



## Cairns TAFE Community Child Care Centre

March 2016

### OFFICE NEWS

#### **AGM**

**14<sup>TH</sup> 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 in becoming an ordinary member. Come and see us in the office if you have any questions.**

**Childminding provided.**

#### **REMINDERS FOR MARCH**

- **PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**  
Fri 25<sup>th</sup> March and  
Mon 28<sup>th</sup> March
- **Sign in and out each day**
- **Email us some ideas for our Quality Improvement Plan**

#### **EASTER BONNET PARADE**



**COME ALONG AND ENJOY  
THE FUN!  
THURSDAY  
24<sup>th</sup> MARCH AT 2.30PM.**

The children will parade around in their Easter Bonnets at 2.30pm followed by afternoon tea and then a special visit from some one big and fluffy!

**IF THIS IS NOT YOUR BOOKED  
DAY FEEL FREE TO COME  
ALONG AND JOIN US**

**Please sign the attendance  
sheet in the office, this helps  
us with catering etc.**

#### **CHILDREN'S POCKETS**

Outside each room are pockets with children's names on them, we use these for correspondence including fee reminders, please ensure that you check your child's pocket daily

#### **PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**

**The centre will be closed on  
Good Friday 25<sup>TH</sup> March,  
Easter Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March  
and Anzac Day Monday 25<sup>th</sup>  
April.**

#### **CENTRE FORMS**

All Termination of Care, Holiday and Change of Days forms are available in the foyer. Forms must be lodged 2 weeks in advance of any requested change or holiday.

#### **SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

**With term 1 school  
holidays approaching,**

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March –  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April**

**we ask that families  
inform us if their  
children will be away  
during the holidays.  
This will ensure you  
will be charged at the  
holiday fee rate and  
allow us to inform  
families that need  
extra days during this  
period.**

Have a great  
Easter,  
Michelle



### **Frustrations we faced before Educa.**

1. The educators spent so much time documenting children's learning, planning and trying to get parent input to no avail. Minimal families asked about experiences, read displays or looked through their child's journal.
2. Educators were bored with documenting. Most of our educators have been here for years and seemed stuck in a rut doing the same thing over and over again for different families with minimal feedback or motivation.
3. Expectations of the National Quality Standards and National Regulations include informing families of our educational program and of their child's ongoing learning. Even though we have great relationships with our families, we felt we weren't successfully conveying how our program is designed to enhance learning through children's interests.

### **How Educa has helped us to overcome these challenges?**

Thanks to Educa, our educators feel refreshed and our families are finally having input into our programs. In only 3 weeks we received 60 comments from families on the site (which is probably more than we had previously received in two years). These comments and feedback have not only built stronger partnerships with families and assisted us to reach legislative requirements, but educators are feeling more fulfilled resulting in more learning stories for families to read.

### **MEET OUR STAFF**



### **WE WELCOME NAR MAYA TO OUR TEAM!**

Nar maya was a student with us in 2014 and has return to do some relief work for us. She is working confidently in every room and it is great to have her back!

### **Stopping the Spread!**

The Cairns Regional Council has employed a team to visit all child care centres in the area in regards to reducing the risk of Dengue.

The visit involved checking the yard for any water hazards that may aid the breeding of dengue mosquitos and to pass on information that will assist with prevention.

I am pleased to report that they found no risks in our yard. Great job team!

Until next  
month  
Barb

## KITCHENCAPERS

### HEALTHY EATING ADVICE FROM PEDIATRIC DIETIANS

If a meal is refused and the child is asking for something else, or worse, having a tantrum, then the meal needs to be removed and the child offered water to calm them down. If the child asks for food, return a half-portion of the meal (reheat if cold, and cut into small, bite-sized pieces). Never offer a new meal or a bottle or cup of milk, as this is a reward for their behaviour (the wrong learning curve). The cycle will continue the next day and beyond if not broken.

