



## OFFICE NEWS

### MOTHER'S DAY AFTERNOON TEA

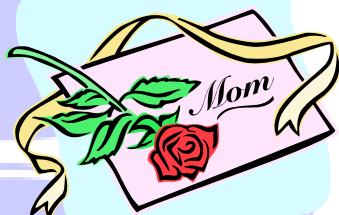
We are having a special afternoon tea for all our Mum's on

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May.

Afternoon tea will start at 3pm

Mum's, Aunties and Grandmothers are all encouraged to come and share in some yummy treats, a surprise activity, watch their children at play and have a chat with staff.

If this isn't your booked day, please feel free to come along with your child for the afternoon.



Have a  
great  
month,  
Michelle

### ENTERTAINMENT BOOK FUNDRAISER

We are selling the Entertainment Books again this year. There is a sample in the foyer if you would like to have a look and an information sheet has been placed in your child's pocket. The centre receives 20% of the sales

Check the front office to sign for public holidays and to ensure you have signed in and out each day

### REMINDERS FOR APRIL

- PUBLIC HOLIDAYS  
Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> May
- Input for Quality Improvement Plan
- Check out our fundraisers
- Mother's Day celebration Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May, 3pm

### ABSENCES

Parents, please be aware that the centre requires a phone call/email when children are staying home on a booked day for any reason. And on your child's return we require a signature for all absences including holidays.

### PICTURE PRODUCTS FUNDRAISING

This month we are hold a Picture Products fundraiser, families have a number of products to choose from, you can create beautiful artworks, add photos and much more, these products are a great keepsake or gift for family members.

Please see the flyer placed in your child's pocket with an attached order form.

All funds raised will go towards new dress ups and costumes

## DIRECTOR'S NEWS

### HELPING OUT WITH OUR CENTRES QIP

At least a couple of times a year we ask for parent input into our QIP and sadly we don't get any response. We understand that for some they are just too busy, we also understand that some are just not sure what it is that we want to hear.

Well we want to hear anything, anything that you as a parent think could be an improvement to our centre, no suggestion is too small or big and Input can come via email, note or a phone call.

In the past as suggested by families we have purchased uniforms, new equipment, renovated our outdoor area, implemented specialised programs and painted parts of the centre.

So as you can see the list could go on forever; our Quality Improvement Plan is our centres way of prioritising, implementing, monitoring and completing our goals.

So don't be shy and add your suggestions/ideas to our QIP!!

### EDUCA

3 months in and we are stunned by the positive response we've had to our E-portfolios.

Just a few things to remember:

- Add family members by sending an email with your relative's email address so an invite can be sent.
- Check for email alerts, you will be sent an email when your child has had a new story added.
- Don't be shy, add some comments or stories of your own

Until next  
month  
Barb

### MEET OUR TRAINEES



**Maddi and Ellie are Year 12 students from Trinity Bay High School. They are completing a Traineeship in Certificate 3 of Early Childhood Education and Care.**

**They attend our centre one day a week and have been working in all areas of the centre. It is great to see the relationships they have built with both children and educators. They are doing an amazing job!!**



### LEVY JOBS

**For those interested families we still have some jobs available on our help wanted board**

## KITCHEN CAPERS

### FOOD NEWS FROM NAQ AND FOOD FOUNDATIONS

Colourful squeezzy pouches with built-in feeding tips are seen as a lifesaver for busy families and carers but are they a healthy option?

#### Pros

*No refrigeration needed  
No heating required  
No need for eating utensils  
No food preparation required*

*Low mess*

#### Cons

*May have misleading nutrition claims  
Can contain large amounts of sugar  
May delay development of oral motor skills  
Children miss out on food experimentation increasing the risk of fussy eating  
May decrease opportunities for shared mealtimes or eating family foods*

Experimentation with different food tastes and textures is important for a child's overall development. Using food in squeezzy pouches regularly, takes away from children the chance to touch and feel different food textures, and limits the development of their ability to use their fingers for skills such as using a spoon, or picking up food and placing it in their mouths. These experiences, while a bit messy, help children adjust to, and be more willing to accept different food textures and tastes – making them less likely to be a 'fussy eater'. The early childhood years are a critical time for developing food preferences. The greater food variety children are exposed to, the more likely they will enjoy a diversity of foods as adults.

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### MOTHER DOUGH

This recipe makes enough dough for two batches of cookies, so I suggest that you always divide the dough in half and wrap each separately.

#### **Ingredients:**

- 2 cups flour
- ½ tsp baking powder
- ¼ tsp salt
- pinch ground nutmeg
- 1 cup butter
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp vanilla

#### **Directions:**

1. Combine first four ingredients in a bowl.
2. Cream together butter and sugar. Beat in egg and vanilla.
3. Mix in half the dry ingredients, then add remaining.
4. Divide dough in half and wrap with plastic wrap until ready to use. Roll, cut, add or top with any biscuit combination you feel like and then bake in moderate oven for 10/15min or until golden.

*Stay active and eat well, Michelle, Candice and Barb*





## Nursery Natter

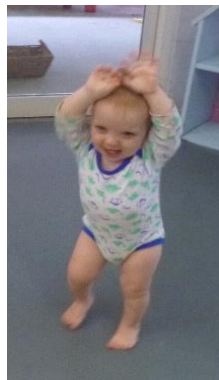
Hi to our wonderful families.

We are very excited to welcome Alexis and her lovely family to the Nursery room.

The babies are really enjoying singing and dancing. We have been singing many Nursery Rhymes. One of the babies' favourites is 'Old McDonald Had a Farm', with the use of finger puppets



We have also been enjoying many dance sessions, especially when it has been too wet to go outside. The babies have some great dance moves.



