



Mountain Community Children's Centre

Family Newsletter

June 2018

News from Louisa ...

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I would like to warmly welcome you to our June newsletter. We would also like to welcome our new families and children - Ariella, Bentley, Elias, Izidors and Riley. We hope you will enjoy your time here with us.

Director of the Year Award

I am very exciting that I have been selected as the NSW Director of the Year in the Australian Early Education and Care Awards. I will be giving a presentation to the judging panel in Sydney on Thursday 14th June to be judged as the Australian Director of the Year. I will also be attending an awards dinner in Sydney on Friday the 15th June. I am very excited for this opportunity and I thank each and every family and staff for your support.

Staff Changes

With Ashley leaving the Centre, Alix has replaced her in the Joeys room. We are in the process of reviewing applications for a new staff member to fill the vacant position.

New Casual Educator

We welcome Stephanie to the team of casuals. Steph is studying her degree in Early Childhood. Please make her feel welcome and say hello.

Casey's Warehouse Shopping Night

We have organised another exclusive shopping night for our families from our centre on October 16. So, if you would like to hold off on your Christmas shopping until then and join us for a night of fun, we would love to see you there! We will share more details closer to the date.

Christmas Concert

Once again, we are very much looking forward to having our Christmas Concert at the end of the year! It will be held on December 2 at Kulnura Hall. Please mark the date in your diary and we will share more details once they become available.



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News from Louisa ... (cont.)

Warm Clothes

Please send in labelled jackets for your child to wear in the colder weather.

Blankets for sleep time

If you haven't done so already, please bring in a labelled blanket for your child's rest time. We can keep this blanket in your child's sheet bag.

Family Picnic

One of our families is organising a family picnic day for local families on Sunday 17th of June at Mangrove Sports Oval. More details to follow closer to the date.

Hats

If you drop off your child at the centre when the staff and the other children are already playing outside, could you please ensure your child is wearing a hat before taking them outside to join their friends.

Sharing your skills or talents

Do you or someone in your family have a skill or talent that you could share with the children? This could be playing an instrument, cooking, gardening or anything else. We would love to have you join us and share this talent with the children. We love supporting and encouraging our partnerships with families.

We have an open-door policy. If you have any friends who would be interested in the centre please send them to visit. They are welcome anytime.

If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to come and see me. Or if you would like to contribute in any way to the experience with the children please come and see me or email suggestions to louisa_f@bigpond.com.

Kind Regards

Louisa Foxford

Nominated Supervisor



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Joey's Room News ...

Room Leader – Mary Todd (Monday to Friday), Alix Mear (Trainee, Monday to Friday) and Kristie Rahkola (Monday, Wednesday and Friday)

Welcome to our new friends Riley and Bentley. We are excited to have you with us and hope you will have a great time in our Joey's room.

What a busy month we have had. It has been wonderful to have the opportunity to share time with our beautiful families during our Mothers' day afternoon and Family week celebration and for the children to have the opportunity to share their art works and daily activities.

This Wednesday we participated in National Simultaneous Reading time. This year's book was called Hickory Dickory Dash by Tony Wilson and Laura Wood. We read the story and then participated some activities relating to the story.

The children have been expressing an interest in colour and shape recognition we are continuing to support and extent upon this interest though creative opportunities and stories. Starting next week we are going to have a focus colour each week for the next four weeks, this would involve, where possible the children wearing that week's focus colour and we will do activities focusing on that colour. Week 1: 4^h June Focus Colour Red

Week 2: 11th June Focus Colour Blue

Week 3: 18th June Focus Colour Green

Week 4 : 25th June Focus Colour Yellow

We have also been promoting gross motor and balance skills by encouraging the children to explore and experiment with different ways to move through climbing, jumping, crawling and dance. "Shaking our sillies out" and "Jump, Jump" are our favourite dances.

Over the last month we have introduced our fish tank into the room. The children are thoroughly enjoying them. Most of the children spend at least some time during the day watching the fish. "Look! Little fish" Said Sam pointing to the smallest of our fish.

Regards

Mary, Alix, Kristie and Jess



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Lizard Room News ...

Room Leader – Belinda Stark (Monday to Friday), Alison Monaghan (Monday to Friday)

We would like to welcome our new friends Lily, Zoey and Izidors to the Lizard room. It is wonderful to have you with us.

Lately in the lizard room we have been celebrating some important days. We began by celebrating ANZAC day at the end of April. Using chopped up pieces of red cellophane, black crepe paper and a paper plate we created our own poppies. This allowed the children to use their fine motor skills to manipulate the pieces to decorate the plate. We continued to commemorate this special day by reading the book "My grandpa marches on ANZAC day" at group time and making some ANZAC biscuits. The lizard children each took turns mixing and pouring the ingredients before enjoying the yummy biscuits outside.

We then moved our focus to Mother's Day. The children all worked hard to make their Mother's Day presents with their handprints and fingerprints. They then drew a portrait of their mummy and told us all about their mummies and what fun things they do together. We loved having our mums, grandmas and some dads come and join us for our Mother's Day afternoon tea. We all really enjoyed decorating the cupcakes with icing, sprinkles and marshmallows before we did some drawing and showed off our lizard room with all our artwork. We hope all the mothers enjoyed their presents and had a wonderful Mother's Day.

On May 18th we celebrated national families' week. For those who have brought in a family photo the children have had the chance to tell their friends about their family before sticking their photo up on our family tree. (For those who haven't brought in a photo you still can). The children also drew their own families to stick next to our family tree so make sure you have a look. On Friday afternoon we invited our families to join us for a BBQ. We loved having you join us to share the sausages and eat some cake.

