



Brassall Early Learning Centre
30A Workshop St
Brassall Ipswich 4305
PH: 3201 5094

Brassall Early Learning Centre

Brassall 2010

What's on this Month:

15th Renata's African Adventure Show \$5 –
Kindy Pink and Preschool
20th Pyjama Day - wear your PJ's



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 fees don't come out as per your ezidebit payment, please come and do an 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.



Inside this issue:	Pg
Up Coming Events	1
Policy Information	2
Parent Information	2-3
Nursery/Toddlers	4
Kindy Blue	5
Kindy Pink	6-7
Pre-School	8
Recipe	9
Resources	8



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 May 2010.

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

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



Philosophy, Broad Goals and Policy Reviews

Food & Nutrition Policy

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

Attached to the newsletter is a copy of the Food & Nutrition Policy and review form. If you would like to add any input to this policy or you would like to review any other policy (located in the front foyer) simply fill out the review form and pop it into the box.

Have your say and make a difference.



REMINDERS TO PARENTS

PARENT POCKETS

Please ensure that you are collecting all your important information from your parent pocket on a daily basis. In the pockets you will find your weekly statement, notes from your child's carers, party invitations from peers, policy and procedure up dates, parent input forms and other general information. This is a great way for us to communicate with you as sometimes we may not get to see each other.

LABEL ITEMS

To ensure your child's belongings find their way home please make sure all items are labelled. This will help our friendly staff to assist your child when packing up their bag of an afternoon.

HATS

Although the weather is cooling off at Brassall ELC we must still adhere to our Sun Protection Policy. We have a policy of **'YES HAT, YES PLAY'**; this means that if your child doesn't have a hat then they will not be able to participate in all outdoor activities.

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAYS

Our centre policy states that each family is entitled to 50% discount for 1 week of fees every financial year during absence. In order for this to be approved families must have their accounts up to date (2 weeks in advance) and be on direct debit. Please fill out our holiday form at reception 2 weeks prior to going on holidays. The discount will be applied to your account when you return from your holidays.



**Always remember
to bring a hat and
put sunscreen on
your child/children
before letting
him/her out to play**

Fun Morning

Thanks to everyone who donated to the Starlight Foundation on the 22nd June.

Nursery Room

We have been very busy over the past month. As you may have noticed we have started the art work for our under the sea theme, we have made fish, jellyfish and seaweed. We are also working on crabs, seahorses and shells over the next few weeks. It's starting to look great.

We have enjoyed singing lots of nursery rhymes and action songs, dancing and reading books.

Over the next few weeks we will be concentrating more on our walking and our crawling skills. We will use the push bikes and tummy time to achieve these skills.

We would like to welcome Kyron, Alexis and their families into our room.

Reminders:-

Please be sure to pack some warm spare clothes for your child each day.

If you have not yet brought in your family photo please do so asap so we can put them up on the wall.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Kyron for the 2nd July.

Well that is all for now, please feel free to come and see us at anytime.

Amanda and Kellie

Toddler Room

The Toddler group are growing up so fast! Toilet training, speech and social interaction have been major developmental milestones that have really taken off over the last month!

The whole group love to sit together and sing action songs as well as dance together. They are also playing cooperatively together in small group activities such as blocks on the mat, role playing in home corner and looking at books together.

Wonderful art work is being produced every day and the group really enjoy being creative. Their attention spans are developing and they are participating in various activities for longer periods of time.

Meal times are another social part of the day. Some of the Toddlers have their favourite chair they like to sit on and Tracy and myself enjoy sitting and eating with the Toddlers as well. We encourage positive table manners and positive interaction amongst the group.

We have lately been introducing shapes - triangle, square, circle, rectangle and oval into the program. The use of shape puzzles and flash cards and continually naming the shapes has been exposed to the group daily. We are also focusing on counting to 5 and colours and will continue to do so throughout the coming months.

For July we are going to concentrate on sensory activities and incorporate into the program in and out; big and small; up and down and also focus on emotions - happy, sad, scared, angry and surprised.

July 2010

On a sad note, we farewell Scotty who with his family is transferring to the outback! Scotty will be missed by all his friends.

Please keep supplying a light blanket at rest time and a drink bottle filled with water every day.

