



From the Office

Thanks you to all the parents and families who brought pie's from the Easter Pie Drive, all money raised goes toward a great Christmas Party for the children.

FEE REMINDER

PARENTS a friendly reminder that all fees need to be 2 weeks in advance at all times. If you have an outstanding account please bring the balance up to date as soon as possible. If your fee's don't come out as per your ezi debit payment, please come and do a EFTPOS payment to ensure your fees are up to date before your next payment is due to come out.

All fees need to be 2 weeks in advance to ensure you keep your child's position in the centre. If your fees are not kept up to date then your child's days may need to be reduced until your fees are up to date.

What's on in Ipswich over Easter, go to
www.ipswichfestival.com.au , www.ipswichcentral.com.au or
www.ipswichartgallery.qld.gov.au

Easter Bunny in the Mall April 7 to 9 with kids free gifts.

Ezi Debit

A number of parents have had queries about our Ezi Debit system. Here are a few points to try to explain it a bit more.

- The system is set up so that parents do not have to worry about whether or not they are up to date with their account, i.e., 2 weeks in advance at **all** times.
- There is no set amount that comes out each week/fortnight. When you read and signed the ezi debit form, you signed for us to withdraw whatever is owing on the day you have nominated for the withdrawal to take place. Therefore, there is no spot for a 'set' amount of money to be written on the forms.
- The amount that is debited will usually be the same each week/fortnight (your gap fee). This will only change if your CCB % changes, you have an extra day, you have a holiday credit or if our fees rise.
- If your gap fee does increase then your next ezi debit will reflect this; not only for the current week , but the next two weeks in advance will also be added on to this debit so your account will not fall behind.
- If you pay via a credit card, there will be a small fee that ezi debit charges.
- If there isn't enough money in your account on the day, your bank will charge you with a fee, we do not. The fees that do not get withdrawn from your account will be



put back onto your child care statement and unless you make up this payment with eftpos then the amount owing will be added on to your next withdrawal next time

- If your debit day is a Public Holiday, then your fees will be withdrawn from your account the next business day.
- We need 2 days notice (via a new form) to make **any** changes to your ezi debit, e.g. Account details or a day change.

Easter Recipe

Chocolate crackle egg baskets

Serving Size:

20 small or 12 muffin size

Category:

Kids cooking, Party food

Ingredients:

- 3 cups Rice Bubbles
- 200g Mars Bars
- 3 tablespoons thin cream
- 2 teaspoons cocoa powder
- 12-24 small easter eggs

Method:

Place 20 cup cake paper cases or 12 muffin paper cases into a tray.

Chop up the Mars Bars and place in a large microwave-proof bowl with the cream and cocoa powder.

Zap in the microwave for 1 minute on medium power, remove from microwave and stir well.

Repeat until mars bars have melted and the mixture is a creamy smooth consistency—took me 3.5 minutes on medium power.

Stir the rice puffs into the lovely gooey chocolate mixture until well combined.

Spoon into paper cases and then use a teaspoon to make a small hole in the centre of each basket.

Place one or two easter eggs in each basket.

Store covered in the fridge until needed.



Breakfast

If your child has had an early drop off (before 8am only) and requires breakfast please prepare this prior to leaving them and seat them at a table to eat. As often staff / child ratios at this time of the morning does not allow for a staff member to leave the area to prepare meals in the kitchen.

Centre Closed

Good Friday 10th and Easter Monday 13th the Centre is closed

Upcoming Events

April 27th Crazy Hair / Face painting Day

MONTHLY POLICY FOCUS

Hand washing Policy

Please see the display in Foyer or in the Centre Policies Handbook. Feel free to give us your suggestions and feedback.

Brassall Early Learning Centre

Policy to be reviewed – Cleaning and Laundering Policy

Tick or sign You are happy with current policy	Tick or sign I would like to see changes made to current policy	Comments or changes you would like to see made	Source of information

Your feedback is collated with the feedback staff have given.
 The Centre Manager then writes a summary indicating the changes we feel necessary.
 The summary along with the review slips are then sent into head office for their input.
 Changes are made accordingly and a new policy is formed.
 We will then display the updated policy in the centre foyer and inform you of the changes in the monthly newsletter.

Extra Days

Parents if you are after an extra day or two for your child/ren, just ask your child's teacher or myself, we do have days available. Or if friends need care bring them in.

Great Websites for Kids:

Kidspots.com.au

Website for Letterland: www.letterland.com.au

Nursery

Wow - aren't the months rolling by! Over the last few weeks we have noticed how the babies have become much more vocal - the older babies saying words and the younger ones babbling and cooing. The babies are also interacting and playing together rather than playing beside one another.

The older babies in the room love to ride the new Fisher Price ride on bikes and are also throwing balls to one another and playing happily on the fort together. The younger babies are certainly becoming much more adventurous and enjoy handing rattles and balls to each other.

