
Waite Campus Childrens Centre Parent Newsletter

From the Director

May 2011

New Payment Options for Child Care Rebate

From **4 July 2011** new payments options are available to families.

All families who are registered for CCB and CCCR should have received a letter from the Family Assistance Office regarding options for them to consider.

You have the option to:

Change your current arrangement to:

Have the rebate paid directly to the Centre on a weekly/fortnightly basis depending on the billing cycle of the service. For WCCC this would be weekly.

(Families choosing this rate who are also in receipt of Child Care Benefit will have 15 percent of their entitlement withheld until the end of the financial year reconciliation)

Or

Weekly/fortnightly paid directly into your nominated account. (Families choosing this rate who are also in receipt of Child Care Benefit will have 15 percent of their entitlement withheld until the end of the financial year reconciliation).

Or you can continue with your current arrangement be it:

Quarterly paid into your nominated account.

Annually paid into your nominated account.

If you choose to have the rebate paid on a weekly/fortnightly basis our advice is that this would be best paid on your behalf as a fee reduction to the Centre.

This will prevent double handling of money!

You need to make a choice by **17th June 2011**

If you have not received your letter call **136150**

Parent Evening

Our second parent evening for 2011
will be held on

Wednesday June 29th 7-9pm.

Our guest speaker will be from the
Australian Centre for Education in Sleep .

Sleep is a more important basic daily
requirement than food or water.

"Without sleep, nothing else in the body works,"
Dr Blunden says. "Everyone needs sleep, but
children really need it for their growing brain."

Come and learn how everyone in the family can
get a better nights sleep . Then spend some time
with your child's educators and read and discuss
their learning portfolios.

** Please note the original date was 21st June.

The date has changed due to a booking error by
ACES.

Play Again

*What are the consequences of a childhood
removed from nature?*

"What they do not know they will not protect.

What they do not protect they will loose."

This is MUST SEE viewing for anyone who is inter-
ested in children growing up today.

Thursday 23rd June, 7:00-9:30pm Union Cinema,
Adelaide University

\$10 General Admission \$5 for AAEE members /
concession / student /child

\$15 for 2 tickets - bring a friend!

Check out the website to see a short preview at

www.playagainfilm.com

RSVP to Claire Butler by Monday 20 June

on 8370 1298 or

claire.butler@nrmeducation.net.au

This event is co-sponsored by NRM Education

Welcome to:

The following children and their families
Ben and Sienna
who are joining Room 2
And Harrison who is
joining Room 1.

Bookings and enrolments

As noted in the April newsletter all rooms are fully booked on all days with the exception of Room 3 which has a couple of places available on Friday.

We have a group of children who will transition to school in July allowing us to transition older 3 years olds from Room 2. However we have a younger group of children in Room 1 and few to transition at this time. We have siblings to commence in July, several families wishing to increase their booking, and many families on our waiting list.

Changes:

If you are planning to make any changes to your child's booking please let us know as early as possible.

Minimum bookings:

Please remember that children are required to have a booking of two full days. We do have a few one day bookings for families on maternity leave or new to child care. These must be discussed and negotiated with the Director.

While we also offer 1/2 day sessions, however, these are limited in each room.

Board and PAG Matters 2011

Adelaide University Childcare Services Inc

(AUCS) meets on the last Monday of the month, At our meeting on Wednesday 18th May we had several new members join us. The PAG for WCCC is now

Merrilyn Larusson (R3) also Board member, Gemma Crisp (R3), Tim Sutton (R2), Graham Heinson (R1/R3), Mango Parker (R2), Greg Naglis (R2/R3), Michelle Gegenhuber (R3), Kathy Szvaras (R1/R2), Ben Hyde (R1), Liz Matthews (R3), Rebecca Stoner (R3)
The educator rep position is being shared between Eleanor (R1) and Vikki (R3). Dani is the educator/ staff rep for Education for Sustainability.

After general reports the focus of our meeting was on our Site Environment Management Plan (SEMP) which is the working document for our AUSSI SA planning.

Discussions around partnerships, community and guiding principles will continue as the document is developed.

Budgets 2011-2012

The new fees, effective from Monday 4 July 2011 will be:

	Under 2's	Over 2's
Weekly	\$385	\$380
Day	\$78	\$77
Session AM	\$46	\$45
Session PM	\$45	\$44

Bonds will also be updated during July.