Do not hesitate to talk to us with any concerns or issues and also please let us know if your Toddler has a special interest at the moment as we will also incorporate it into the program.

Until next month..... Belinda and Tracy

Kindy Blue

Wow another month has gone by. We have been working on a new box collage, hopefully it will look like a train (fingers crossed).

We have said farewell to Jackson as he has moved up to the Kindy Pink room.

We have really been enjoying the weather with lots of activities outside. This also helps burn off the extra energy.

We will be working on counting, shapes and colours for the next couple of months. So lots of activities to help us learn and remember them.

Please feel free to bring in leftovers for lunch we are happy to reheat them.

As it is getting cooler please pack extra clothes and a warm blanket for sleep time. Make sure you name all of your child's belongings.

In July we will be doing some simple cooking activities to help develop our social and role play skills.

Also if any parents have dress ups we could use please feel free to bring them in.

Thanks Carol & Krystle

2 - 3 years thinking about toilet training

Many parents will start toilet training their child towards the end of the second year when he begins to show an awareness of what's happening in his nappy. Once they're ready, children will usually 'train' themselves, but with some simple encouragement from parents, this can happen any time between about 2 years and 3½ years.

Avoid making toilet training a tense affair. There are no timelines that you should be working to - instead try to keep toilet training at a gentle pace your toddler feels comfortable with. Encourage him when he does the right thing but don't force him to do anything he's not ready for. While some children will attack toilet training with great enthusiasm, others (and these are usually the neat and fussy toddlers) may resist for fear that he'll make a mess or a mistake. Gentle encouragement should slowly turn him around, along with a calm approach no matter how big the mess is.

Generally, attempting to toilet train your child before he turns two is unproductive. If you find tensions arising around toileting issues, try leaving toilet training for a couple of weeks (or months) before giving it

another go. Although it's a great relief to be finished with nappies, and for some of us that day can't come soon enough, don't push your toddler because eventually he will get there.

REMEMBER!

Toilet training is fairly straightforward if your child is motivated, interested and relaxed, but if you're constantly chasing around behind him with a potty, you'll only get an upset and tense child who may steadfastly refuse to co-operate.

Kindy Pink Room

Preparation for Pre-school and school is important therefore Maree and Emma are very busy with the Kindy Pink children practicing counting and colours and listening skills along with safety and scissor cutting skills. All of these skills come into play once the children enter the pre-school room. The pre-school room has twenty-four children and two staff; the children will be encouraged to help themselves more and more. Thus we are already encouraging the Kindy Pink children to use their self-help skills.

Parents can help their children at home with practicing their colour matching skills and counting skills. Most importantly parents can help their children learn to read by reading three books to their children each day. Reading skills are so important once children enter the school environment. If children do not yet have these skills they have the next year to practice. The teacher will have twenty-five children and more in the class to help each day, and some children need more help than others, therefore if parents can help at home that would be great for the child, to get a head start.

The author Mem Fox suggests parents read three books to their child each day. With so many great interesting story books to choose from it is easy to find books that your child will be happy to listen to, then it is just a case of parents finding the time to read them.

Maree and Emma have been teaching the children how to mix the colours to make art more interesting and now they know their colours they can start to experiment themselves by mixing the colours to make other colours.

In the next few months the children will be starting to recognize their names with Maree and Emma singing naming songs and recognising the names of their friends and then these names will be written on place mats and name tags so the children can start to learn the different letters of their names.

[Birthdays of the Month July: Nicholas, Jessica,](#)

In your child's bag please provide:

A sheet, blanket, jumper, shoes and socks, spare undies, spare t-shirt and spare track pants.

Footwear is important on these cold days so please no thongs.

Thankyou

Maree and Emma

3 - 4 years physical development

Kindy are all about the physical - they love to jump, skip, run, climb and dance. In fact, anything that's new and that won't require them to sit still for too long. But they're also like puppies - running full steam until they completely run out of energy, at which point they'll collapse somewhere utterly exhausted.

Developmental milestones include:

- Balancing to walk along a plank
- Pedalling a tricycle
- Rolling and bouncing a ball - and a few can catch a ball, too
- Holding a pencil with the correct grip
- Buttoning up clothing
- Cutting with scissors
- Climbing a ladder and trees
- Standing, walking and running on tiptoes
- Balancing on one foot for several seconds
- Using a spoon and fork correctly
- Building a bridge using three blocks

How can I encourage his physical development?

