



Cairns TAFE Community Child Care Centre

February 2016

OFFICE NEWS

Welcome to another exciting year, we hope you enjoy your time with us during 2016!!!

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Over the next month we will be reviewing our Quality Improvement Plan. We are always looking for ways to improve our service and would love feedback from families. If you have any ideas, please email us at ctcccc1@bigpond.net.au

SIGN IN & OUT

Parents please ensure that you sign in and out each day, Centrelink audit our paperwork annually and if they find an unsigned days they remove CCB from the family for that day and bill you the full fee, this can become quite costly if there are a lot of unsigned days. So please come and see us in the office if your child was absent due to illness or holidays

Have a great month,
Michelle

FEE POLICY

Centre management has always endeavoured to keep fees as low as possible; to ensure that we can continue to keep our fees low and offer quality care to local families, we ask parents to read the attached 'Fee Policy' and ensure that

- fees are paid regularly
- Centre is kept up to date with changes to benefit entitlements
- Change of care forms are handed in promptly

If at any time you are experiencing difficulties paying fees, please see Barb or Michelle to discuss your options.

REMINDERS FOR FEB

- Return E-portfolio consent forms
- Sign in and out each day
- Please let us know in advance if your bringing a cake for your child's birthday
- Email us some ideas for our Quality Improvement Plan

AGM

14TH MARCH at 6pm

Meeting to be held in the preschool room, all families and carers welcome.

Please let us know if you are interested in taking on an executive role on our committee or on becoming an ordinary member. Come and see us in the office if you have any questions

Childminding provided.

SUNSMART CENTRE

As most of you know our centre is a registered 'sun smart' centre, what does this mean you ask? It means that we strictly follow the guidelines set out by the Skin Cancer Council in regards to clothing and sun safety; here's a quick reminder about the do's & don'ts for sun safety at CTCCCC.

DO

- Apply sunscreen each morning on arrival
- Bring a bucket hat
- Wear shirts and dresses with sleeves

DON'T

- Wear caps
- Wear singlet tops or spaghetti strap dresses
- Forget to apply sunscreen
- Forget your bucket hat

For further information on sun smart schools and centres, please visit the cancer council's website. www.cancerqld.org.au.

DIRECTOR'S NEWS

WHAT A GREAT START TO 2016!

Firstly, welcome to all our new families! We are very lucky to have minimum vacancies in all three rooms this early in the year. Many centres in Cairns are struggling to fill rooms but unfortunately we are having to send people away. Thanks to all those families that are recommending us to their friends and spreading the word about our great service.

Improved educator to child ratios are now in place with our preschool having 22 children per day with two educators and our toddler room having 10 children per day with 2 educators.

Currently we have the following vacancies

Nursery – 1 Monday

Toddlers – 1 Monday

Preschool – 2 Mondays and 2 Fridays



We have had some amazing feedback in regards to our new programming system. By introducing Educa we have already started to close the gap between daycare and home with some families commenting under the observations and others even posting their own stories and photos to share with their child's educator. A big thanks to those families, we love your input.

Have a look at our Educa display in the hallway!

Invitation emails have been sent to all email addresses on the returned consent forms, if you did not receive an email invitation please see Barb.

Until next
month Barb

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Educators participate in Professional Development each year to further develop their skills and knowledge. This year we were fortunate enough to be given two invitations to participate in the 'Let's Count' program which is a Smith Family numeracy program designed to improve literacy skills in children from the ages 3 – 5 years. Karly and Kathleen will be attending the first session next Wednesday.

Karly will also be attending a 'Trues' training course *Positive and protective: promoting healthy sexual development in early childhood*.

Cheryl and I will be attending a FISH workshop in March which discusses tools to create a happy, fun work culture.

We have also booked an online session on the *Reggio Emilia Approach* and a full day session with various speakers called *Operation Delightful - Creative strategies that build the skills children require to behave*.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

A big Thank You to those that purchased tickets in our Christmas raffle and to those who donated items for the hampers.

We raised \$780 to put towards resources for the rooms

Thanks Again!

KITCHENCAPERS

Kitchen Bites

- **Birthday's:** Parents are welcome to bring cakes or traditional fare in for birthday celebrations, cakes are served for afternoon tea at 2pm and staff take photos for families, if you prefer your child not to have cake please tell their Educator and they will be provided with an alternative. Birthday cake days will be written on the whiteboard as soon as staff are notified. We ask that parents let us know in advance if they are bringing a cake so that we can alter menu items etc
- Late Afternoon tea is provided to children still in attendance after 5pm, to minimise wastage the menu item listed may be replaced with leftover lunch or afternoon tea items, homemade trail mix is also offered.

