



## Cairns TAFE Community Child Care Centre

AUGUST 2016

### OFFICE NEWS

#### CCB RATE CHANGE

As most of you are aware July sees the new rates for CCB applied to family accounts, rates are based on family income estimates given to Centrelink during April/May so please be sure to check your CCB percentage on your latest fee reminder to ensure that it matches with your Centrelink correspondence.

Income estimates for families can be changed at any time throughout the year to ensure that you don't receive under or overpayments, we suggest you review your estimate each time your circumstances change.

Please be aware that Centrelink reconciles all families accounts during the tax season and may garnish tax returns to recover overpayments of CCB AND CCR.

#### CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

This year the centre will be closed from Monday 26<sup>th</sup> December until Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

We will reopen on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30am.

#### REMINDERS FOR AUGUST

- Please return spare clothes to the centre
- Bring back your toy orders
- Call the centre if your child is absent

#### 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.

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

#### FUNDRAISING

Chalk and Parent Direct Catalogues who offer good quality educational supplies to families are now available in the front office, if you wish to take advantage of delivery directly to the centre please return orders by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2016.

Also if you know any other family members or friends that may be interested in placing an order please take them some catalogues to view.



#### FATHER'S DAY



#### SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2016

@2:30pm

Come along and have a sausage and a play, some special Father's Day activities will be available to do with your child.

So come and join the fun

## DIRECTOR'S NEWS

### EDUCA

We have been on Educa for 6 months now and it is great to see that families are still engaging with the e-Portfolio system. We had concerns that parent visits would drop off over time but our graphs and reports show that they are still steady. It is also great to see that we have many extended family members, many from overseas or interstate, joining and commenting on the learning stories. The educators are very happy with the system and are now using it to reflect on the program and practices, in a diary format, which is shared between rooms and to set individual goals for children.

### CENTRE REPAIRS

A big thank you to our families and staff for all your patience with the repairs happening around the centre. All the skirting and painting has been completed and our new kitchen has been installed. We are now just waiting on a date to be confirmed for the replacement of the vinyl flooring in the foyer, hallway, offices and kitchen.

We will inform you when this is happening, as there will be a day when families won't be able to enter the foyer at all. During this time families will need to use the side gate into the playground again, but hopefully this will be the last time!

### STAFF NEWS

This month we have many educators taking holidays. Candice will be away in the first week of August and Hedy will be away for the first two weeks.

Jelenka will be on leave from the 8<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> August and I will be away for a long weekend in the last week.

We are very lucky to have regular casual and relief staff to cover educator absences. Candice, Angie, Kate R and Kate P will be helping out during these times.

### **VISITORS TO THE CENTRE.....**

Last month we had Bravehearts attend the centre to present the Ditto Show to the Preschool room and Zoo to You brought the insects and mini beasts show.

We had our second Yoga class last Wednesday which the children really enjoyed. We think they can only get better with more practice!!

Until next month Barb

## KITCHEN CAPERS

We've had a great couple of months in the kitchen, our flood although a huge inconvenience has resulted in lovely new cupboards and an early spring clean for the kitchen, we have also had a lot of success with the new menu choices, the children have taken to sardines on toast like fish to water, haha.

Please take the time to have a look at our menu outside the kitchen each week, we are offering many foods that may not be part of some family's regular diets and we love to share recipe ideas so please don't hesitate to ask for copies of our menu recipes for home.

We will be looking at reviewing our summer menus soon and we are always on the lookout for new recipes so please don't hesitate to send us a summer family favourite to try.

### FEEDING UNDER 5's FOOD HINT OF THE MONTH

#### GIVING UP TOO SOON

Don't assume that if a child rejected a food once, that he or she will never try or like it again. It takes approximately 20 times of exposing the child to a food for them to accept it. Do not give up easily or remove the food from the child's diet.

**Instead:** Present the food often and allow the toddler to play with it. This includes touching the food and allowing the child to put it in their mouth and spit it out. Over time they will accept it.