Painting has been introduced to the babies and it is so fascinating to watch them react to the finger painting and thick brush painting activities. The paint in the centre is non toxic and definitely with the babies not only do they enjoy feeling the paint with their fingers but also enjoy tasting it! Even the thick brush is a novelty for them and the bristles have found their way into some of the babies mouths - all are a learning process! The babies artwork has been displayed and we hope to continue with many more art projects over the coming months. Finger painting encourages the babies to be creative and also is a wonderful sensory experience and helps the babies to develop fine motor skills.

Enclosed is an article on 'separating' for you to read. At some time most children become upset and anxious when separating from their parent. Please read this article as it may help you with strategies to put in place if your child is upset and crying when you leave them with a carer.

Please remember two sheets for you baby's cot and to name all items.

Any concerns or you just want to tell us about something exciting your baby has achieved or a milestone they have reached, please do not hesitate to talk to either myself or Val.

Until next time.....

Belinda and Val.



Twinkle, twinkle,
little star
How I wonder
what you are!
Up above the
world so high
Like a diamond in
the sky
Twinkle, twinkle,
little star
How I wonder
what you are

Mini Pizzas

Makes around 30

Base

290mls water
2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
2 cups flour
1 teaspoon white sugar
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons dry yeast

Topping

1 small container pizza sauce
1 can crushed pineapple in juice well drained 100g of ham chopped
3/4 cup grated cheese
(Make sure pineapple, ham and cheese are well mixed before topping bases)

Put all base ingredients in breadmaker in order listed and put on "pizza"

cycle (this will take 1.5 hours).

Once breadmaker is finished cycle, roll dough on floured surface to about 1cm thickness.

Use a round cookie cutter (or I just use a glass) to cut out bases. Keep re-rolling until all dough has been used.

Place all bases on greased oven trays and spread pizza sauce evenly on each until all used.

Put one teaspoon of topping mix onto each base and press flat, sprinkle with dried basil.

Put into a pre-heated oven and bake at 180oC for 15 - 20 minutes (or until

cheese is bubbling and bases are browned slightly).

Cool on rack and serve.

These pizzas freeze well. Package individually in freezer for a quick and easy snack for the kids.

Not sure how to do it if I didn't have breadmaker, am sure that english muffins split would work just as well though.

Enjoy.

Thanks to Alex's mum Rebecca for the recipe.



Toddlers Room

The room has now settled in to a great routine and we have gotten to know more and more about each child. We have begun work on our Easter activities and they are looking great, please feel free to look at the art work on the drying rack but please don't take it as we would hate for your child to miss out.

This month has seen a huge leap forward in our language development we are more vocal and even clearly saying a variety of words. As the year goes on it will be wonderful to see just how far they have come.

We have also been seeing some great healthy lunch box choices including loads of fruit I do ask that if you send vegetables for your child that contains pumpkin please notify Shiralee as she is allergic.

We are really enjoying group time especially the song "5 cheeky monkeys" we love to do the actions as we sing with the crocodile puppet.

Overall we are having such a great time in the room and giving some beautiful smiles and infectious giggles.

Shira-lee and Krystle

Playdough Recipe

What You Need:

1 cup flour, 1/2 cup cooking salt, 1 cup water, 1 tablespoon of cream of tartar, 1 tablespoon of cooking oil, food colouring

Activity:

Mix the flour, water, salt and cream of tartar in a saucepan over medium heat until thick. Allow the mixture to cool and then add the oil and knead well over a floured cutting board or similar.

Divide this blob evenly into as many colours as you'd like to make. Add food colouring to each ball until it is just the colour your child is looking for. That's it! Allow the children to let their imaginations take them away.

Kindy Blue

We are already into April and Easter is approaching fast, as all the Easter eggs are in the shops.

Please ask friends, family and neighbours with small children and babies if they need care, come along and visit us. We look forward to seeing them.

The Kindy Blue children have been busy learning about shapes, circles, squares and triangles, rectangles are next.

We have also been singing lots of songs at group time, and we have added in the words to "If you're happy and you know it".

Theresa and Maree are both very happy about how the children are toilet training together, especially before winter, well done.

Please remember to pack a sheet, HAT, space clothes, training pants and undies, and a jumper as it is getting cooler in the afternoon. And also a nappy for sleep time if your child need one.

All children have settled into the group well and are relaxed with their carers, developing good social skills.

Each day the children are learning more and more by participating in Language group time extending their literacy levels and staff can see some good social and emotional development as children play in Homecorner and join in games.

Thanks Maree and Theresa

If you're happy and you know it

If you're happy and you know it clap your hands.
(clap clap)

If you're happy and you know it clap your hands.
(clap clap)

If you're happy and you know it then your face will surely show it.

If you're happy and you know it clap your hands.
(clap clap)

If you're happy and you know it stomp your feet.
(stomp stomp)

If you're happy and you know it stomp your feet.
(stomp stomp)

If you're happy and you know it then your face will surely show it.

If you're happy and you know it stomp your feet.
(stomp stomp)

If you're happy and you know it nod your head.
(nod nod)

If you're happy and you know it nod your head.
(nod nod)

If you're happy and you know it then your face will surely show it.