**Birthdays for this Month: - Elyse turns two on the 1<sup>st</sup> May, and Charles turns one on the 16<sup>th</sup> May.**



**REFLECTING ON SUSTANABILITY:** The babies love to water the plants, but I find the water cans let out too much water all at once, so we have made water cans out of recycled milk containers, this will help save the amount of water we are using.



Please make sure you put extra clothes in your baby's bag, as some of our activities could be a little messy. Also make sure your baby's items are clearly marked with their name. Please remember we have an open door policy, and are available for any questions you may have.

If you haven't brought in your family photo could you please try and bring it in asap.

*Happy Mothers to all our wonderful mothers  
It's definitely not always the easiest job!  
But it is the most rewarding.*



Until next month Kathy, Nar Maya and Jelenka

## Toddler Torque

*Welcome to,*

Our toddler room Patience and family, Patience has just joined us from the Nursery and is settling in well with her old and new friends.

*Mother's Day.*

The toddlers have been secretly creating all their lovely Mum's a special gift for your special day! This is a great opportunity for children to experience the concept of giving. *"Consider that maybe children would be happier giving things away than receiving them," says Aknin. "Give them the opportunity to give."*

*Goldilocks and the 3 Bears.*

Between The Bear Hunt Book and Goldilocks, the children have been bear crazy! They have been reading and reciting the books, using their imaginations as they wear our dress ups and re-enacting the stories in and around the bear cave. We also had our second Teddy Bears picnic which was so much fun!

*Happy 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Birthdays to,*

Meisha on the 8<sup>th</sup>, Zixi on the 10<sup>th</sup> and Asha on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May. Have a fun birthday girls. If you would like to bring a birthday cake to celebrate we would love to share it with you.

*Play dough.*

I thought because the toddlers always love to explore and experiment with play dough that you may like to make some at home from this simple recipe that we use.

2 cups of plain flour

4 tbs of Cream of Tartar

1 cup of salt

2 cups of water

2tbs cooking oil

Food colouring.

Mix all the ingredients together in a large bowl.

**What learning is happening here?**

**Benefits of Play dough Play:**

**1. Fine Motor Skill Development:** great for strengthening muscle tone in little hands – squishing, squashing, rolling, flattening play dough all develop children's muscles and encourage pre writing and other skills such as cutting with a scissors, using a tweezers, holding a pencil etc.

**2. Calming and therapeutic:** simply sitting and squashing and rolling a piece of play dough in your hand is a very calming and soothing activity.

**3. Creativity and imagination:** the possibilities for play dough play are limitless.

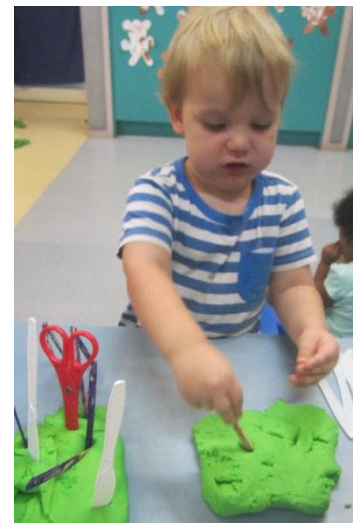
**4. Develops hand-eye co-ordination:** by using a variety of materials and objects in play dough play can enhance hand-eye co-ordination.

**5. Social skills:** Playing with play dough in small groups and or with adults presents lots of possibilities for talk and discussion, playing collaboratively, problem solving and planning with others.

**6. Literacy and Numeracy development.**

**7. Promotes Play:** allows children to be children, to slow down and play, using a range of their senses and skills.

**Happy play doughing! Cheers from Cheryl and Miranda.**



## Preschool

This month we have had lots of interest in Orca whales. We made an Orca whale interpretation painting which looks amazing displayed on the wall at the back door. We have been learning about the difference between the female whale and the male whale and also what they like to eat. we have also had lots of talks about whales in captivity and understanding that wild animals should be free.

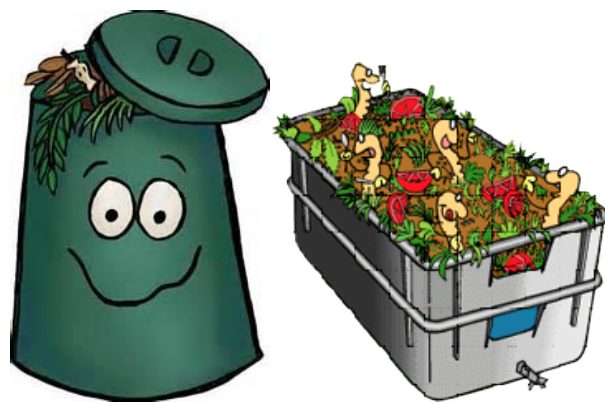


We have been learning a lot about numbers and numeracy through our interests this month. Literacy and numeracy are essential skills for all children to develop. Without them, modern life becomes almost impossible. Yet, there is often disagreement about how we should approach this learning, and when aspects of it should be introduced to children. When we think of literacy and numeracy, we often think of school rather than prior-to-school settings, and of formal teaching methods based on rote learning and memorisation. And yet, as the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) strongly reminds us, the foundations of literacy and numeracy are laid well before formal schooling starts.



We have also just started A new interest...weddings. We already have lots of activities planned for this interest so keep an eye out for what happens next. Who knows, there may be a wedding in the preschool room???

The preschoolers have made a compost bin in the garden area and we have also added a second level to our worm farm. We are so conscious of what we can reuse and recycle, all of our scraps from the kitchen are going to these areas.



**A warm welcome to the preschool room to Frankie and his family.**

**Happy Birthday to Oscar B and Trinity  
Karly, Kathleen, Hedy and Angie**