



## Cairns TAFE Community Child Care Centre

**JUNE 2017**

### **OFFICE NEWS**

#### **Fee Increase**

Please be advised that after an annual review of our budget we will increase our fees by \$3 per day.

Fees are as follows effective as at  
**MONDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017**

#### ***DAILY FEES***

***Preschool \$85***

***Toddlers \$86***

***Nursery \$87***

#### **HOLLOWAYS MARKETS**

**Don't forget to bring in your donations for the Holloways Beach Markets. Please donate by the end of June**

- Toys
- Clothes – children's or adults
- Books – children's or adults

#### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The next committee meeting will be on  
**Wed 14<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm**  
Meetings are held in the staff room  
**ALL WELCOME**  
And child minding available

#### **REMINDERS FOR MAY**

- DO NOT LEAVE YOUR CHILDREN IN THE CAR
- Call the centre if your child is absent
- Bring in donations for the market stall
- Committee meeting 14<sup>th</sup> June

#### **PIRATE DAY**

**Don't forget to come dressed as a Pirate this Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June to help us celebrate Pirate day in support of the Kids cancer project.**



**GOLD COIN DONATION**

### WORKING TOGETHER

Collaboration is about early childhood services and families working well together.

Collaboration between home and early childhood services is based upon good communication and respectful relationships. Collaboration supports mental health and wellbeing. Research has shown that when families and staff work well together it helps to create a positive sense of community, which supports children's mental health and wellbeing. Research has shown that when families and staff within early childhood services work together it helps to improve outcomes for young children. For example, studies have shown that greater family involvement can have a positive impact in areas such as children's early learning skills and behaviour. Family involvement shows children that the service is highly valued, a safe place to be and promotes feelings of belonging and connectedness. Also, both families and staff have valuable information about the child and sharing this information helps to make sure children's needs are met effectively.

### What families can do?

Families can play a part in supporting collaboration, for example:

- Get involved
- Find out about opportunities to help out or take part.
- Look out for opportunities to play a role in the service program. f
- Share ideas or offer to help organise events and get together.
- Suggest special experiences you or the service could set up for the children.
- Talk to other families about your experiences and encourage them to get involved too.
- Share ideas and information that could help staff understand your child's individual characteristics.

<http://www.ecrh.edu.au/docs/default-source/resources/ipsp/working-together.pdf?sfvrsn=6>



UNTIL NEXT  
MONTH BARB

### DONATIONS FROM BUNNINGS

We were very lucky for Bunnings to donate plants to the centre and for Nikki to come in and plant them with the children. Make sure you stop and have a look at our new sensory garden.

## KITCHEN CAPERS

### SOCIALISING AT MEALTIMES

Many generations and cultures use meal times as a time to gather and discuss their day and other subjects of interest, today's lifestyles are so busy we often miss these little opportunities to talk to our kids; at daycare we encourage children to talk and share thoughts during meal times as this often gives educators a chance to discuss food, healthy eating and can also give us insight into individual children's needs.

So next time you sit down to eat try my favourite meal time discussion starter, which is name your best thing of the day and worst thing of the day, you might be pleasantly surprised by what is shared.

### RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Thank you to Miya, Cienna's mum for this recipe. We trialled it at the centre and the children loved them.

#### Raw Carrot Cake Bites

- \*1.5 cups desiccated coconut
- \*1/2 cup walnuts
- \*3 small carrots, roughly chopped
- \*10 medjool dates, pitted ( I would soak these in some water to add some more moisture to the mixture as ours were a little crumbly)
- \*1 tsp cinnamon
- \*1/2 tsp vanilla extract
- \*pinch of salt
- Pop all ingredients into your food processor and pulse until smooth
- Roll into balls and coat with extra coconut
- Pop into the fridge to set

You can also add an extra handful of pumpkin seeds or sultanas at the end to add some texture, (we used currants)



## Nursery Natter

We have been very busy learning about ducks. We have been singing "5 little ducks" and using one of our felt boards. We have also been doing some fun activities one which was ducks and bubbles, and we gave the babies kitchen whisks to use to make more bubbles, great for fine motor development and language development. With the babies enjoying bubbles, we have been blowing bubbles for the babies to follow and try and catch. The older babies have been trying to blow their own bubbles and with a little guidance they now can blow their own bubbles.



Hi, here we are again.

