



Mountain Community Children's Centre

Family Newsletter

February 2023

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News from Louisa

Welcome to our first 2023 edition of the newsletter.

We are looking forward to another wonderful year with all of our families. Welcome to all our new children and families to Mountain Community

Children's Centre. We hope you will enjoy your time at our centre. Please feel free to come and see me if I can help with anything at all.

Sharing Photos of holidays or special events

Please feel free to continue to email any special photos from holidays or weekend adventures that your child may like to share with the room for news. Please email photos to mountainchildren@bigpond.com and we can print them out for your child to show for news. You may also like to include a brief description to prompt questions. If we do not get time to do news on the day, then we will do them on the next day your child attends the centre.

Nut Free Lunchboxes

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation to keep the Centre nut free due to children with allergies. Just a reminder to please not pack any nuts or food containing nuts. This includes peanut butter, Nutella, muesli bars and any spreads containing nuts.



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News from Louisa (cont.)..

Staffing for 2023

We welcome Lovely, our new Educator studying her Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care. Lovely will be assisting Antoinette with programming and lunch breaks. If you have not introduced yourself, please say hi.



Cassidy (from the Joey's room) will also be beginning studying her Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care. We wish them both the best with their studies.

Kind Regards

Louisa Foxford
Nominated Supervisor





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News from our Educational Leader Kathy

As part of our philosophy, we believe in working in partnerships with our families for the benefit of our children and Centre. We encourage our families to participate in our centre in any way they can. This could be as simple as providing a family photo for a family tree, providing news experiences for the children to share, donation of craft materials or excess produce, or feedback on our experiences within the centre, for instance responding to our daily PowerPoint emails with some comments.

We will be sending out an electronic survey to families to complete to provide us with goals that each family would like us to work towards with the children. They may be short-term or long-term goals, examples include social skills, fine motor skills, self-help independence skills such as toileting and handwashing and so on. Our Educators can assist you with ideas or suggestions if you unsure what to write. These goals can then be incorporated into our program and curriculum. Please complete the survey at your earliest convenience when received. Thank you in advance for your contributions to this.

If you have any questions or suggestions for our program, please do not hesitate to speak to the educators.

Until next month

Kathy

MCCC Educational Leader





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Joey's Room News

Kristy Hirons (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday), Cassidy Turner (Monday to Friday), Trudy Gray (Monday to Friday), Eva Sung (Tuesday to Friday), Jessica Hines (Casual), Antoinette Xuereb (Programming and Lunch Cover), Lovely Samejon (Programming and Lunch Cover), Abigail Rickards (Casual)

Welcome back Joey Families, and welcome to our new families and children starting with us for the very first time. We know this can be a big experience for both the children and the families and would like to assure you that we're here to help you transition and are happy to answer any questions you may have.

A special welcome to our new Joeys this month **Aaliyah, Atlas, Banjo, Beau, Blaine, Daisy, Felix, Grace and William**. It is wonderful to have you join us, and we can't wait to get to spend more time getting to know you and learning about all your favourite things to play with and do over the coming months.





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Joey's Room News (cont.) ...

We started the year celebrating the Lunar New Year (the Year of the Rabbit) eating some delicious Spring Rolls for Lunar New Year's Eve, creating a large colourful dragon made of all of the children's handprints, adorable footprint bunnies and hanging spiral dragons.

We are in the process of creating the children's personalised locker and hat pocket labels, so that children and families can easily identify their belongings and where to put them away. We are also establishing our new Family Tree on the sleep room door and would love if you could send in one photo of your child with their family members. This helps the children have a strong sense of belonging. We are happy for the photos to be emailed in, as we can print them for you here.





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Joey's Room News (cont.) ...

Until Next Time,

Trudy, Kristy, Cassidy, Eva, Abi, Jess, Antoinette and Lovely

Joeys Room Staff

Trudy



Kristy



Cassidy



Jess



Eva



Antoinette



Abi



Lovely





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Lizard Room News

Room Leader – Paris Helson (Monday to Friday), Belinda Stark (Tuesday to Friday), Mary Todd (Monday, Thursday and Friday), Antoinette Xuereb (Programming and Lunch Cover), Lovely Samejon (Programming and Lunch Cover)

Hi Everyone and welcome back to a brand-new year!

We are very excited to see all our new and returning Lizard friends.

We would love to welcome all the new Lizards that have joined us this year - Mila, Jasper, Layla, Oakley and Athea. They have already settled into our centre well and are starting to find new friendships.

As we continue to settle the lizards into their new room, we are focussing on their self-help skills. This includes putting their own shoes and socks on, pulling their own pants up and down when they go to the toilet, making their own beds for rest time and using the bubblers outside to get themselves a drink.

We celebrated Lunar New Year by making paper lanterns and dragons out of paper plates. The children also enjoyed cooking some fried rice and trying some dim sims and spring rolls. It is Year of the Rabbit this year, so we also painted some rabbits and put them on the wall to decorate our room.