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### FRUITY CHICKEN CURRY

Even our fussiest eaters enjoyed this, with most of our kids enjoying a second helping

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1 tbsp oil
- 3 chicken breasts - sliced
- 1 large onion - thinly sliced
- 1 garlic clove - finely chopped
- 1 red pepper - chopped
- 1 small apple - peeled and cubed
- 80g sultanas
- 3 tbsp mild curry powder
- 200g passata (or tinned chopped tomatoes)
- 200g chicken stock

#### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Heat the oil in a heavy based frying pan over a medium heat. Add the onions and garlic and heat until the mixture becomes translucent.
2. Add the chicken and brown on all sides then add the peppers and stir in the curry powder.
3. Add the remaining ingredients and simmer until the sauce thickens and the chicken is cooked through.

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



## Nursery Natter

Hi, to all wonderful families.

We would like to welcome Rico and his family to the Nursery Room.

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.

## **Birthdays for this**

**Month:** - A big Happy Birthday to Robiya who is turning one on the 4<sup>th</sup> August and Jenaya who is also turning one on the 9<sup>th</sup> August.



***Sometimes all you need is a cardboard box and small round cardboard tubes.***



Did you know that the humble old cardboard box is in the National Toy Hall of Fame?

The cardboard box was inducted in 2005 and with good reason:- Playing with a cardboard box can build skills of creativity, imagination and resourcefulness and by adding open-ended materials they are developing physical skills, such as fine-motor, hand-eye coordination, etc., children can learn so much from these real life objects that they are to manipulate and use in a large variety of ways.

Until next month Kathy, Nar Maya and Jelenka



## Toddler Torque

Hello everyone and we give a special hello and welcome to our new families and their children Aura, Joseph, Amreen and Daniella.

### *Multicultural area*

This month we have started our multicultural area in the room and have been doing some multicultural experiences. We started learning about Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islanders during NAIDOC week, and we plan to extend that to other cultures. If anyone has information, family background stories, connections to cultural dancers or costumes etc. we would love for you to share those with us.

The toddlers are really enjoying learning about other cultures.

Happy 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Birthday to  
Archie this  
month and to  
Miranda!

### *Yoga session with Yana*



This was Yana's second session here so the children were a bit more familiar with what to do and what to expect this time.

#### **Yoga helps kids to:**

- Develop body awareness.

Learn how to use their bodies in a healthy way.

- Manage stress through breathing, awareness, meditation and healthy movement.
  - Build concentration.
- Increase their confidence and positive self-image.
- Feel part of a healthy, non-competitive group.

### *Visitors to the Centre*



Aadi's uncle Dan put on a juggling and hat trick show for us he was very entertaining. Thanks Dan.

We had another special visit from Zoo to you, this time we got to see different bugs and mini beasts.



### *Camping experiences*

It has been a rather busy exciting month here in the toddler room, we even have a tent set up if you happen to have any camping photos for us to use as a display it would be appreciated.

**Cheers and thanks from Cheryl and Miranda.**

## Preschool

Hi parents and carers

July has been one big month for us here at Preschool!

We have had so much fun and learning happening through our Pet interest. The Pet Clinic is bustling, the children have been tending to sick and injured animals and our vets on duty have been amazing caring for their pets. We learnt about Pet care and maintenance and we even made some Pet treats which we sold to parents to earn some money to buy ourselves a pet fish! We raised a total of \$21 and we have been discussing what type of fish we would like to have as our very own Preschool pet. At this stage it is between a gold fish and a Siamese fighting fish. Watch this space!



V



Zoo to You visited us again this month giving us the opportunity to view some bugs and insects in conjunction with our bug and insect interest. We were all amazed with **Milly the millipede**, **Rosie the GIANT burrowing cockroach**, **Flop the frog**, **Spike the bearded dragon** and our returning friend, **Chomp the crocodile!**



The Olympics are just around the corner and the preschool children have decided to embrace it! We will organise outside games and we will learn a little more about Olympic traditions and the different cultures involved in the Olympic Games.

**Happy Birthday to Avara, Sophie and Braddley who are turning 5 and Elita who is turning 4 this month.**

Pyjama day was a success this month raising \$53 for children in Foster care. I think we all agreed, it was pretty funny seeing everyone turn up in their sleep wear!!

Until next month...**Karly, Kathleen, Hedy and Angie**