



Camelot Early Learning Centre
 Level 3, 173 Lennox Street
 Richmond, VIC 3121
camelotelc@gacweb.com.au
 03 9426 6061

CAMELOT EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

Camelot 2010

Recycle Boxes

Next to the lift in the foyer you will see two recycle boxes, one for natural materials and one for recycle materials. These are not rubbish bins so please don't throw tissues etc in them. The materials that we collect in these boxes are for the children to use for art and craft or activities. Things you can put in these boxes are leaves, pine cones, gum nuts, cardboard boxes such as cereal boxes, tissue boxes or any other packaging that maybe useful. Please note that we are **not** able to use toilet rolls or any materials that have nuts in them or egg cartons due to allergies. We do love all your recyclable items so keep them coming. Thank you,
 Kym McCormick
 Centre Manager

Inside this issue:	Pg
Policy Information	2
Up Coming Events	2
Babies Room news	3
Toddler Room news	4
Kinder Room news	5
Centre Celebration	6
Birthdays, Art Idea	7
Recipe of the Month	8
Resources, Tips	9
Policy	10

Centre Availability

We have limited days left within the rooms, if you would like to pick up extra days let me know ASAP; please remember that we now have a music class on Fridays within the centre.

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

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



Philosophy, Broad Goals and Policy Reviews

The centre has implemented new policies in line with the new ownership. Sections of these policies are reviewed each month and are available in the centre foyer. In May we be focussing on

- ◆ Programming 1.1 – 1.17

Feedback forms are available in the centre foyer and we encourage parents to provide feedback to the centre manager on any policy at any time.



REMINDERS TO PARENTS

Clothes

As we are approaching Winter you are required to bring suitable clothing for your child. We require that you bring a jacket and beanie for outside play as well as appropriate footwear. Ensure that you also pack adequate spare clothing in your child's bag in case of accidents or messy play. Remember to pack even more clothes if your child is toilet training and also a spare pair of shoes for when they don't make it to the toilet as wee goes straight into the shoes. Please label all clothing so it is easily identified by staff and other parents if by accident it goes home in someone else's bag.

Fees

It is your responsibility to ensure that your fees are always up to date and two weeks in front. As you can understand this is imperative for any successful business. If you have changed your bank or credit card details please inform me immediately so I can issue you another form to fill out for your direct debit.



Important events coming up: June 2010

2nd – 7th Kym in QLD for 3 days – Annual Guardian Child Care Conference
14th Public Holiday – Centre Closed
25th Red Nose Day



Babies' Room News

Staff and children in the Babies' Room hope everyone had a wonderful Mothers Day! Our Mothers Day picnic was successful, fun was had by all!

Sami is still on holidays in America, we hope she is having a fantastic holiday! She'll be back Tuesday 1st June. We look forward to seeing her then!

In the Babies Room we've been busy with lots of finger painting, painting and doing individual hand prints! The children have had fun exploring the different texture, feel and colours of the paint. The Babies have also had fun exploring the change around in our room. The furniture has been moved around with the introduction of some new experiences, including a tunnel and ducks!

The babies are thoroughly enjoying Hey De Ho on a Friday afternoon; all babies participate in using the musical instruments and enjoy the different music, singing and finger puppets. Hey De Ho is every Friday afternoon at 3:50 – 4:00. If your child is not booked in on a Friday please feel free to come down and join in – just remember that you will need to stay with your child for the duration of the session.

Please remember to tell us when your child has been introduced to new foods so we can also give them here at the centre. We will not introduce any food until you have done so at home. Also we encourage you to share any recipes with us that you use at home.



Toddler Room News

We would like to welcome all the children and families that have recently moved up from the Babies' Room, please feel comfortable to talk to Javy or Gina about the room routine, programming or any other concerns or suggestions you may have.

What have we been doing

In the last month the children have been introduced to different types of painting, such as marble painting and butterfly painting. They have experienced the process of these painting methods and been very interested in the results.

