all times. When you are on the gardening roster we will ask you to sign an outside visitor’s book just so we know who was on the grounds. Just enter your name, the date, what time you arrive and what time you leave.

**Parent Authorization Sheets**

Next to the Visitor’s book is a parent authorization sheet where we would like you to fill in when someone other than you will be collecting your child. Please ensure that a staff member is informed so that they can sign this sheet also. If you have forgotten to fill this sheet in or if there is a change in plans a phone call to the kindergarten is all that is needed and we will fill in the appropriate details. This is for the safety and security of all the children and for staff.

**Summer Safety- Please supply a named hat**

Please remember to dress your children in sun-safe clothing - no strappy tops with exposed arms and no thongs. Also please put sunscreen on your child before you leave home. All children must have a hat for kindergarten which can be left in their bag.

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**Healthy Eating**

Don’t forget our healthy eating guidelines. Please send fruit, vegetables, cheese or a sandwich for snack and a healthy salad or sandwich for lunch.

Water **only** in water bottles please.

‘Nude’ food is best, that is food that comes with no packaging. Try to pack ‘nude’ food wherever possible as we are aiming to reduce landfill.

We also ask that no nuts or nut products are sent to kindergarten as we have children enrolled at the centre who are allergic to nut products.

**Absolutely No muesli bars please.**

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**Governing Council**

It is that time of the year when we are looking for new Governing Council Members.

The AGM will be held in conjunction with Acquaintance Night and we would love parents to become Governing Council Members. This is your chance to have a voice in the running of your child’s kindergarten! Please see a staff member if you would like to be a member of the Governing Council this year.

Meetings are once a month and are held at the kindergarten.

**Fees**

Kindergarten fees are due and are $85.00 for Full time children. Please pay fees as soon as possible- envelopes for fees are next to the fee box, outside the office door.

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**What’s On This Week- some of our activities**

Getting to know you!

Making friends

Rules of kindy for safe play

Learning the routines of kindy - we are teaching children to be independent in routines, so please help your child but do not do things for them if they are capable of doing it for themselves.

**What’s coming up….**

**In week 5**

Incursion: African Story telling; Sam Derchie, Ananse

**Stories**

Using the tradition of the talking drum and other percussive instruments, Sam explores the exploits of ‘Ananse’, the folkloric spider character of the Ashanti forests of Ghana. There will be a cost involved for the children to have this wonderful experience with Sam. A permission slip with the cost will be placed in pockets soon.

**What will your child learn at kindergarten this year?**

To be a friend

Turn taking

Independence

Persistence

Organisation

How to relax/rest

Self worth

Reflection on their own learning

To be curious

To wonder

To experiment

To problem solve

To have fun

Plus a lot more!