Hi all and welcome to another wonderful year at CTCCCC

Our weekly menu is displayed in the foyer and any changes to menu items are posted on our white board below the menu. If you have any queries about our menu please don't hesitate to ask Barb, Candice or Michelle.

Please keep your eye on our white board in the foyer, as we occasionally make changes to menu items.

Remember to encourage drinking lots of water while at daycare.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

This is nice tasting and easy to make

2 Ingredient Pizza Dough

Ingredients:

1 cup self raising

flour

1 cup of Greek or natural yoghurt

Extra flour for dusting the board

Method:

In a bowl, combine the flour and yoghurt and bring together to form a ball. Turn out onto a floured board to knead and roll. Knead for 5-8 minutes. Roll into a pizza shape and add toppings.

If the dough seems a little wet when you mix it, just add a sprinkling more flour. The more you knead it the better it comes together.

I thought in the beginning that there was no way this will work but as I kneaded it, the dough became pliable and stretchy.

Notes

This quantity is suitable for one pizza. This makes a great base that you can use for so many other things such as cheese and bacon scrolls and garlic bread. ***Our favourite is diced bacon and chicken with ranch dressing and cheese.***

Have a great start to the year, Michelle, Barb and Candice



Nursery Natter



Firstly we would like to welcome Finn and Ellena and their lovely families into the Nursery Room, they are settling in well. The first couple of weeks back we have been spending time settling our babies, building attachments, so that they feel safe and secure with myself and Ashleigh.

Ref:- John Bowlby a British theorist pioneered the concept of attachment in the 1940s. Bowlby used the term 'attachment behaviours' to refer to the actions or signals of infants, such as crying, smiling and vocalising, which usually summon their caregiver and which therefore help the infants feel calm and safe. Having a caregiver who provides consistent, responsive care helps children to learn to recognize the nature of their own emotions, and to regulate their own behaviour and emotional state. Through experiencing responsive and sensitive caregiving a child also develops social competencies, empathy and emotional intelligence, and learns how to relate to other people and understand what to expect from them. A child's confidence that a caregiver will be protective also enables the child to explore the world and learn new skills, using the caregiver as a secure base for exploration, play or other social behaviours. The more secure the child feels the more energy and enthusiasm they have to be curious, to learn, to seek understanding and to try to make sense of the world".

Our Monthly Programme will be displayed together with the notice board which will have "What we are thinking" and "What we are doing". We will also display some of the babies learning stories to share with their families. The Nursery babies have been very busy in the home area, they have been feeding, rocking and bathing their babies and taking lots of photos with their cameras, and answering lots of phone calls.



"Dramatic play contributes to children's cognitive, intellectual and emotional development. It also fosters the growth of language and literacy skills as children's dramatic play is often rich in communication, using words, actions and gestures".

Please make sure all your baby's items are marked with their name, and include spare clothes in their bag as sometimes our activities are very messy.

We are so excited about our new on Online Programming, and can't wait to share your baby's learning stories with you all.

"A Big thank you to Barb for sourcing, setting up and finalizing such a great Online Program and providing awesome support and patience getting us trained".

Don't forget we have an open door policy, so please feel free to come and talk to us at any time

Until next month Kathy, Ashleigh and Jalenka.

**BIRTHDAYS for
February: - Ben turns
one on the 16/2/16
and Finn turns one
on the 27/2/16.
Samuel celebrated
his 1st birthday on
the 6/1/16.**

Toddler Torque



It's a new year and we are all back happy and refreshed after a wonderful break. Welcome to our new children and families. From the Nursery we have Blake, Albie, Jessie, Rosie and Ben who have joined us and our other new children Archie, Renner and Yu seung. At the moment we are concentrating on settling everyone into their new environment, routines, friends and educators.

Tips for a positive drop off!

If the parent is positive about their child going to day care the child will pick up the positive vibe. We are very certain that every parent wants their child's experience of day care to be a positive one. We believe this starts with you. We understand that often parents can experience as much separation anxiety (if not more) as their children. Here are a few tips to help both you and your child deal with separation anxiety,

1. Don't stay too long with your child.
2. Kiss and hug goodbye. "I will see you after work"
3. Indicate to an educator you are going and allow the educator to take your child, clinging onto your child sends confusing messages to the child.
4. Once you go, DON'T return. This will only create a very stressful situation
5. If you are concerned, RING as many times as you like.