The Lizards drew some pictures of their families for the wall to share with everyone before we went into our Australian theme. We read stories about Australian animals and had an interest table for the children to explore and discuss as they interacted with each other. We have also done lots of Australian Animal Craft practicing our scissor skills.



We have also done lots of Australian Animal Craft practicing our scissor skills.





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Lizard Room News (cont.) ...

The Dolls and Home corner have been popular with the children pushing the prams around and feeding and caring for their babies. This area helps promote their social skills as they are turn taking roles.



Thank you Paris, Belinda, Mary, Antoinette (Tuesday) and Holly (Wednesday)



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Lizard Room News (cont.) ...

Paris



Belinda



Mary



Lovely



Antoinette



Holly





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Snake Room News

Room Leader – Kathy Rawsthorne (Tuesday to Friday), Allison Monaghan (Monday to Friday), Lovely (Programming and Lunch Cover), Holly Pearce (Monday)

Welcome back! We hope you all had a wonderful break over Christmas. We are so excited to see everyone return for another exciting year in the Snake Room! We firstly want to welcome our new friend Joseph, he has settled in well and has enjoyed making some new friends. We are also excited to welcome the new Snake friends who have come up from the Lizard Room as well as some returning Snake friends from last year.

Upon return, we have been focusing on developing feelings of belonging and providing the children with agency (allowing them to choose their own toys and learning experiences which assists with developing their feelings of belonging and identity to their new room) while they form relationships with the other children and educators.

Inside, we have been learning about our country – Australia. Our focus has been on our unique Australian wildlife and where Australia is situated on the globe. We discuss what it means to be Australian and we are incorporating and appreciating indigenous culture by implementing it into the program. At group time, the children have enjoyed learning some classic Australiana songs, including 'We are one' and 'Give me a home among the gum trees' as well as reading some favourite books, like 'Possum magic' and 'Wombat Stew'.



This has inspired the snakes to get creative during their play where they used all sorts of natural materials and loose parts to create habitats for the Australian Animal toys that are in the 'Australiana' interest area.



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Snake Room News (cont.) ...

We have been learning all about Lunar new year and the traditions that make it such a wonderful celebration. We were lucky enough to still have Eunice with us to teach all our snakes about how her family celebrates Lunar New Year at home. At group time, we watched a video about lion dancing before the snakes used their creativity to make some paper lanterns and fireworks. We also incorporated some delicious cooking into our program with everyone helping to make some delicious fried rice as well as spring rolls.



Incorporating these special celebrations into our curriculum promotes the children's awareness of the cultural diversity that exists in our community. This promotes acceptance and respect for diversity of culture, backgrounds, and traditions. We have introduced our special 'Bingo the holiday Dingo' toy to our room. Bingo has the very lucky job of accompanying any of our snake friends on their holidays. As the children visit different places on their holidays, they are encouraged to take some photos of Bingo doing something there. Once

they come back to school, they can use the photos to tell all their friends about the fun things they did with Bingo. When you are going to go on a holiday, make sure you tell Kathy or Ally so they can make sure Bingo is all 'packed' and ready to join you.



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Snake Room News (cont.) ...

We value your input so if you have any suggestions, input or questions please don't hesitate to speak to either Kathy or Ally.

We are looking forward to a wonderful year!

Until next time.

Kathy, Ally, Holly, Antoinette and Lovely

Kathy



Ally



Holly



Antoinette



Lovely





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News from the Office

Working Hours of Administration Officer

I work part time and am at the Centre on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between 9.30am and 3.30pm. If you need to contact me, please feel free to do so on my workdays - Mondays, Wednesdays or Fridays. You can also email me at any time at mountainchildren@bigpond.com and I will get back to you on my next workday. In urgent cases, please feel free to contact the Centre on any of our opening days (Mondays – Fridays from 7.30am to 5.30pm) and speak to any of our staff.

Statements

Statements are sent out weekly on Fridays. Please check your statements closely - on page 3 or 4 under “**Account Transactions**” of your statement you will find the future payment to be deducted with “**Fee Payment by Batch DD/ CC**” in bold and the date and amount next to it. If there is ever a problem with the date or amount to be deducted and you need to change this, please contact us as soon as possible to avoid a dishonour fee of \$19.95 (this is charged by Debitsuccess who handles the payments for us and beyond our control). If you need to make any changes to your payment date or amount, please let us know with a minimum of 48 hours’ notice to amend a payment as they are locked in by Debitsuccess after.

Immunisations

Thank you to everyone who has recently sent through their children’s updated immunisation history statements. Updated immunisation history statements can be downloaded from your Medicare services within your myGov account. Please ensure that you email us an updated copy after each immunisation as we are legally required to keep them in your child’s file.

Hannah

Administration Officer

