



FoxKids Early Learning Centre
78-80 Centre Rd
Brighton East, 3187
foxkids@gcaweb.com.au
www.foxkidselc.com.au

FoxKids Early Learning Centre

FoxKids 2010

Kids in the Kitchen:

'Kids in the Kitchen' is a new incursion that we are introducing in to our weekly programs on a Monday. This cooking experience will commence as of Monday 22nd February 2010. The children will be working together as a group and with their carers and the assistance from Esther, to create a range of different foods that they will then have for afternoon tea. If you have any simple recipes that we could use at the centre. Please give them to your child's carers.

Kathleen's Absence

As I will be absent from the centre 3 days out of the week in the event that you need to contact me please do not hesitate to do one the following, leave a message in the contact book located in the foyer, leave a message on my desk or in the suggestion box or email on my email address which is as follows
Kathleen.Pistone@guardianchildcare.com.au

Regards,
 Kathleen Pistone
 Centre Manager

| Inside this issue: | Pg |
|---|----|
| Parent Information | 1 |
| Policy Review, Reminders to parents & Upcoming Events | 2 |
| Baby Room News | 3 |
| Toddler Room News | 4 |
| Pre-Kinder Room News | 5 |
| Kinder Room News | 6 |
| Kitchen News & Resources | 7 |
| Parent Fact Sheet - Toys & Personal Belongings | 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 8th March 2010.

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

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



Philosophy, Broad Goals and Policy Reviews

Health Policies

- HLTH1.1 Drug & Alcohol Use Policy
- HLTH1.2 Staff Contagious Illness or Accident Policy
- HLTH1.3 Accident, Incident & Death Policy
- HLTH1.4 Exclusion Policy
- HLTH1.5 Custody Policy
- HLTH1.6 Contagious Conditions Policy
- HLTH1.7 Dental Hygiene Policy
- HLTH1.8 First Aid Policy
- HLTH1.9 Infection Control Policy
- HLTH1.10 Immunisation Policy
- HLTH1.11 Medication Policy
- HLTH1.12 Rest & Sleep Policy
- HLTH1.13 Suitable Clothing Policy
- HLTH1.14 AIDS & HIV Policy
- HLTH1.15 Non-Smoking Policy
- HLTH1.16 Sunsmart Policy
- HLTH1.17 Insect Repellent Policy
- HLTH1.18 Toileting Policy
- HLTH1.19 Asthma Policy
- HLTH1.20 Head Lice Policy
- HLTH1.21 Administration of Medication Policy
- HLTH1.22 SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome) Policy
- HLTH1.23 Child Protection & Child at Risk Policy
- HLTH1.24 Illness & Emergency Care Policy

Over the next month the centre will be reviewing our Health Policies. If you have any feedback about these policies please contact the office via email foxkids@gcaweb.com.au

Your feedback is always appreciated as it enables us to provide the highest quality care for your child.



REMINDERS TO PARENTS

PARENT POCKETS

Please ensure that you are collecting all your important information from your parent pocket on a daily basis.

CREDIT CARD DISHONOURS

In order not to miss any payments or incur a dishonour fee, please make sure that the office has all current Credit Card and banking information. If your credit card expires, please tell the office as soon as possible, so we can arrange a manual payment if necessary.

HATS

Although the weather has cooled down we ask that you ensure that there is still a hat in your child's bag every day they come to FoxKids. At the centre we have a policy of '**NO HAT NO PLAY**'; this means that if your child doesn't have a hat then they will not be able to participate in outdoor activities.



Important event coming up:

March 2010

Thurs 4th- Parent information Night

Mon 8th- Labour Day- Centre Closed

Fri 12th- Pyjama Day- come in you PJ's

Wed 17th- St. Patricks Day- Come Dressed in Green

Tues 30th- Purim Commences



Babies' Room News

Dear Parents,

Welcome to read Babies Room March newsletter. What a busy and fantastic month it's been! Firstly we would like to introduce a "new face" that have been showed up in the room lately to out families, we have a third staff named Rose and join the Babies Room, she currently holds certificate 3 in children's services, and she used to be an assistant in Kinder Room last year.

A big welcome Zara, Lachlan and their families to be members of our fabulous room, we hope both of you will have great fun in the room. We would like to say a very Happy Birthday to our newest 1st year old James, Joshua. We hope you each had a wonderful day and enjoyed the birthday cake which was provided by Foxkids.

Now we would like to share with parents what we have been doing in last few of weeks and what we are going to do in the next month. For nursery (6 months- 13 months) we have been working on two development areas. The first area is physical development, the nursery are extending their gross motor skills by participate in a variety of activities (climbing and standing by holding table or furnish) during the day. Most of them are able to stand on their own without any assistance, and few of children can even take some steps by holding staff's hand.

The second area is social and emotional development, because majority of new children start in the early of the year, we are becoming familiar with new children's routine and getting them to know children and staff, we are working on not only providing the peaceful and attractive environment for them, but also showing how much we love them and how much we welcome them. They will try to make home-feeling environment for new children too.