### Kitchen Bites

- Make sure you check our menu in the foyer, as we are continually changing items as the children's taste's change.
- We love input from families in the kitchen, so if your child shares something negative or positive about the food they ate at daycare please be sure to let us know, this also helps us with choosing future menu items.
- The centre will be providing lots of yummy treats for our Easter Afternoon tea along with some healthier snacks, please feel free to bring a plate for your child to share

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### KOREAN BEEF LETTUCE WRAPS

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1 head lettuce
- 500 gm lean ground beef
- ½ cup brown sugar
- ¼ cup soy sauce/tamari
- 1 tbsp sesame oil; divided in half
- 3 cloves garlic; minced/grated
- ¼ tsp. ground ginger
- ⅛ tsp. red pepper flakes (optional and to taste)
- 1 bunch green onions; divided between white and green parts
- 3 tbsp rice wine vinegar
- Sesame seeds for garnish (optional)

#### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Whisk in a bowl the brown sugar, soy sauce/tamari, ½ tbsp sesame oil, garlic, ginger, rice wine vinegar, and red pepper flakes until blended; set aside.
2. In a wok or large skillet, brown the ground beef in ½ tbsp sesame oil.
3. Add the white part of the green onions to the beef and continue cooking until the beef is done.
4. Drain any rendered fat.
5. Pour the sauce over the meat and allow it to reduce down; about 3-5 minutes.
6. Serve in lettuce leaves or over rice.
7. Sprinkle remaining green onions over each portion and garnish with sesame seeds if using.

***Happy Easter Michelle, Candice and Barb***



## Nursery Natter

Hi again to all our wonderful families,  
Firstly Ashleigh and I would like to welcome Ezekiel and his family to the Nursery Room!  
Ashleigh and I are so happy with all the positive comments we have been receiving about each babies learning stories on our Educa Online Programming. Great to hear you are all enjoying it as much as us

We are building a Family Belonging Puzzle, so it would be great if all our families could bring in a Family Photo. Could you please print it and bring it in our or email it to [ctcccc1@bigpond.net.au](mailto:ctcccc1@bigpond.net.au) and we will print it out.



**The warm weather has been presenting many opportunities for fun and learning through water play. Puddles, garden sprinklers, water tables all naturally fascinate young children, and water is one of the basic raw materials for learning, mathematics and science, developing language and fostering social skills.**



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.

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

Kathy, Ashleigh and Jelenka.



## Toddler Torque

### **Play: The Work of Lev Vygotsky**

Imaginative play is a crucial component of a child's normal development. What may seem to be a simple and uncomplicated way for children to entertain themselves is actually a complex process that affects all aspects of a child's life. Play shapes how children make sense of their worlds, how they learn thinking skills, and how they acquire language. Children have dialogues with themselves when they engage in imaginative play. Role-playing means creating a story and giving a voice to the different characters in the story. When children imitate others, they are developing a vocabulary that allows them to name and navigate the world around them. Less verbal children may talk more during imaginative play than in other settings.



### *Drink bottles,*

I have provided a basket for drink bottles if you wish to provide one for your child. The basket is labelled and usually is placed on top of the lockers closet to the door.

### *Reminder,*

Please provide name labelled changes of clothes each day, because we have water play and messy play sometimes toddlers use 3 or more sets of clothes a day.

### *Easter,*

Easter is coming really soon!

Time to start thinking about making your child an Easter bonnet for our annual Easter bonnet parade.

*Cheers from Cheryl, Kate and Rohana*

*Thank you,*

For the prompt delivery of large boxes that you wonderful parents provided for us to create our toddler room train. We are currently busy decorating and building the train. The children will be so excited to jump on board and go on many imaginary train journeys.

### **EDUCA**

Another thank you to all the feedback from families connecting to our fabulous Educa online program, I am enjoying your responses and the instant communication that this program provides.

Happy 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March to Aizah-Lee. Aizah has been testing out the pre-school room in preparation of her move into there after her birthday. For those of you that haven't had your child transition to the next age group, the process is for the child to spend short periods of time in the new room before fully moving into it. This is to help them feel comfortable in the room and become familiar with their environment.

Also Happy 2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday to Yuseung!

## Preschool

Hi everyone, we have had a great month of February with lots of projects and interests in the preschool room.

Most of you have been keeping up to date with our amazing new e-portfolios which is making keeping in touch so much easier!

Happy 3rd  
Birthday to  
Hwani for  
March.

Did you know that you can see the Great Barrier Reef from the moon? Our biggest interest this month has been the Great Barrier Reef and what lives under the water. The children have enjoyed creating artwork related to the underwater world; coral, fish, star fish, sea horses and shells. You can find this piece next to the back door. We also had Elyssa's grandma allow us to display some ghost net pieces. How lucky are we?! We also had some ghost net resources donated and we got to work crafting some small fish displayed on the wall next to the art portfolios.



