



Grenfell Preschool
+ LONG DAY CARE CENTRE

☎ 02 6343 1743 email: office@grenfellpreschool.com.au

Newsletter August 2021.

Star Room

We had CRAZY HAIR DAY on Wednesday 28th July to raise money and awareness for cystic fibrosis. Thank you to all families that participated. Children came with some amazing and CRAZY hair do's.

National Tree Day was celebrated on Friday 30th July. St Joseph's primary school were so generous and kind to donate a tree for each child. If it was your child's scheduled day and they did not receive one, please tell one of our educators and we can arrange for it to go home with your child.

We are working on being respectful to other and to our environment and reminding each other to look after our belongings. Just reminder to families to please ensure children bring their hats, drink bottles and spare clothes labelled. Also, due to the colder weather children are getting hungry. We seem to be looking for more snacks so please, if possible, could we pack a little extra.

Please remember families are always welcome to discuss their child's time in the star room via emails, face to face or phone. Any questions or concerns please feel free to come and talk to us.

We are currently becoming familiar with and talking about the Tokyo Olympics. Lots of discussions about the sports that athletes compete in. Our art works have been around the Olympic rings and what the colours represent.

Garden Room

In the Garden Room this month we have been exploring our feelings and self-regulation. We have been looking at lots of stories and practising regulation activities.

We have also created a new habitat for our frogs and tadpoles. The children love that they can now watch them up close.

As we have been super busy in the Garden Room and getting out in the sunshine as much as possible, we have been noticing some of our children are super hungry. Please pack a few extra snacks in their lunchbox so we can have as much energy as possible to stay happy during our fun filled days.

Rainbow Room

The Rainbow Room educators have been having the best time exploring our resources in new ways, following the children's lead in play– the older children have been ranging in group play with different peers, especially in the construction area, having new and creative conversations with one another. They have also been enjoying gross motor activities – the climbing blocks outside have been very popular, each day children improve their balance and spatial awareness, also thoroughly enjoying our movement time after we have our yummy afternoon tea – our favourite playlist is the wiggles !

We have recently taken interest in different body parts and will be learning the names of our body parts together – We have some very clever children in the rainbow room who can name most of their body parts! Our younger Rainbow Room children have been enjoying a range of sensory craft, and gaining the confidence to explore climbing, which has been fantastic to see.

We would like to remind parents to please write their child's name on ALL clothing items, containers, dummies, nappies and drink bottles – we have had a range of lost property build up. Please don't hesitate to email, call or talk to us at the door about any concerns or feedback 😊

Sunshine Room

Can you believe we are already in August already? Where has the time gone? Many of us have had a birthday and are now big three year olds and over the next few more months the rest of us will be three too. Such a great age as we are continually working on our social skills and extending our communication and language skills. The educators in the room have been working hard at role modelling language skills and using a range of different expressive languages to help us develop these.

Goodness me are we hungry! We have been finding that with our growing bodies we are looking for more snacks at morning and afternoon teas. If possible could you please pack some extra snacks for your child. This could even be extra fruit as sometimes we are super hungry.

Thank you for being mindful about coughs and runny noses. We have been talking and practicing coughing into our elbows and washing our hands after we blow noses. We have also been looking out for our mates too and giving them tissues and reminding them to wash their hands.

Over the next few weeks, we are going to start to explore opposites and what numbers look like. We will keep developing our name recognition skills with most of us being confident in recognising their name. Some children are starting to make markings on paper saying they are writing their name.

Lastly, we have been enjoying Mr Jamie in the room while Miss Mel and Miss Janine have been off unwell. We have enjoyed playing puzzles with him and he is the best dancer. Miss Mel and Miss Janine are on their way to being back to 100% but we will keep seeing Mr Jamie in and around the centre.

Quandialla

Thank you for supporting our Crazy Hair Day for Cystic Fibrosis. The children loved having their hair coloured and colouring Miss Laraine's hair. Also thank you for your donations.