For Babies (14 months-18 months) we have been working on the 3 development areas. The first area is social & emotional development, we have been encouraging children to take turns and share with other children at group time, and they are gradually becoming more patient waiting for their turn when they know other children ply with the toys.

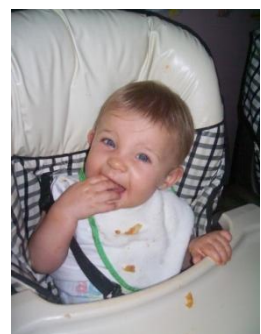
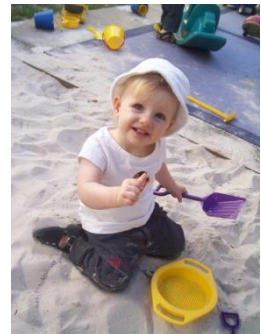
The second area is art & sensory development, we have done some different art works including big sponge painting, brush painting and pasting with feather. The children loved art experience by using different medium. We will continue to do more and beautiful art works in the next month.

The last area is language development; we have been singing songs all day long including action songs and finger puppy songs). We not only talk about the objects printed on the side of the soft block, but also point out the objects which appear in the room to teach children what they can see. We will continue to enrich children language development through reading books and singing new songs.

If you have any concern about your child's development or any suggestion for our work, please feel free to talk to room staff.

Thank you

Babies Room Staff ☺



Toddler Room News

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful month of February! We hope you all had a lovely Valentine's Day. Our toddlers looked fantastic dressed in red to celebrate the day and enjoyed our Valentine's Day craft. Be sure to take a look at our display wall for the photos!

We have some exciting news; Holly Wallace will be rejoining our toddler room this month as the second room leader. She will be spending 12 hours a week in the office, and the rest of her time with us in the room. We are very excited to have her back, as are many of the children!

This month we have been focusing on our self-help skills. We have been helping to dress ourselves after our mid-day sleep and we are continuing to help clear our plates after mealtimes. We have started to put on our own sunscreen before outdoor play, which not only extends our independence, but supports our sun smart awareness.

We are happy to say that the children have settled in well to the toddler room. To assist the children in getting to know each other, we have been engaging in many group times throughout the day. We have been singing songs together like 'tell me what your name is' to allow the children to become more familiar with one another. This has helped them recognise each other, and many parents have commented on how their toddlers are talking about their friends at FoxKids at home. The toddlers are beginning to form meaningful relationships with both children and staff, which is really lovely to see.

This month we have focused on a variety of experiences throughout the room. We have used a range of different mediums to create beautiful artwork. We have used crayons, texta's, pencils, paint, with glitter, different textured papers and also materials. We loved creating our very own 'Hairy Friends' by using different coloured wool as their hair. By participating in these art experiences, we are enhancing our fine motor skills and encouraging correct pincer grip and hand-eye coordination.

The weather has been beautiful so we have been spending lots of time outdoors. We are always busy running, jumping, climbing and building sandcastles together! On Tuesdays mornings we look forward to P.E with Michael as our instructor. The children love participating in the experiences that Michael brings along. This month we have focused on ball skills, learning to throw, kick and roll. Some of the children have been beginning to catch the ball, which is very exciting. During outdoor play this month, we discovered a friendly caterpillar in our playground. The children were very excited to find our new friend, and now we go on 'caterpillar hunts' to see if we can discover anymore crawly creatures in our playground. To extend on the children's interest in caterpillars, we will implement a range of experiences that focus on caterpillars and other insects in our program plans. This will be centred around the popular book by Eric Carle, 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'.

If you have any questions about your child or the room, please feel free to come and see one of the room staff.

Thankyou

Toddler Room Staff ☺



3-4 year old Room News

Dear Parents,

A big hello from the 3-4 room. We are very excited to have introduced news time back in the program. Last month's topic was "Nature" and it was very successful. The children were very interested about the world around them, especially all the creepy crawly bugs and creatures. The 3-4's were very enthusiastic and excited in watering our wonderful fox kids garden.

This month's topic is the "Jungle." Through doing news time the children will improve their confidence, language and social skills. The 3-4's should be praised for their great effort in improving their self help skills. The children are becoming more independent and motivated in doing things for themselves.

The children are successfully scrapping their food, placing their cutlery, bowls, cups in the sink and asking for assistance when in need. We are working on undressing and dressing ourselves before and after sleep time. Children are being helped to familiarize themselves with the toilet and constantly asking them if they need to go to the toilet.

The staff is working with the children to create a display that shows all the children's handprints on the wall with their names. We are currently working on getting to know our new friends "Billy and Sebastian," who are both settling in well and starting to learn their friend's names.

A big welcome to Ryder who has been moved to the 3-4 room is enjoying the activities and playing outdoors with the big boys. It would be appreciated if all parents ensure that all their children's clothes and hats are labelled to ensure that they are not lost or misplaced. Wishing Julian, Jaya and Xavier a Happy Birthday.