If you're happy and you know it nod your head.
(nod nod)

If you're happy and you know it shout "Hooray!"
(Hoo-Ray!)

If you're happy and you know it shout "Hooray!"
(Hoo-Ray!)

If you're happy and you know it then your face will surely show it.

If you're happy and you know it shout "Hooray!"
(Hoo-Ray!)

If you're happy and you know it do all four.
(stomp nod Hoo-Ray!)

If you're happy and you know it do all four.
(clap stomp nod Hoo-Ray!)

If you're happy and you know it then your face will surely show it.

If you're happy and you know it do all four.

Kindy Pink Room

Welcome to another kindy pink newsletter. Well the month has flown by again. We have been very busy learning our colours and shapes; we are getting very good at it.

We also enjoyed doing lots of art and crafts.

Over the next few weeks we are going to start looking at letters and numbers and some more Easter activities.

Grandparents day was lots of fun. We had Jayde's and Lydia's grandparents come in for the morning to do activities with us. The children really enjoyed have the grandparents visit. We would like to thank those grandparents who came in.

We have started doing our Easter activities. We have made chickens, baskets and cards. We ask that if you can keep any egg shells that you use at home and bring them in for us to use for collage that would be great.

Some of our parents have been asking us for some ideas for their child's lunch boxes. They wanted some ideas for lunch instead of sandwiches. Well we have attached some great ideas for you try at the back of the newsletter. Please remember that we can heat food if needed.

Please make sure your child has the following each day:

Sheet for sleep time

Drink bottle

Healthy lunch

Space clothes

Please make sure you name all your child's belongings.

Until next time.

Amanda and Kellie

Egg Shaped Rabbit

Materials

Deco foam egg shape, 2 x joggle eyes, Painty pens - black & mauve

Glue, scissors, Thread

2 x beads

Cardboard scraps white, purple & pink

Paint (purple) & brush, 15cm doll needle

Step 1

Paint lower section of egg purple and leave to dry. Cut the ears and hands from white cardboard, two inner ears from pink cardboard and two arms from purple cardboard.

Step 2

Cut thread 25cm long and thread through the doll needle. Tie a bead to the end. Push the needle through rabbit (egg) from the bottom to the top, thread on another bead, remove needle and tie a loop in thread.

Step 3

Draw on nose and mouth using the painty pens. Glue on joggle eyes.

Glue a pink inner ear onto each white ear. Use scissors to make slits in top, on each side of centre and poke ears into the egg. Glue white hands to purple arms, then arms to egg.

Willie's
Birthday



Preschool Room

Welcome to another month of Pre school news.

As you are aware Easter is not to far away so our pre schoolers have been busy working on top secret gifts for mum and dad. Please don't ask them as they are sworn to secrecy.

You will be very proud of your children, they are all doing very well with learning the Letterland Letters. We are having lots of fun using our templates which you can see hanging in our letterland area.

We have also used the children's at work to create our large ABC's which are hanging on our wall and you will see.

This month we are working on counting developing our simple maths. We are using patterns and making our own patterns to develop our cognitive skills.

Everyday we are working on our social, emotional, fine and gross motor skills through drawing, threading, ballgames, jumping and running.

We are using our Hi 5 plan in our room any questions please ask Carol or Tracy. It is good to see that most of our children have a drink bottle now but we noticed a few children bring their lunch in plastic bags, we would ask that you please send your child's lunch in a lunch box it can just be a container from home but no plastic bags thank you. Also please make sure your child has a sheet for sleep time it makes life a little easier for us,

Till next time
Carol and Tracy

Bunny Mask

Materials

- small paper plate
- pink card
- scissors
- elastic
- craft glue
- white card
- large fawn pompom
- 3 x white chenille sticks
- pink painty pen

Step 1

Put plate up to face and mark holes for eyes and holes at the sides for the elastic. Cut out eye holes and little holes. (if you are too little for scissors an adult can help you with this). Thread and tie the elastic.

Step 2

Cut out ears from the white card and glue to the top of the mask. Cut smaller ears from pink card and glue in the centre of the white ears.

Step 3

Twist the three chenille sticks together in the centre and glue to the mask for whiskers. Glue the pompom nose on top. Draw a mouth using the pink painty pen. Now have fun wearing your mask.

Sun Safety for Children

A child's skin is even more sensitive to the sun than an adult's. And children spend a lot of time outdoors. That's why your children need to be protected every time they go outside. Remember, protection in childhood reduces the risk of skin cancer in later life.

Protect your child with

- *A hat which covers the face, neck and ears*
- *Comfortable clothing, which covers arms and legs as well as the body.*

You can use SPF 15+ broad-spectrum sunscreen for small areas of exposed skin, eg. The face and hands, without harming your child – but make clothing the first line of protection.

When outside, encourage your children to play in the shade. You still need to cover them with hats, clothing and sunscreen to protect them from scattered UV rays – even on cool or cloudy days. Babies, even in the shade, burn very quickly.

Remember, a child will burn more quickly between 10am and 2pm; so plan your activities to avoid being outdoors in the middle of the day.

