

Giraffe Early Learning Centre

Giraffe 2010

Welcome Back

Firstly I would like to welcome back our existing children and families. I hope that you had a great Christmas break and are looking forward to a busy 2010.

A big welcome to all of our new children and families who have joined the Giraffe family in 2010! If there is anything we can do to make your child's time here at Giraffe more comfortable, please do not hesitate in letting us know. Our door is always open.

I would like to thank all of the staff, children and families for making me feel so welcome. I am excited and very much looking forward to my future here at Giraffe ELC.

Thankyou,
Brooke Anderson
Centre Manager

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Centre Availability

We have days available in most of the rooms throughout the centre. If you would like to pick up an extra permanent day these days will be available as of the 1st Month year.

Room/ Days	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Babies					
Toddler	*	*	*	*	*
Preschool	*	*	*	*	*

* Indicates availability on that day
Please Note: These vacancies may change daily.



Philosophy, Broad Goals and Policy Reviews

- This month we will be reviewing our Enrolment Policy.

REMINDERS TO PARENTS

Clothing and Belongings

Please ensure that your child's belongings are clearly labelled to ensure that they are not lost or mistakenly taken by others.

Toys from Home

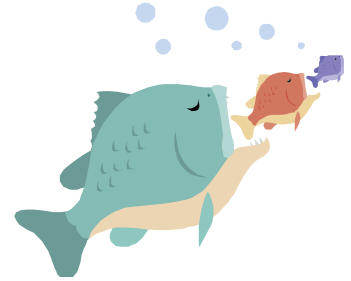
We encourage all children to leave their personal toys and belongings, such as PS2's and dress ups at home. We would be very disappointed along with your child if these items were to be broken or lost here at preschool.

Centre Operational Hours

Just a friendly reminder that our operational licensed hours are between 630am and 630pm Monday to Friday (excluding Public Holidays).

Please ensure that you are dropping off and collecting your child/ren between these hours as we are not permitted to have children on the premises outside of these hours.

All children must be collected from the centre no later than 625pm to ensure that we are abiding by our license.



Important event coming up:

February 2010

Tuesday 16th - Pancake Day

We would like to invite you to join us for morning tea at 9am to celebrate Pancake Day.

Monday 22nd - Obstacle Course Week

This week the children will be focusing on fitness and well being by enduring a fun obstacle course daily.

Babies' Room News

Dear Parents,

We would like to welcome you all back, and would like to welcome our new children Ewan, Matilda, Constance, Saffron, Sienna, Merrick, Emily and Coen to the Nursery Room.

We hope that all families enjoyed their Christmas and new year break. We here in the Nursery are hoping for a great year, with welcoming our new director Brooke and new staff as our numbers increase.

This year we will be introducing a lot more hands on art and craft experiences to our 0-1 year olds. We are also looking at starting new activities with balls to encourage gross motor and physical movement skills. Music and dance will too be introduced into the program for 2010.

Our very creative 1-2 year olds will continue with their art and craft experiences. Please look for their upcoming artwork displays around the room.

Our group times have consisted of new songs, finger puppet plays and rhymes. We have plans to introduce baby yoga to the 1-2 year olds to aid in their growth and development.

Soon we will be getting new gates around our outdoor play area. This will then allow us to spend more time outdoors with our nursery children.

We would like to invite our nursery families to bring in a family photo as we will be creating a family tree display in our room so that the children can view photos of their family throughout the day at the centre.

Thank you,
Sue, Sam, Fab & Kirby

Pre-School & Toddler Room News

Dear Parents,

A very warm and happy welcome back for 2010, we trust that everyone enjoyed the time off over the festive season.

The preschoolers have had a very busy but fun start to the New Year, some of the activities we have been enjoying include....

Cutting and Pasting

Cutting and pasting helps to develop basic maths skills such as geometry (size and shape) and measuring. This activity also encourages problem solving and concentration skills, which happens as children learn to take what is in their head, and put it onto paper. In the early years children need to ask themselves basic questions like will this glue be strong enough or if I cut here will it fit? In solving these problems they learn about the creative thinking process.

Cutting and pasting also helps to develop fine motors skills in young children, which in turn helps them to be writing-ready as they near school age.

Yoga

Using finger puppets this experience allows children to have the opportunity to pick out a puppet from a special box and then engage in

Quote of the month

*"Whoever is happy
will make others
happy, too."*
Mark Twain.