Firstly, I would like to welcome Hudson and Robin and their families to the Nursery Room, and please remember we have an open-door policy so please feel free to talk to myself or Rohana if you have any questions. Heath has now moved up to the Toddler Room, and we look forward to saying hello to him at the fence.

We have been listening to the song "I can sing a Rainbow" so we are making our own Rainbow, this will help encourage language development and colour recognition.



BIRTHDAYS: A  
big Happy  
Birthday to Alexis  
who is turning two  
on the 12th June

Some of our activities can sometimes become very messy, just a reminder to always put spare clothes in your babies bag and make sure all your babies belongings are labelled with their name.

Until next time,  
Kathy and Rohana



## Toddler Torque

### *We are learning about colours and shapes*

The toddlers are learning about colours at every opportunity and as a transition routine we are encouraging the toddlers to begin to recognise colours.

Please read the article attached about the importance of learning about colours!



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To our group Ezekiel, its great to have you return to the centre as a big toddler! And a big welcome to Heath from the nursery who is now officially a big toddler too.

### *Reminders*

If you have any queries or ideas for our program, about the toddler room or your child please don't hesitate to speak to me or Miranda at any time we have an open door policy and are here to assist in any way that we can. (Or alternately write it in the communication book)

**Cheers from Cheryl and Miranda.**

### *Ahoy there me Harties*

Everyone is getting pretty excited and ready for the big Pirate dress up day which is a fundraiser for children's cancer research so don't forget to dress up on Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> of June and donate a gold coin or more to this great cause.



We have been preparing ourselves for the big day by watching dancing and singing with Captain Feather sword on the internet so now we know what a pirate looks like!

And we have painted and collaged our own pirate ships that are on display in our room. Have a look at them they are amazing. The toddlers were very patient and focused during the whole process involved in making their ships.



## Preschool

Well once again another month has passed us by and the Preschool has been learning central. We have been Pirate crazy as I'm sure you have all noticed. We have learned a lot through this interest especially working on our physical development in our pirate ship outdoors and working on numeracy through our pirate treasures in our pirate area indoors. We've also learned smooth and rough surfaces through our bottom of the ocean sensory tubs. We've experienced science through making pirate crystals and we are looking forward to our grand finale... Pirate day.



We've really focused on letter recognition this month through various literacy activities such as letter puzzles, independently finding our names on our beds at rest time, finding letters we know in words and just naming letters any chance we can get. We are doing so well with this and our ability to recognise letters has dramatically improved!

*Literacy is a **vital part of children's overall development.** It's the foundation for doing well at school, socialising with others, developing independence, managing money and working.*

Until next month...**Karly, Kathleen, Angie and Jelenka.** 😊

Happy birthday to  
Zenzi and Rafa!!

We were very lucky to have a visit from Felix's Mum Tara who came in to sing songs and play instruments with the children. We really enjoyed this and we love when our parents get involved in our program! A big Thank you to Tara!



## **COLOURS AND SHAPES**



Have you ever wondered why most early childhood programs teach children their colours and shapes early in the year? Why not letters and numbers? Why not cats and dogs? It's because colour and shape are two very noticeable attributes of the world around us. When you look out your window, you may not be saying it ... but your mind is

noticing and identifying the green trees, brown rectangle buildings, square windows, and blue sky. Colour and shape are ways children observe and categorize what they see. These very recognizable characteristics encourage children to define and organize the diverse world around them.

These first teachings in preschool and kindergarten are basics that your child needs to know before she learns the "other basics" of reading, writing, and math. Understanding colour and shape is a tool for learning many skills in all curriculum areas, from math and science to language and reading. For example, when your child learns to discern the similarities and differences between colours and shapes, she is using the same skills she needs to recognize the differences between letters and numerals.

When young children are asked to mathematically sort objects (such as leaves, rocks, shells, or keys) they usually use the most obvious attributes of colour and shape, plus size, to categorize the items. When your child plays, he uses sorting and classifying skills as he observes similarities and differences of colour and shape, makes comparisons, and organizes this information into piles. This seemingly simple process (that we use every week when we sort the laundry or find things in the grocery aisles) is the foundation for living in a mathematical world.

Sorting by colour and shape prepares your child for the future application of these skills in making graphs or searching for a book at the library.



*A special thankyou....*

**To the amazing students and their teachers at Trinity Bay High School especially David Otto (Lex's Dad) for organising and building our new sandpit play kitchen made from wood pellets.**