This month Karly and Kathleen attended a course on teaching children mathematics in an early childhood setting called **"Let's Count"**. We definitely feel we learnt a lot and are now using our newly gained skills in the preschool room with the children. Teaching your child about mathematics is actually something you can do whilst doing simple daily tasks such as shopping, driving, going for walks and bike riding. If you would like any further information on mathematics with children, please don't hesitate to have a chat with either Kathleen or Karly.

Looking forward to what March has install for us!

**Karly, Kathleen, Hedy, Angie and Nar Maya**

We have been learning about our body parts, body feelings, private parts and the Friendly 5. We are all a lot more aware of our bodies and familiar with who our trusted people are.

# **COMMUNITY EVENTS BOARD**

## **2016 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BREAKFAST**

**TUE 08 MAR 2016 07:00 AM**

**Location:** Pullman Reef Hotel Casino

**Contact person:** Ann Le Comte

**Phone:** 4044 3020

Enjoy a morning at the Pullman Reef Hotel Casino, celebrating the wonderful contributions women have made to our community.

You'll hear from motivating speakers and see the presentation of our Woman of the Year and Young Woman of the Year awards will take place.

Tickets are \$35 per person and include a hot plated breakfast, with tea, coffee, fruit and pastries.

Tickets can be purchased from Thursday 11 February at TicketLINK phone 1300 855 835.

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION**

**Date:** Sat 19 Mar 08:00 am

**Location:** Various polling booths

The Queensland local government quadrennial elections will be held on Saturday 19 March 2016. It is compulsory for all enrolled voters to vote in this election. Polling booths will open from 8am to 6pm on Saturday 19 March. The Electoral Commission of Queensland will announce details of polling booth locations and pre-poll centres closer to the electoral event.

## **CAIRNSBANDS 70TH BIRTHDAY CONCERT**

**SAT 19 MAR 2016 07:00 PM**

**Location:** Cairns Presbyterian Church Hall

**Phone:** 4041 1811

**Email:** [cmbcairnsbands@gmail.com](mailto:cmbcairnsbands@gmail.com)

**Notes:** Tickets are available through the Cairnsbands website, or through TryBooking.com

Have your auditory sensors dazzled by an evening of spectacular music with the 3 bands (Big Band, Brass Band and Concert Band with vocalists Majella Pike and Pauline Bradshaw) of Cairnsbands. Cairnsbands celebrates their 70th year as the hub of music performance in Cairns.

## **MELANOMA MARCH**

**SUN 20 MAR 2016 07:00 AM**

**Location:** Western Event Lawn, next to Esplanade Lagoon

**Website:** <http://melanomamarch.org.au>

**Email:** [events@melanoma.org.au](mailto:events@melanoma.org.au)

It is a fun family day out with loads of entertainment and activities for everyone to enjoy. We hope to raise vital funds for a national melanoma research project, and with our help, we are a step closer to finding a cure!

# **DONATIONS FOR CYCLONE WINSTON**

## **VICTIMS**

Rafa's grandfather's village was one of those very badly affected in the recent Cyclone Winston. Most homes in the low lying village of Tokou have either been destroyed or badly damaged and people have lost almost all of their belongings as a result of the storm and tidal surge that inundated the village. The primary school has also been very badly damaged and it is expected that the village may be without electricity for some months. We feel heartbroken seeing the images of destruction coming out of the village (and throughout the Fiji Islands) and want to help. We are currently seeking donations to provide much needed immediate relief as well as assist with the ongoing recovery effort. I am collecting donations of clothes and other items hopefully by the end of next week to send to Tokou village. We will also be shipping further items later but initially just trying to get some things together fairly quickly as people literally have nothing left but the clothes that they were wearing.

**Any donations of the following items would be most gratefully appreciated:**

**Clothing**

**Towels/sheets**

**Hand tools**

**Tarps**

**Ropes**

**Roofing nails etc**

**Torches (and batteries)**

**Lanterns**

**Mosquito nets**

**Children's books and school supplies.**

We would also gratefully accept any \$\$ donations. To learn more and donate, please visit <https://chuffed.org/project/winston-restore-tokou-village>

People are welcome to contact me if they have any questions - 0411 090 490 or [leannedoyle26@hotmail.com](mailto:leannedoyle26@hotmail.com)