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# Waite Campus Childrens Centre Parent Newsletter

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June 2008

## **Please read this newsletter to find out more about:**

- ◆ Reading challenge—Book Week 2008
- ◆ An evening at the Bureau of Meteorology
- ◆ Illness and medication
- ◆ Staff matters
- ◆ Bookings and enrolments
- ◆ New books

## **Book Challenge 2008— *Fuel Your Mind with Books***

We are having another book challenge to coincide with Book Week this year  
August 18 to 22.

In 2007 we read 1259 books so this year we are hoping to read more.

Our goal will be to have 1350 books read to the children at the Centre by parents, grandparents, staff and visitors. We again have Urrbrae High School students eager to participate.

We will have lots of new books and many old favourites for you to read and welcome families bringing their own favourite books as well.

Susan Hill, Associate Professor Early Childhood Education, University of South Australia ,  
in her program 'Building Literacy Before School ' (2008) notes:

- ◆ It's never too early to start reading to your baby-children actually learn the foundation skills of literacy in the first three years.
- ◆ Reading aloud to children is the single most important activity for building the skills and knowledge necessary for successful literacy learning
- ◆ Children build literacy skills long before they start school and these make it easier for a child to learn to read when they start formal education
- ◆ Children who are good readers are usually successful learners and do better at school
- ◆ Children whose parents read more easily about reading habits themselves
- ◆ Sharing books with children is fun and creates a special bond between you and your child.

## **Sustainable Futures— Global Warming's Finger print**

If we are going to deal with climate change we need good information on what is happening and what changes we can expect. Australian scientists have been collecting a broad range of data for many years. This data is now providing a comprehensive picture of climate change in Australia.

If you are interested in knowing more about climate change please join the staff for an evening at the Bureau of Meteorology , Kentown, on Monday August 18.

This session will run from 6.30 to 8.30pm with a light supper provided.

The learning outcomes include:

An increased understanding of climate change and an overview of bureau of meteorology observation area. Please collect an attendance notification from the parent notice board and return the Centre by Friday 8 the August.

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## *New babes*

Congratulations to:

Brae (R2), Brandy and Ben on the birth of  
April 9/6/08

and to

Thomas S (R2), Ariarne, Scott and Luke on the  
birth of Samuel 29/6/08

## **Board and PAG Matters 2008**

**Adelaide University Childcare Services Inc (AUCS)** Board has changed its meeting times to the last Monday of the month. The next meeting Monday 25 July.

The **Parent Advisory Group (PAG)** meets on the **third** Friday of the month. The next PAG meeting will be Friday July 18.

## **Illness and Medication:**

**With winter arriving and the likelihood of an increase in illness among children families and staff it is a good time to remind everyone of some key points.**

**Please keep your child at home if they require 1:1 attention with and adult and are not well enough to participate in daily experiences and routines.**

**Please ask your doctor to prescribe medication that is taken outside childcare hours as much as possible.**

**Medication plans must be provided whenever children are prescribed medication which must be administered at childcare.**

**If you do not have a current WCCC *Guidelines to Illness and Medication (2007)* please go to the website [www.adelaide.edu.au/childcare/waite](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/childcare/waite)**

## **Diary Dates 2008**

**Book Week—August 18-22**

**Parent Evening** - Wednesday September 17

**Family Picnic**— Sunday 19 October-  
celebrating Children's Week- (confirmed)

**End of Year Celebration** -Wednesday  
December 17

**Centre Closure** -1pm Wednesday 24 De-

## **Staff matters**

Welcome to Heather who has joined our staff team as cook.

Marta is a now a permanent staff member, joining the Room 1 team as a part-time CSP1.

Kathy has commenced her long service leave and we hope her travels around Australia will be both relaxing and safe. Kathy will move to Room 2 when she returns from LSL in September.

Yvett will be making a visit to her family in Hungary and will be away 9/7/08 until 8/8/08. Penny and Jacqui are returning from Hong Kong in July and may join us as relief staff as they re-settle in Adelaide.

## **Administration matters**

\*We are still waiting for many families to provide us with the birthdates of the Child Care Benefit (CCB) recipient. This information is required for the new Child Care Management System (CCMS) which is now being introduced by the Federal Government.

Families who would like more information on the changes to Child Care Benefit and the Child Care Tax Rebate can obtain this

information from [www.familyassist.gov.au](http://www.familyassist.gov.au)

### Bookings and enrolments

Please remember to provide us with timely information with respect to any changes related to your child and their enrolment including change of: address, work/home contact numbers, emergency contacts, departure and arrival times, allergies/dietary needs and especially booking changes.

### Transitions:

We have a group of children transitioning from Room 1 to Room 2 and from Room 2 to Room 3. These transition groups continue to be dependent on vacancies.

## **New Books to the parent library:**

*School lunches and after school snacks*—provides ideas on healthy eating for children.  
*Rainbow Kids*— outlines a strategy to help children deal with life challenges like loss and serious illness.

*Everyone's got a bottom* is a child friendly story that supports the introduction and discussion of protective behaviours with young children.

*Climate Change*— what you can do about it at work, home and school.