On the 15th of May, we had a very special visit from a circus. The children were all very intrigued as they watched the lady ride a unicycle whilst skipping; balance a chair on her face, spin plates on a pole and juggle. (There were non-stop giggles and smiles from the lizards throughout the show.)

Over the next few weeks some of the children may come home with a sticker on their lunchbox. These are our magic lunchbox stickers for healthy lunchboxes. We have been reading the magic lunchbox story at group time. This book helps to teach children what food is considered healthy (and should be brought to school) and which foods are sometimes foods. The children are all very keen to check their lunchboxes at lunchtime to see if they have "a magic lunchbox."



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Lizard Room News ... (cont.)

With the cold weather quickly upon us can you please ensure your child has warm clothes and jackets in their bag as well as provide them with a warm blanket for rest time as it can get very cold. Also, if you haven't already can you please return your child's goal sheet.

Bye for now,

Belinda and Ally



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Snake Room News ...

Room Leader – Kathy Rawsthorne (Monday to Thursday), Rhiannon Hines (Monday to Friday)

We hope all our beautiful mums and grandmas had a lovely Mother's Day. The children loved making their special necklaces for their mums. We hope you are wearing them every day!

After Mother's Day we celebrated "Families Week". The children all enjoyed drawing their families which we displayed near our Family tree. We finished the week with a wonderful family BBQ get together. Don't forget to bring in your family photo if you haven't already done so.

We enjoyed having Sarah in our room as she completed her Prac part of her Diploma course. She presented some wonderful learning experiences for everyone to enjoy – including some wonderful camping dramatic play, a bugs & insects discovery centre and a fun treasure hunt outside. We wish Sarah all the best for her future in early education and care.

Rhii has now begun a 3 week prac block as she reaches the end of her Diploma course. Based on the children's interests she has created a fantastic dinosaur dramatic play area in our room.

There are lots of learning experiences in the area – including a viney cave, a sand area to explore for fossils, lots of dinosaurs to investigate and literacy items to promote literacy learning – books and pictures. We will be learning all about dinosaurs – their names, whether they are meat eaters or plant eaters and so on.

We have also introduced the 'Magic Lunchbox' in our room to promote healthy lunchboxes and healthy wholesome eating and to try to cut back on the packaged high sugar, high fat foods that some children like to eat. The children who have a healthy lunchbox received a "Magic Lunchbox" sticker – which they love!

We will be incorporating healthy food discussions during our language group times, as well as opportunities to participate in healthy foods crafts. This all relates to our centre's healthy food policy as well as outcome 3.2 where children take increasing responsibility for their own health and physical wellbeing.

Some of the children have been noticing the change in the weather and the autumn trees with beautiful autumn leaves in their natural environment. Jackson asked "Why are the leaves changing colour?" So, we have been discussing autumn and collecting autumn leaves to investigate and use for our art/ craft times.



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Snake Room News ... (cont.)

We have nearly finished our special picture plates. The children's drawings are gorgeous!

Until next time,

Kathy and Rhi



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News from the Office ...

Transition to Child Care Subsidy from July 1 – YOUR ACTION IS REQUIRED

To the families, who have already linked their myGov to their Centrelink account and have completed the online Child Care Subsidy assessment, thank you!

To all others, **please access your myGov account and link your Centrelink online account** to it. You will then be asked to **complete the child care subsidy assessment online**. Please do not delay this as otherwise you will not be eligible for any Government money towards your child care fees after July 1.

Digital Sign Ins and Outs

We are currently in the process of setting up two iPads for sign ins instead of the paper sign in forms on the sign in benches. We are hoping to transition to digital sign ins from Tuesday, June 12th. All you will need to sign in is the phone number we have on file for you and you will then be prompted to create a code which you will use for all future log ins on the iPads. I will share more information on this closer to the date. All staff will be trained on the digital sign ins and will be ready to assist you where needed.

Lost Property

We have set up a lost property tub by the front door. Please take a look to see if any of the items in it belong to your child. If the clothing isn't claimed after two weeks, we will start using it as spare clothes.

Please also label all items of clothing that you send with your child as we can then return them to you and they won't need to be placed in lost property.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Hannah



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Dates for your Diary ...

JUNE

Monday 18th June - 7pm Annual General Meeting at Mangrove Mountain Golf Club – All Welcome

OCTOBER

Tuesday 16th October - Casey's Warehouse Shopping Night (details to follow)

DECEMBER

Sunday 2nd December - Christmas Concert at Kulnura Hall (details to follow)

Management Committee News

Next Committee Meeting

Monday 18th June 2018

7pm

At Mangrove Mountain Golf Club

All welcome to attend!

Small changes,
big differences.



FREE Triple P 2- 8 Years **Workshop/ Seminar Series**

conducted by **Central Coast Family Support**

Come along and learn from the program and each other

Be the Best Parent You can be....

*With Triple P – Positive Parenting
Program*

*Triple P is a parenting program for all families that
provides practical answers to everyday concerns.*

*Families NSW is offering Triple P to all families with
children aged 2-8 years.*

Venue: Phillip House, 21 Old Mount Penang
Road, Karlong

When: 2 SATURDAY sessions in Term 2, 2018;

16th and 23rd June

Time: 10am-12:30pm

BOOKINGS AND INFORMATION

Bookings essential!

Sorry, no childcare

**To register for this group please
contact CCFSS on 43401585 or email
ccfss@ccfss.com.au**



www.triplep.net