- Ensure that he has plenty of physical freedom where he can develop some independence.
- Teach him some skills that will open new doors for him - ho to swim, how to pedal a bike, how to hit a ball with a bat.
- Give him the space to work things out for himself. He'll build his self-esteem if he can work something out on his own. Allow him the time he needs to 'get things right' himself. Some pre-schoolers really resist help, so don't jump in unless you're asked.

Signs there could be a developmental problem include:

- He isn't interested in interacting with other children or with adults while he plays.
- He's either overly aggressive or introverted when he plays with other children.
- He plays in a repetitious way that shows little use of his imagination.
- He has difficulty keeping up physically with children his own age.
- He isn't able to jump with his two feet together.

REMEMBER!

All children are different and develop at different rates, so don't be overly concerned if your pre-schooler is acquiring new skills at a different rate to those around him. But if you are worried about his development, or it seems to have stalled or be going backwards, talk to a health professional.

Preschool Chatter

We have had a fantastic time in the month of June!

Our seed project is coming along nicely and even though the birds haven't been around much we are still watching out for them. We planted a variety of bird seed a number of ways and have been watching it grow and talking about how the roots grow down to suck up the water from the soil.

We have also started to feed the worms in the worm farm that was started last year. Our fruit peels from banana, apple, pear and watermelon get put in for the worms to eat and we check on them everyday.

Threading has been a very popular activity this month. Small beads are used to help with the development of fine motor skills. There have been lots of necklaces and bracelets made and the children are really into making patterns and grouping colours.

The month of July will see us experimenting with food and flavours as well as smells and texture. We will be looking at healthy foods and how they grow.

I can not stress how important it is for your child to have a healthy lunch box. There has been a lot of prepacked stuff like chips and lollies coming in, these foods are better kept for home. Please feel free to try new things or even send leftovers to be reheated.

As it is well and truly Winter please ensure your child has shoes and socks and jumpers for outside play and a blanket for rest time.

Our useful box is getting empty so if there are any useful items lying around the house, please bring them in for us to use.

Last but not least Claire is moving so we wish her and her family all the best and look forward to a post card.

Thanks until next time Shira-lee and Val

Recipe

Beef and vegetable stir-fry

- 200 g lean rump steak
- 1 X 200g can red kidney beans, drained
- 1/4 cup water
- 300 g green beans, chopped
- 200 g baby mushrooms, halved
- 1 green capsicum, chopped
- 1 clove garlic, crushed

Marinade:

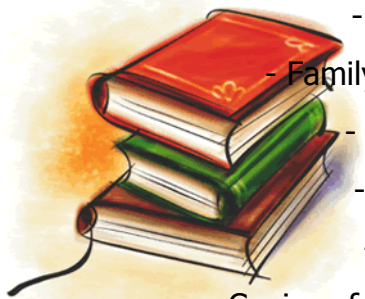
- 1/3 cup plum sauce
- 2 tablespoons dry white wine
- 3 teaspoons cornflour
- 2 teaspoons fresh ginger
- 1/4 cup soy sauce
- 2 tablespoons hoi sin sauce

Cooking method

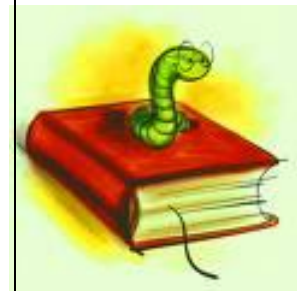
1. Cut steak into thin slices. Combine steak and kidney beans with marinade in a bowl, cover, refrigerate several hours or overnight.
2. Heat oil in a non-stick frypan or wok, add undrained steak mixture and vegetables.
3. Stir-fry until steak is lightly browned.
4. Add water, bring to the boil, simmer covered for a few minutes or until vegetables are tender.

RESOURCES

Please take time to look around the Centre foyer as we have a large range of resources available for you to look at.



- Direct Debit forms
- Song Books
- Family Resource Library
- Craft recipes
- Fact sheets
- Brochures
- Copies of the current newsletter
- Parent Handbooks
- Recipes
- Centre Menu
- Centre Events



July 2010

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