

Term 4 Kindergarten News 2019

Welcome back to term 4, a term, which is always busy and full of excitement. Please take time to enjoy your child's last weeks of kindergarten they are a very special part of their educational journey. This newsletter will outline some aspects of the program. Please refrain from telling the children about the following experiences, as we would like children to experience each as it arrives and to enjoy the discovery of what's happening as a group.

Children will be involved in a take home sharing activity called **"Our Mystery Can"** Children take home a tin and find something to place inside and with parent support think of clues which they can say to help others guess what is in side. This experience is aimed at stimulating children's curiosity, enhancing thinking and language skills and encouraging the use of listening skills. These concepts support the areas of community, communication and learning in the Early Years Framework

Supporting our literacy program the children will be able to **'sign in to kinder'** each session using name rocks, after reading their name on a rock children will move it to the "I am here" basket. Name flash cards will also be used during group dismissals. These experiences will support literacy concepts involving sounds of language, letter-sound relationships, concepts of print and name recognition.

There will be great excitement once the children learn **Hugo is having a birthday** on Wednesday Oct 23rd We will involve all children in the planning of this special day and welcome any family suggestions for our party celebrations. Involvement will include preparing food, party hats, decorations and games which will all begin in week2. Watch out for whiteboard information and photos of the planning process.

Mid term we will have a **Breakfast at kindergarten day**. Children will come dressed in PJ's and be responsible for planning and preparing their own breakfast along with dressing and washing-up. Date to be advised. We also have an incursion from the Responsible Pet Program which will talk with children about being safe around dogs on Oct 10th. I will send information about this on the day of the visit so as you can talk with your child about being safe around dogs, especially while out in the community.

It is a legal requirement for all children to have a **Transition Statement** written in the year prior to starting school. This is a detailed report which has teacher, child and parent input before being forwarded onto the child's school towards the end of November. The statement summarises each child's strengths, identifies their individual approaches to learning alongside their interests, and indicates how a child can be supported to continue on their learning journey. The information in the Statement helps Foundation teachers to get to know the children entering their classes before they start; and to plan appropriate learning and teaching programs. All families will receive further detailed information on the process over the next few weeks.

Transition will be a focus throughout the term with small changes being made to the program and routine as the term progresses, aimed at giving children an opportunity to experience change and things they may encounter at school within a safe familiar environment.

To begin with we will be supporting the children with learning how to manage their morning tea and lunch when it is all together in their bag (not separated into our lunch trolley) as this is what will happen at school. From the start of term 4 children will keep all food in their kinder bag and educators will support them with deciding which foods to eat for morning tea and what is 'lunch' As parents you can decide if you send one lunch box or separate into 2, think about what you may do when your child is at school so as they can become familiar with during term 4 and be prepared for school.

Regards Karen