As the weather has started to get cooler we have spent lots of time inside and because of this we have been involved in more group times throughout the day. The children really enjoy parachute games, music time and storytelling.

Family Photos

We would like to ask every family to bring in a family photo to be displayed in the room, this will help your child feel more comfortable and feel more part of the room. You can bring the photo in or email it to us at camelotelc@gcaweb.com.au or bring it in on a disc or memory stick. Thank you once again.

Mother's Day Picnic

We hope you had a very special Mother's Day. This year we had an evening Mother's Day picnic, as in the past years it was hard for some parents to attend during the day.

We would like to thank Samantha, Michael, Leo, Liz, Nick, Samuel, Jenny, Max, Libby, Nicholas, Heather, Edward, Tori, Cat, Inti, Loujuan and Shan Shan for being part of this special evening.

We hope you had a great time!



Kinder Room News

Dear Families,

What have we been doing during May...

We have had lots of children move into the Kinder Room during May- welcome to Lucius, Sienna, Lucy A, Inti, Lily, Isaac, Joshua, Jonah and Aidan. Having two staff members each day means that we can do indoor/outdoor play, which supports the children's own choice of where they want to play during the day.

We have been spending time as a group using the parachute- one of the favourite things at the moment is doing 'the bear hunt' story with the parachute. We have also been making up stories using the parachute, particularly about witches and magic spells.

What are we looking forward to in June...

I (Rebecca) am going to be on placement during June- this is my last placement for my Bachelor of Early Childhood Studies. I am looking forward to learning some new skills and ideas for curriculum development and working with the children. Ash will be working in the room with one of our regular relievers (tbc) during this time.

Other stuff...

Our family photo tree is growing quickly! Please bring in a photo or email to the centre.

Thank you to Inti, Max and Edward's mums who came to our night time picnic for Mother's Day.

In regards to the children's folios- families are encouraged to take these home over the weekend to read with their children and also to add photos/stories of special events if you would like.

Please remember a warm jacket/coat for your child each day as the weather is getting colder.

If you have any concerns, questions or comments about your child or any aspect of the Kinder Room, you can...

- *Call during the day*
- *Write in the communication book (on the sign-in book).*
- *Talk with myself or Ash during drop-off/pick-up times.*
- *Email the centre.*

☺ **Thank you** ☺
Rebecca and Ash



Wild Action – The Zoo Came To Camelot

On Thursday 20th May it was Camelot's 13th Birthday so to celebrate we had Wild Action come to the centre. The children enjoyed seeing and touching snakes, lizards, frogs, possums and a baby crocodile (which didn't look so baby). The program was very interactive with everyone being given the chance to touch all animals and also get their photos taken. Please see me if you would like a copy of your child's photo. It was great to see some of the children dress up in animal costumes; an elephant, lions, tigers, lots of fun was had by all. Thank you to all those parents that were able to come along and help celebrate with us, we received great feedback.



Happy Birthday

A big Happy Birthday to the following children and staff:

Babies Room

Alice
Elise
Sofia
Daisy

Kinder Room

Sienna

Staff

Javy



Art Idea of the Month

Playdough

- 1 cup flour
- 1/2 cup cooking salt
- 1 cup water
- 1 tablespoon of cream of tartar
- 1 tablespoon of cooking oil
- Food colouring

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.



Banana mini muffins with cream cheese icing

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups self-raising flour
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 tsp bi-carbonate soda
- 3/4 cup banana, mashed
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 3/4 cup milk

Icing

- 250g cream cheese
- 4 tbsp icing mixture
- 2 tsp finely grated lemon rind

Method:

Preheat oven to 180°C.

Line a 24 cup mini muffin pan with patty pans.

Sift flour and bi-carb into a bowl and add brown sugar. Set aside.

In another bowl lightly beat the egg and add milk, vegetable oil and banana and stir.

Stir the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients until just combined.

Spoon into muffin pans and bake for 10-12 mins.

To make the icing, warm the cream cheese in the microwave for one minute and add lemon zest and sifted icing mixture.

