

Bits and Bobs

Have you noticed our board for staff photos in the front hallway? Stop on your way through and have a look with your child... It will help to put a name to a face for anyone you have not met yet.

Congratulations to :

Takako, Roger, Kai and
Raiden (R2)



on the arrival of Takeru

Fruit for child care

*Each day your child comes to child care please can you supply one medium size piece of fruit (**no apples please**).*

For children attending 3 or more days per week parents may alternatively bring one large piece of fruit eg. a pineapple or watermelon or a packet of sultanas. This allows each child to contribute something they like to eat. Children enjoy the task of bring the fruit down to the kitchen to give to Grace or Anne



Did You Know???



The parent library is in reception. The library has books on a lot of parenting topics, both fiction and non fiction, ranging from books on learning to use the toilet, sleep habits, to building a worm farm or Dark Emu by Bruce Pascoe. Books can be borrowed for an unlimited time, just write in the folder provided.

Parent Advisory Group 2023

The Parent Advisory Group (PAG) is a group of parents who volunteer to provide advice and support on the day to day management of things like communication, parent participation, policy reviews and Centre events. The group meets once a month, currently on the third Monday of the month from 4.30 to 5.30pm. Meetings are on the Waite Campus.

Current members of PAG are:

Lieke (R1)	Emilie (R2)
Fleur (R1)	Ben (R2)
Emma (R2)	Pei (R2)
Laura (R3)	Katharine (R3)
Rebecca (R3)	Kenzie (R3)

Lara (R3)

Marty (R3, AUCS Board representative)

Gayle (R1, staff representative)

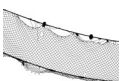
Eleanor (Director)

Snippets:

.....The word 'swims' upside down is still 'swims'.....

.....If you rip a hole in a net there are actually fewer holes in it than there were before.....

**SWIMS
SWIMS**



Button Batteries are a serious risk!

From Kidsafe SA

In Australia, 20 children present to an emergency department each week from a button battery ingestion or insertion.

When swallowed, these small button batteries can get stuck in a child's throat and cause severe burns and long term damage to the airways. Children under the age of 5 years are at the greatest risk. Across Australia, around 20 children a week present to an emergency department with a button battery related injury.

Common items button batteries are found in



watch



car remote



thermometer



calculator



torch keyring



musical card &
other novelty items



remote



fake candle



kitchen scales



hearing aid

We use electronic devices every day without giving them a second thought. But there is a hidden danger inside many small electronic devices that all parents and carers need to know about. Powerful coin-sized button batteries can be found in many household devices such as car remotes, electronic candles, watches, singing greeting cards and other electronic devices. Often these can be easily accessed - even by a child.

Prevention



Look for items
with button batteries



Keep items & loose
batteries out of reach
of children



Secure the
battery compartment



Dispose of
them immediately
and safely

If you suspect a child has swallowed or inserted a button battery, call the Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26 immediately.

Another common place for button batteries is children's shoes! Children's shoes with light up soles have button batteries in the sole. As the shoes wear the button battery can fall out. Educators have found button batteries in the children's outdoor area from these shoes. This presents a safety hazard for the children of WCCC.

Please do not dress your children in these shoes for child care.





What's cooking in the kitchen with Grace?

Worm Farms

Worms that make compost are different to earthworms. Compost worms live in leaf litter on top of and just below the soil surface, whereas those lovely fat earthworms chew their way deep into the soil.

Creating a worm farm at home and using the products produced by the worms will be one of the most beneficial things you can do for your garden. Both the solid and liquid products can be used as soil improvers and fertilisers. Worm farms can be large or small. They can be made of recycled material like an old bathtub or polystyrene box, or they can be purpose built.

Worm farms bought off the shelf usually come with three layers. The bottom layer is where the liquid generated from the worms collects, and this can be tapped off for use in the garden. The other two layers are where the worms live. Begin with the worms in one layer and when that is filled with worm castings the worms (with a bit of help from you) will move into a new box. The castings that remain in the bottom layer can then be used in the garden.

Most kitchen scraps are fine for the worm farm, including fruit and vegies, eggshells, coffee grounds etc. Just chop everything into small pieces. Avoid **citrus and onions**. Also a small amount of leaves, weeds and grass cuttings, paper and cardboard - unwaxed and slightly wet, or vacuum cleaner debris.