We have recently introduced 'Kids in the Kitchen' a cooking class which will happen on a Monday morning. For afternoon tea we had the delicious cookies with sprinkles that we made that morning. The children were able to roll the dough and use a large range of cookie cutters to create different shaped cookies.

As the cooler weather approaches we would like to remind everyone to pack warmer clothes like jackets, jumpers, long pants, enclosed shoes with spares clothes in the bags too like socks and pants as we may be able to spend some time out side.

As you know learning and playing at FoxKids can be very thirsty work, we ask that you ensure that your child has a labelled water bottle with them every day. Please remember to take these home with you at night so they can be clean and ready for the next time you come to FoxKids.

Thankyou
Junior Kinder Room Staff ☺

3-4years 'Kids in the Kitchen' cooking class



Kinder Room News

Dear parents,

Well we are all settling in really well! We have begun to make new friends and have strengthened the existing friendships that we already have with others. A big welcome to Tarkyn, our new Kinder boy. He has settled in really well and has already begun participating in Newstime! This is fantastic to see and it is also really pleasing how welcoming and helpful our Kinder children are to new children.

The first topic of interest for the year, "Under the Sea", was a great success and the children responded really well to our different art projects and were most excited about the "number fishing" game. They were really clever at matching up the different numbers with the fish pictures. It made it lots more fun that they were using fishing rods to catch the fish! Lots of children also brought in reminders of their holidays; sea creatures, sand, shells and small toys and this was lots of fun at Newstime, as we were able to start conversations about the ocean and the animals that live in the water.

Alongside our last theme and throughout the rest of the year, we have also been completing our Letterland sheets. Some of us have begun to trace letters and then complete the same letter underneath without any assistance from friends or teachers. They are so proud to present their work to us and to put them on the wall for visitors to look at. The room is becoming so colourful and we would love you to take the time to have a look around and see what we have done so far. Please don't hesitate to look through our brag book and reflection folder also, these are great examples of the children`s hard work and learning.

Over the next month we will be looking at the topic, "All About Me". This topic will focus on our families, our homes, our friends and us! We are hoping to learn about how we are special and what talents we can share with the group. The topic will involve lots of group "talking circles", which will include lots of questions about each other, to learn how to wait our turn and how to listen to other people. We will also be doing lots of picture collages to learn about different hair colours, appearance and how we are unique! We will also be putting up lots of photos of the children to illustrate how much we are enjoying the topic.

If you have any ideas for projects or activities for the upcoming months, please don't be afraid to come and see me! We really do appreciate all your input as you are really good at helping us provide activities that really match the child`s interests!

Thanking you,
Kinder 4-5 Room Staff ☺



FROM THE KITCHEN:

Spaghetti Bolognese

Ingredients:

- 1 packet of spaghetti
- ½ kilo premium beef mince
- 2 medium onions
- 2 cloves of garlic
- ½ teaspoon of nutmeg
- 1 jar pasta sauce
- 4 stalks of chopped parsley
- 2 tablespoons of olive oil
- 1 teaspoon of salt or to taste
- ½ teaspoon white pepper

Procedure:

- Cook pasta in boiling water
- Remove water
- Fry 2 chopped onions until brown
- Add meat cook until brown
- Finely chop parsley and garlic and add to cooked meat
- Add pasta sauce and cook for a further 10 minutes
- Add pasta and mix ingredients together
- Serve and Enjoy 😊

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



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



Toys & Personal Belongings

PRG 1.15 Toys & Personal Belongings

Policy

PROGRAMING

POLICY & PROCEDURE

Issue Date: July 2009

Review Date: June 2010

Objective

To minimise loss or damage to child's personal property brought from home.

Explanation

While children enjoy bringing "treasures" from home to share at child care, liability to the centre may come into question if toys are lost, damaged or stolen. Therefore a policy which asks parents to refrain from allowing their children to bring things from home is required.

Implementation

1. The centre prides itself on supplying a variety of equipment, toys and resources for children at the centre. Therefore it is not necessary or recommended that children bring toys to the centre from home as they can be lost, broken or create social tension amongst their peers.
2. We recognise that such things are of great importance to children as a comfort or security or a link to the home environment. Therefore items such as a comfort toy or security blanket will be allowed to enable children to settle more comfortably in the centre.
3. If items are brought to the centre for "Show and Tell" they are to remain in a designated box throughout the day to ensure they are not damaged. These items should not be expensive; suggested items include photographs of family visits or places which can then be extended into the program, favourite books or souvenirs from holidays.
4. If children do bring items from home, no responsibility by the centre will be accepted for loss or damage to such items.
5. Children's personal belongings needed for their own comfort during the day i.e. clothing, shoes, hats etc will need to be clearly named so they can be returned to the owner. Once again, the centre does not accept liability for items that are lost, stolen or damaged and parents should consider dressing children in clothes that are suitable for messy and physical play.
6. Items that become lost property will be displayed for parent's collection for a period of two weeks. Should these items not be claimed by their rightful owners they will be donated to charity.