Interesting Websites

<http://www.playgroupaustralia.com.au/nsw>

<http://www.karitane.com.au/>

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the corresponding yoga pose. This is a wonderful activity for children to get involved and explore their bodies and minds, and is beneficial to children in a variety of ways as it;

- Promotes physical, mental and emotional health
- Increases flexibility and strength
- Increases a child's confidence in their own body
- Improves concentration and attention span
- Expands and enriches awareness and sense of self

This activity is appealing to the children as it is practical, challenging and non competitive and importantly, it is fun!

Collage

This experience allows children to acquire and strengthen;

- Creative thinking
- Aesthetic awareness
- Problem solving and/or decision making
- Ability to visualise
- Physical co-ordination and responsibility
- Communication and self expression
- Fine motor skills

Dramatic Play

Often the place where the most imaginative and involved play occurs. This experience allows children to use movement, objects and costumes to assist in portraying roles and situations in symbolic play. This experience allows children to:

- Understand and experience the adult world through imitation
- Express feelings and emotions
- Experience a sense of power by imitating grown-ups
- Develop creativity and imagination
- Experience different roles

The preschool room would like to welcome our new families and their children to our centre:

- Ellen Melrose-Rae
- Luka Vernon
- Jacobus (Jake) Bekker
- Mayu Kato
- Shoya Kato
- Alexander (Lexie) Vissarion

We are also to farewell Elise Paindavoine and Samuel Hasanovic to 'Big School' Mosman Public. We will all miss them both but wish them all the very best.

The Preschool room would also like to send out big Happy Birthday wishes to York Olivier who is celebrating his birthday this month.

Thankyou,
Koby & Sam ☺

Staff Profile

Introducing Brooke Anderson

Position:

Centre Manager

Qualifications:

Bachelor of Education
(Early Childhood
Education)

Favourite children's book:

"Cliffords Big Day Out (the
big red dog)"

Favourite children's song:

"The rainbow connection"
by Kermit the Frog

Favourite children's meal:

Chops, chips and vegies

What I wanted to be when I grew up:

A racing car driver

About me....

I'm moved from Terrigal to
Dee Why last September,
where I grew up as a child.
I have also spent 2 years
living and working as a
primary teacher and Centre
Director in outback NSW,
and have nearly 4 years
experience working as a
Centre Director in childcare
services. I love the beach
and having BBQ's with
families and friends...
I can't wait to meet you and
your children.

Staffing News Update

Centre Manager

Brooke

Nursery Staff

Sue
Fabiola
Kirby
Sam W

Toddler Staff

Tiara
Sam K

Pre-School

Koby

Regular casuals

Sharmana
Munira
Jennifer
Louise

Centre Cook & Floater

Mahammad

Currently we have two positions advertised. We are looking for an assistant and a trainee. These positions are looking to be filled early February.

FROM THE KITCHEN:

Recipe of the Month

Chicken and Veggie Sausage Rolls

Ingredients

300grams Chicken mince	½ onion grated
2 cloves garlic crushed	1 carrot, grated
1 zucchini, grated	2 Tbsp Hoisin sauce
2 sheets frozen puff pastry thawed	1 egg lightly beaten
2 tsp sesame seeds (if desired)	

Method

1. Place chicken mince, onion, garlic, carrot, zucchini and hoisin sauce into a large bowl, season with salt and pepper. Using clean hands combine well.
2. On a clean board, cut one pastry sheet in half, lay ¼ of the mince mixture along middle of each piece. Roll pastry over to enclose. Repeat with second sheet.
3. Brush rolls with beaten egg and sprinkle with sesame seeds. Cut each roll in half, place seam side down on prepared trays. Bake for 25 mins until golden brown.

Enjoy! ☺

* **Please feel free to ask Muhammad for any recipies that we cook at the centre, she will give you a copy. ☺**

What to bring each day:
- **Change of clothes**
- **Water bottle**
- **Bottle (if needed)**
- **Dummy (if needed)**
- **Item for news/show and tell (on your preschool child's news day)**
- **A smile ☺**

Art Idea of the Month

Goop!

You will need:

Cornflour, Water, Food Dye, Container: Mix water in slowly, making a thick smooth paste. Mix in colour.

Enjoy.

Benefits and Learning

This is an amazing sensory experience for all ages.

The texture is beautiful and assists in the development of fine motor coordination, imagination, cause and effect, and is just fun!