At WCCC we have a worm farm that the Room 3 children help take care of. We use the kitchen scraps to feed the worms and use the fertilizer liquid to feed our centre garden. The children love getting involved.



Recipe of the month

Lamb and Apricot Tajine



2 tbsp oil
salt and pepper, to season
2 red capsicums seeded and sliced
½ tsp ground ginger
1½ tsp sweet paprika
1 cup chopped apricots
400g can chopped tomatoes
400g can chickpeas, drained and rinsed
Coriander & Baby spinach for decoration

1 kg lamb shoulder, diced
1 onion, sliced
½ tsp ground turmeric
1½ tsp ground cumin
1 tbsp tomato paste
½ cup raisins
500 ml chicken stock
¼ cup slivered almonds

Heat oil in a saucepan over medium heat. Season diced lamb shoulder with salt and pepper. Working in 2 batches, cook lamb for 5 minutes or until browned.

Remove from pan and set aside, then add onion and capsicums to pan. Cook, stirring, for 4 minutes or until softened. Add ground turmeric, ginger, cumin and sweet paprika and cook, stirring, for 1 minute or until fragrant. Add tomato paste and cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Return lamb to pan.

Add raisins, chopped apricots, chopped tomatoes, chicken stock and chickpeas. Bring to a simmer, then cover and cook for 2 hours, very low heat or until lamb is very tender. Season to taste with salt, pepper, and lemon juice. Scatter over coriander sprigs, baby spinach and serve with **couscous or fragrant rice. Add almonds when serving.**



Kyttons Bakery fundraising is coming in May

We will be having a Lamington Drive in May to raise funds for the redevelopment of the children's outdoor play area.

A range of lamingtons will be available for purchase, payment will be online and collection will be from the centre. EASY!

More information to come!

Traditional Lamingtons



Choc Raspberry or Choc Coffee Lamingtons



Mini Lamingtons



Native Lamingtons – Lemon Myrtle & Coconut



Room One Report to Families

April 2023

We have welcomed Oliver and Harriet and their families to Room One. The children that we welcomed in March have all settled in very well.

The children's interest in dramatic play continues with doll play been a firm favourite. We have been bathing dolls and patting dolls and giving them a cuddle. Making cups of tea in the sandpit continues, with all the children wanting to make cups of sand tea for the educators.

There has a big interest in the new toys in Room One which were kindly donated by a Room One family. One of the favourites is a pop-up bus which has been lots of fun for the children. All taking turns to stand at the front of the bus and be the driver.

Continuing from our PAG report in February the children are still enjoying to help clean up after meals, helping cleaning tables and chairs and sweeping the floor using the child size brooms. The older children are still wanting to help with the younger children by getting a bib for a child having a bottle and helping put on the younger children's hats.

The children have been very busy with a craft experience making Easter eggs with foam shapes and pieces of different colour paper. There was lots of excitement when making the eggs talking about the different colour pieces of paper and the foam shape Easter eggs.

The climbing equipment still provides lots of fun and entertainment with a different set up of climbing equipment each day.

With regards, Room One team – Gayle, Cherry, Karen, Tamala, Yaejee & Zoe.



Room Two Report to Families

April 2023

As per our Centre's philosophy, and guided by our Term Goal, we focused this term on **building a nurturing relationship with the children** to increase their feeling of belonging and community in Room Two.

Our Team is practicing a **holistic, play-based, and art-based approach** to support the children building a secure attachment with educators and their friends this term. We applied holistic approach to support children exploring as a way of learning by becoming highly engaged and actively participating in different activities. The play-based approach is being used for inventively engaging with objects, people and the environment. Through the art-based approach, we are providing an opportunities learning and interacting with the artworks in a fun way.

In March, on Harmony Day, we organized a **picnic in the Rose Garden to celebrate cultural diversity, promote inclusion, and respect for each other**. While we were walking and crossing the road, children had great opportunities to learn about road safety rules like looking on both sides, stopping at stop sign, and walking carefully. In the garden, children had fun climbing trees, rolling on the ground, and exploring nature. Children also had lunch together with their friends, and parents which was a great opportunity to explore a greater sense of community and connecting with nature. We also utilised this opportunity to learn about appreciating and taking care of nature.