Educators and staff:

Some of you may have noticed that both the terms educator and staff are used with reference to employees of the Centre. We have begun using the title educators because this is what is used in the National Quality Standard and Early Years Learning Framework. "Educators: *early childhood practitioners who work directly with children in early childhood settings.*"

Staff is more inclusive and includes all people working in the Centre including administration staff, cooks and other support staff.

Changes and holidays: Helen G is on annual leave May 16– 27th, Kathy is on annual leave May 16— June 3rd, Kaarin on annual leave June 6-17th and Heather on annual leave June 20-24th.

When Helen G returns she will be reducing her hours and taking on a more flexible role in the Centre. We expect that most of her work will be in Room 1 for the next few months but she will no longer have a primary care giving role. This position has been advertised internally to educators holding a Cert 111 in Children's Services and the appropriate process for appointment is being considered.

Professional Development: Educators have continued to update their first aid qualifications.

Eleanor and Pina are attending an Australian Childhood Foundation workshop 'Bring Up Great Kids' on Tuesday June 7th and Eunice and Lucy will attend a 1 day conference for teachers of Chinese on Friday June 10th

Waite Campus Childrens Centre Green Page

Sustainable living at home with the Naglis family: saving energy and water!

Julie, and Greg, tell some of the things they are doing at home:

“Our off-peak electric hot water heater accounts for around one third of our total electricity consumption. We need to upgrade to a more energy efficient unit. We don't get a lot of sun in the Hills in winter and our house is quite shaded by gum trees, so we are opting for a heat pump unit, which extracts energy from the air to heat water – even at night! Heat pump units are eligible for the same renewable energy certificates (RECs) and government rebates as solar water heaters. We will install the heat pump unit near to the kitchen/laundry, where we frequently use small volumes of hot water. For the bathrooms at the other end of the house, we will install a hot water recirculation system. This system will divert water into the cold water supply line until heated water reaches the bathroom taps, so will reduce water wastage. This is important for us because we recently had around 30,000 L of rainwater storage plumbed into our house, which we hope will meet our family's water needs.”

Do you have some tips or ideas on ways that families can save energy or improve their sustainable living practices? May be you have some questions? We would like to hear your stories of what you are doing at home.

Just email to: childcare.waite@adelaide.edu.au and title it *Sustainable living at home.the ? family.*

Pilyabilyangga– the butterfly place

Pilyabilyangga is the name of our outdoor classroom and garden which is located at the western and southern ends of the Centre. Pilyabilyangga means butterfly place in Kaurna. This name was given to us by the Kaurna Warra Pintyandi Group (Kaurna elders). At the working bee on Saturday 7th May we planted an additional 200 local native seedlings. Once again the weather was ideal for planting followed a few days later by some good rain. The small wetland area is almost complete with grasses and sedges to be planted soon. We have now set a date for our official opening. This will be Wednesday 19th October from 5-7pm. Before this date we will also be working on some interpretive signage .

Ecoversity and Fair Trade

“The University of Adelaide is committed to upholding objectives of social and environmental responsibility in all its activities. To demonstrate this, the University wishes to become a Fair Trade accredited University.” the requirements for certification include:

*Fairtrade Certified products are made readily available at reasonable prices in as many on-campus retail outlets as possible.

*Fairtrade Certified coffee and tea are the default option at all UC and SU meetings and in university / SU offices and departments.

WCCC is joining with the this objective and is now moving towards having only Fairtrade tea and coffee in our staff room. Fairtrade provides fair and stable prices, decent working conditions, local

sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. The Fairtrade label also means that farmers and workers in developing countries can strengthen their businesses and invest in projects to benefit their communities, such as education, healthcare or environmental protection. Learn more about this at: www.adelaide.edu.au/ecoversity/topics/purchasing/fairtrade/

To get Fairtrade tea and coffee in your staff kitchen contact Mathew Jeffrey or Libby Dowling.

Green Notice board

This is located in the hall way.

Our Carbon Neutral certification is displayed . This area is also use to display events of interest to families with respect to sustainable living and environmental education.

Please take time to look and read!

Recycling at WCCC

Remember that we have newspaper recycling bins located in the service area on the south side of the building. You can bring all newspapers from home and friends and family too.

Just remember to remove any glossy flyers or inserts. The money we receive is being saved for special children's projects. To date we have received \$163. Old mobile phones can also be recycled in the 'mobile muster' box located next to the office door.