Beat with electric mixer for 2 mins.

Transfer into a piping bag immediately and pipe onto cooled muffins.

We also appreciate your feedback and encourage you to share your recipes with us. ☺



- This recipe was created by Jennifer Cheung for Kidspot, Australia's best [recipe finder](#).



RESOURCES

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



- Holiday Forms
- Family Resource Library
 - Fact sheets
 - Brochures
- Copies of the current newsletter
 - Parent Handbook
 - Centre Menu
 - Centre Events
 - Centre Information
 - Messages Folder
- Accreditation Information
- Information on our extra curricular activities
- Calender of Events



How much sleep does my toddler need?

- By six months about 50% of babies are sleeping at least 5 hours in one continuous stretch at night. They are optimistically considered to be 'sleeping through the night'.
- If your toddler regularly sleeps for more than 2 hours during the day, waking him may encourage him to sleep longer at night.
- While day sleeps will still occur, as he approaches his first birthday, your child will get most of his sleep at night.
- Most children will continue to have two sleeps a day until 12 to 15 months, at which point they will transition to one day sleep.
- Toddlers need 10-12 hours sleep a night. Most will continue to have a nap each day that lasts between one and two hours, until they are 3-4 years old.
- Toddlers sleep deepest between 8pm and midnight so getting them to sleep between 7 and 8pm will encourage quality sleep.
- 41% of young children between 2 and 3 years, will still wake once or twice a night, with a smaller percentage waking more often than that.
- Many toddlers will have had all the sleep they need overnight by 5.30 - 6 am.



PRG 1.5 Non-Bias & Gender Equity Policy		PROGRAMMING POLICY & PROCEDURE	
Reference:	State Specific Childcare Regulations & Act as per SCH1.1 State Based Regulations & Legislation Schedule	Issue Date:	July 2009
		Review Date:	June 2010
QIAS Principles:	1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 4.2		
Source:	1. Inclusive Directions Website – www.directions.org.au 27 Jan 2009 2. Inclusion of Children Position Statement May 2007 & Gender Equity Position Statement July 2007 – Early Childhood Australia Website – www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au 3. Early Childhood Australia – Code of Ethics 2005		
Objective			
To ensure all people are treated equally and with a level of mutual respect. To develop a range of practices to reduce bias and prejudice and to encourage all people to communicate respectfully and fairly.			
Explanation			
It is important that children are exposed to a wide range of experiences that value their choice within the environment. Staff will respect children’s skills, abilities, preferences and knowledge and ensure that interactions and materials within the centre support gender equity and non-bias principles.			
Implementation			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This policy will underpin the philosophy of the service to ensure that all children are treated equally. 2. Staff will identify their own biases and ensure that these are not projected within the centre. 3. Staff will accept all children as individuals and will encourage all individuals to develop to their fullest potential. 4. Staff will consult with families about their expectations for care and education and discuss the centre’s policy of inclusion and equity. 5. All children will have equal opportunity to experience all areas of the play environment. 6. Staff will respect children’s choices. 7. Staff will use a variety of learning opportunities to show gender equity (books, puzzles, discussions). 8. Staff will encourage the development of self-confidence, self-awareness, empathy and acceptance within each child. 9. Staff will role-model language, interactions and conversations that show acceptance, inclusion and gender-equity (e.g. male staff showing nurturing roles and female staff running and climbing). 10. The centre will ensure that posters, books, equipment and displays are inclusive of all people, regardless of gender, abilities or background. 11. The centre will ensure there is information available to families and staff on equity and Non-bias. 12. Staff will access supplementary workers to support children with disabilities who are included in the centre. 13. Staff will liaise with other organisations to assist in supporting children with additional needs who are enrolled or wishing to enrol at the centre 14. Staff will welcome the existence and exploration of diversity. We will help children appreciate differences and similarities through programs provided at the centre. 15. 			
Prepared By: GCA		Version: 1.3	Page Number: 1 of 1