We have been talking about farm safety and what is dangerous on farms. Obviously, a lot of dams have crocodiles and sharks in them. We spoke about how we shouldn't go in dams as we may drown, that we must wear helmets on motorbikes, that animals and tractors can be dangerous.

The children have been enjoying stories. If your child has a favourite story, they can bring it in to share. CBCA Book Week is from August 21st – 27th we will be having a dress up day on the Wednesday 25th August so get your thinking caps on to come dressed as a book character. If you need ideas, please let us know and we can help.

Caragabal

This term we have been concentrating on healthy eating. We've been able to link this to the Olympics and talked about what athletes might eat to be strong and healthy.

We're holding the Caragabal Preschool Olympics at the same time as the Tokyo Olympics. We had a Torch Relay and Opening Ceremony and the children from the school attended to cheer the children on as they ran around with the torch and lit the cauldron.

We talked to the children about doing your best and encouraging each other. The children competed in rock climbing, cycling, tennis and ribbon gymnastics. They were all received medals and were very excited to stand on the podium.



Board Report

The Annual General Meeting for GPLDCC will be convened Monday 20th September 2021. All 3 positions on the Board of Directors will be declared vacant and members of the association will vote to elect the new Board of Directors. Please ensure you have completed the membership application form to complete the membership process which allows you to vote. Contact our Operations Co-ordinator, Lorraine Harveyson, if you need a membership form.

Volunteering on the Board of Directors is a valuable way in which you can support the operational leadership team to deliver a high-quality early childhood education and care service. This a great opportunity for a skilled professional who is committed to supporting our only early childhood education service. If you are interested in being nominated for election, please contact the Board of Directors. For the service to remain open, a Board of Directors must be appointed. If you have any questions about being on the Board, please contact any of the existing Directors.

**Director, Board of Directors
Grenfell Preschool and Long Day Care Centre**

Service Report

Our front doors will remain closed until further notice. It is our aim to let families know of any changes in Government advice as we receive it. Please remember to ring the doorbell whilst waiting for an educator to meet you and your child. We understand how tricky these changes can be, especially for children. We really are grateful for your cooperation and understanding during these tricky COVID times.

There are a large number of clothing items in our 'lost property' box. These items will be out the front of the Service for a short while longer and if they are not claimed, will be added to our spare clothes collection. Please ensure you label your children's belongings; we'd hate for the children to lose their special things.

There have been a number of cases of Gastroenteritis within the community. As per our policy, if any child has vomiting or diarrhoea, they are unable to attend until they are symptom free for 48 hours. Thank you for helping to keep our littlest community members healthy.

Earlier in the year, an email was sent to families regarding certain dates of significance throughout the year and celebratory events such as Mother's Day and Father's Day. As Father's Day approaches, I'd like to remind you all that whilst experiences in recognition of Father's Day will be planned and provided for, children will not be forced to participate. If you would like your child to create something special for Father's Day, please let an educator know in a timely manner.

A recent review of outstanding fees owed to the service has resulted in changes to the process to manage overdue accounts. If you are currently overdue for payment, please prioritise payment of this invoice. You are reminded that arranging regular payment via direct debit is welcomed. Thanks to the families who have implemented this and pay in advance.

We would like to inform parents that the Fees Policy has been revised and updated with the following amendments:

- Fees are on a 14-day term and will be considered in arrears if the account reaches the amount equal to two weeks of fees
- If an account falls into arrears, a letter will be sent to families requesting immediate payment.
- If there is no response or payment of fees, families concerned will be informed that since fees have not been forthcoming, their child's position at the service has been cancelled, and that legal action will be undertaken to recover the outstanding debt. Families are also informed that they will be responsible for meeting any additional costs incurred during this legal process.

It is critical that all parents and carers ensure financial information reported to Centrelink is always up to date. Inaccuracies can lead to significant financial cost that are the responsibility of the family to resolve and may not be covered by CCS.

Holly Ryan
Assistant Director