
MENZIES CREEK PRESCHOOL NEWSLETTER

February
2015

4 y.o

I would like to officially welcome families and children to our 2015 program at Menzies Creek Preschool. Nicole and I are very excited about the year ahead and working with you to create a great year of development and learning for your child.

The children have all settled in lovely this week and I think having the familiar faces from 3yo has assisted some children in this transition process. Nicole and I have enjoyed every minute of this week starting to building trusting relationships with the children.

Term one is a short term of 8 weeks. Our focus in term one is concentrating on getting to know each child and focusing on our heritage, culture and family. This will be reflective in the children's art experiences and around discussions we will have during mat times.

Event Dates for Term 1 – 4yo

Paul Sadler Swimland – Wednesday 18th February

School and preschool family fun day: Saturday 28th February

Heritage Day – Wednesday 4th March

(Come dressed showcasing your cultural heritage and bring a plate of food that reflects this, to share with your friends)

Puffing Billy – Date to be confirmed (may be in term two)

School Assembly visit – Friday 20th March

Last Day of Term One – Friday 27th March

Incursion: We have arranged our first incursion with Paul Sadler Swimland. This incursion is a free event that is really enjoyed by the children. They love having Swordy (the mascot) out at our Preschool. This will be held on Wednesday 18th February.

Excursion: We will have one visit to school assembly during term one on Friday March 20th as it is only a short term. On this day you will be required to drop your child off at the school at 9am out the front of the office. We will then walk back to the preschool with the children. On school excursion dates we will ask for parent helpers with our walk back down to the preschool.

Whole school event: On Saturday February 28th the preschool and school are coming together for a family day afternoon. Please see attached flyer for further details about this event.

Birthdays

If your child has a birthday coming up you are more than welcome to bring something to share with the group. This can be a cake, cupcakes, small chocolates, fruit skewers etc.

We do have a pretend birthday cake that each child will get to blow the candles out on their birthday.

A big **Happy Birthday** to:

Shylah who turned 5 on January 1st

Ethan who turns 5 on February 12th

4yo house keeping

Signing in and out book – If you can please make sure you are writing the actual time of arrival and departure in our sign in and out book it would be appreciated. This is a legal document which needs to reflect the times we have your child on premises.

Eg/ If you arrive at 9.05am please write this instead of 9am.

Packing Food – We currently have no severe allergies to food so at this stage it is ok to pack nuts, peanut butter sandwiches etc. We do ask that you pack your child a healthy lunchbox. Nicole and I encourage healthy eating practice with the children and would like this to reflect in their lunch boxes.

Water only in drink bottles please.

Dropping your child off: At drop off times if you would like to stay for our morning group time that is great, however we do ask you to join us on the mat so it isn't as daunting for the children with adults standing around them.

Also if you are wanting to have a chat with other parents could you please do this outside the main room in our foyer. It is quite distracting for children and staff to hold a group time amongst many conversations that are happening. Thank you.

Parent pockets: Please note that your parent pocket where Nicole and I will put correspondence and excursion forms is situated in our foyer above our sign in and out book. Please check these folders regularly.

Laundry Roster: To support sustainable practices each child is supplied with their own hand towel at preschool. As the children wash their hands many times during the day these towels do required to be washed weekly. To share the load of washing we have a laundry roster (up in foyer under our parent duty roster). You will only be scheduled on twice during the year. If you cannot complete the washing on your selected weekend please try and swap with another family. Thank you.

Parent Duty Roster: It is great to see our duty roster almost full for term one. Your time is valued and we appreciate you assisting with our preschool program. Please remember that the times we have allocated are only as a guide. If you wish to stay longer or come at a different time during the session you are more than welcome. If you have any special talents that you would like to share with the children please inform Nicole or I so we can arrange this as an activity. We love having parent involvement in our program.

Lisa and Nicole

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3 y.o

Hi Families,

First of all a big warm welcome to all of our 3 year old families for 2015!

The year has only just begun and already the children have been very busy and I am so proud to say have settled in so easily to the pre-school environment.

The children have shown interest in many different experiences, these include lego, hammer & nail set and art & craft. At the art & craft table children have enjoyed developing their cutting skills as well as “writing letters” and taking them home in envelopes. I look forward to see the development of these interests in the coming weeks.

Some of the girls in the group have also asked for dancing at group time and so we will be introducing action songs that we can participate in as a group. Engaging in music & movement not only helps develop co-ordination, listening skills and concentration, it also strengthens children’s self-confidence and allows them to express themselves freely.

Throughout Term 1 we will be focusing on developing positive relationships with children and families. To achieve this we will be working both individually and with the whole group, and once children have settled in will begin to encourage our parent participation program.

We look forward to a wonderful term ahead,

Regards,

Sara Hall & Amy Medley.