Recently, we are giving more priority to visit Butterfly Garden and adventure playground **to explore nature together**. Children enjoy observing insects, and birds with great enthusiasm along with their friends which have increased their love for nature and empathy for all living things. It also provides a platform to discuss the large scope of nature with open-ended questions, which is a great opportunity to learn about the necessity of green space and habitat. Most importantly, children can immerse themselves in nature while having fun together. Children are also becoming more confident in taking risk while climbing and walking in the garden. It helps them learn about depth of perception, stability and height. They are also learning to grip and grasp properly while climbing trees. This can be essential skill to be transferred into classroom skills like holding a pencil correctly to improve their handwriting in the future.

Children are also more interested in **painting and art-craft activities** this month. They have painted tree barks, dry leaves, and sticks. We displayed and used their creations to decorate our classroom . These experiences have motivated the children to improve their **communication, emotional intelligence, and critical thinking skills**. Children are also encouraged to talk about their creations with their peers which help them feel a sense of belonging and connection in Room Two.

In conclusion, Room Two children are learning to build strong and confident friendships which is very important for their **social and cultural identity**. We also observed that **trusting, secure, and reciprocal relationships are starting to form grow with their peers**. Children are starting to show interest involving in group play experiences with other children. They are motivated to work cooperatively in a group to achieve a common goal. They also have developed **feeling of concern, consideration and empathy** for their peers which is an important sign of emotional growth.

Room Three Report to Families

April 2023

Before we know, the first Term has nearly come to the end. We have had some changes in our procedures since Covid situation ease, such as dropping off/pick up back inside and choice of wearing mask, etc...; we do keep on some good hygiene practice, like washing hands on arrival, which is very effective.

We noticed all the children has made great transition process, and by giving children time to undertake tasks with timely support, each individual child is able to experience the wonderful feeling of 'the power of yet' and a sense of achievement. To learn/acquire self-care skills, and then extending to show care and help others, gives children great feelings of being capable and connecting with the world around them.

There are some challenges with some children who need extra nurturing. By building connections with these children, using strengths (from both children and educator) and interests of the children to engage them in play, plus sharing ideas of what works for each child with effective communication between educators, we are working it out as a team.

Different dynamic between children and groups starting to establish, and it's lovely to see children feeling confident and step out their comfort zone to explore, try new things/ experiences/relationships and helping each other.

Children enjoy a wide range of play experiences; construction play, sandpit play, home corner cooking, drawing/painting/colouring/cutting, family book, walks and picnics, pretend play, physical activity...., just to name a few. We continue to observe children's interests and progress and adding resource to extend their learning.

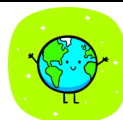
The interest of bugs and insects continue. Children enjoy 'Bug hunting' outside and observing. Stick insects are going well; children love to observe and hold the baby Cyclone Larry stick insects. We have lots of nymphs (stick insects baby) to rehome; some families have welcomed some home and we love to hear how the stick insects going with those children and families.

We noticed the change of season; the weather start getting cooler and there will be more wet days. It means soon we will start have fire and cooking experiences again, some children have already been asking us when are we going to make pancakes. Term 2 Pilyabilyangga Day will be Friday. Please have suitable clothes and footwear on the day for children so they can enjoy their time exploring the nature.

Waite Campus Childrens Centre calendar

April

22nd April



Earth Day

25th April



Centre closed Anzac Day

May

Term 2: 1st May to 7th July

Education for Sustainability
Wednesday

R2/3 Pilyabilyangga Friday

6th May

Working Bee in Pilyabilyangga

7th May

World Laughter Day



14th May



Mother's Day

23rd May



World Turtle Day



25th May



National Simultaneous Storytime
The Speedy Sloth by Rebecca Young

26th May



National Sorry Day

27th May – 3rd June

National Reconciliation Week

June

1st – 30th June

Pride Month



1st June



Dinosaur Day



5th June

World Environment Day

21st June



International Day of Yoga