A great way to ensure your child feels positive about coming to day care is to be positive about it yourself. Prepare them as best as you can before day care begins with encouraging words, for example – Lucky you going to day care, Maybe you will make something today. You will get to play with your friends. You can swing on your favourite swing etc. etc. If you are positive, He/she will feel it. Anxious parents make anxious children.

Drink bottles.

I am noticing that some of the toddlers don't appear to drink a lot of water and in this extremely hot weather water is essential. We offer cups of water and drinks from the bubblers but sometimes even though we encourage them constantly to drink drink drink some children aren't drinking enough. If you are concerned that your child isn't drinking enough water please consider supplying them each day with their own water bottle.

Birthdays.

Who's having a birthday this month - we have four birthdays, Renner on the 2nd, Jessie on the 4th, Blake on the 13th and Ben on the 16th. We wish you all a very exciting, fun day and remember parents we are more than happy to celebrate with a birthday cake if you want to bring one in.

HAVE A GREAT MONTH

Cheryl, Kate and Rohana

Preschool

Well what a great start to 2016 we have had!! We have had lots of new faces join the preschool room this month which is exciting! Welcome to the newcomers and their families. Also we have had Kathleen join the team as our full time assistant.

This month in the preschool room, we have been especially interested in Transformers. We have been creating Transformer costumes and masks using new and recycled resources. The children have really enjoyed making these and using these costumes for role play. We have turned the construction area into a Transformer zone by adding pictures to the wall, people, a city, cars, trucks and the costumes and masks.



A few of us have visited the dentist this month so we decided to add a dentist bed to the home corner. The children have been role playing visiting the dentist/doctor for check-ups and tooth removal.

Also in January we have started our Great Barrier Reef interest. So far we have been talking about our visits to the reef at group time. We have been learning about what things we find under the sea and what grows on the reef. We are learning a new song about sea creatures and we have even created an ocean in a bag! Cool! It's fantastic that the children are really responsive to learning about our local icon!!

We are also really enjoying exploring the dark with torches. Some children are experimenting with different colours of cellophane over the light. We have transformed our quiet cubby into a dark cave for reading and other fun with torches. The torches have also come in handy in the dentist surgery for checking patient's teeth!



Happy 3rd
Birthday to
Sdha for
February.

Karly, Hedy, Kate, Jelenka and Rohana

COMMUNITY EVENTS BOARD

Cairns Greatest Sign Up

Date: Sat 06 Feb 08:00 am

Location: Cairns Cruise Liner Terminal, Wharf Street, Cairns

Contact: Rebecca Waqanikalou 0417 762 033

Cairns' Greatest Sign Up is a FREE annual event that hosts over 80 market stalls at which you can sign up and sign on to a variety of sporting, lifestyle, music, arts, language and education activities. The event format across both Cruise Liner Terminals, encourages you to walk around and talk to the different teams, clubs, professionals, coaches and tutors about what they offer, when their sport or course runs and how much it will cost to sign up. There will be: Sporting Teams - Netball, Soccer, Hockey, Rugby Union, Tennis, Futsal, Swimming, AFL, Rugby League, Lifestyle Coaches - Dietitians, Nutritionists, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Counselors, Alternate Exercise - Yoga, Pilates, Meditation, Tai Chi, Education, Arts & Language - Education Institutes, Art Classes, Craft, Sewing, Scrapbooking, Language Classes & Tutors

Chinese New Year Festival

Date: Sat 13 feb 2016 04:00 pm

Location: Grafton Street, Cairns CBD (between Shields and Spence streets).

Website: <http://www.cadcai.org/pages/chinese-new-year>

Notes: Grafton St between Spence and Shields streets, will be closed for traffic from early Saturday morning 13 February to Sunday morning 14 February 2016.

Welcome the Year of the Monkey at the 2016 Cairns Airport Chinese New Year Street Festival.

The festival showcases the north Queensland's cultural diversity and rich Chinese heritage through music, dance and cultural performances, food, market stalls, and a parade featuring the traditional Chinese dragon, lions and the 12 zodiac animals.

The signature event, the Chinese New Year Street Festival will be held in Grafton Street between Shields and Spence Streets. Grafton Street was the heart of the original Cairns Chinatown precinct circa 1880 to 1910 (formerly known as Sachs St). This is a great family event suitable for all ages.

Cairns Esplanade Markets

Every Saturday, 8am-4pm, by the Lagoon

The Esplanade Markets showcase local, quality products from contemporary jewellery, leather work, pottery, clothes and skincare. If you need a gift or souvenir you are sure to find it here.