



# Rostrevor Kindergarten

## Newsletter Term 1 Week 3 February 2020

### Diary Dates:

21st February

20th February

9th March

1st of April

12th April

Fees Due

6.00 pm AGM (Governing Council Meeting)

Adelaide Cup Public Holiday

Closure day

End of term 1

This is the second newsletter for the year and it seems as if the children have all settled into the routines of Kindy well and are showing us they are all keen to learn which is great!

### Curriculum:

**Lifecycles** - On the bench in the Kitchen is the caterpillar of a Monarch butterfly. Keep an eye on it to see if you can see any changes. We have been very fortunate to have 3 butterflies come out of the chrysalis this week for the children to see.

### Rebecca Mumford from Greenhill Living

Rebecca Mumford is coming throughout the year to build on our food garden education program. This term's sessions are about introducing children to gardening, learning about the life cycle of a carrot plant and insects we might find in the garden. She has created a series of books and introduces "Gaye the Garden Girl" which is available if families want to read them with their child at Kindy. We will be taking observations of the garden throughout the term and watching carefully as our carrot seeds and other seedlings grow. We were also lucky enough to harvest some squash, cucumber and pumpkins from last years planting. (EYLF outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity – children learn to interact in relation to others with care, empathy and respect)

STEM – Learning seasons, plant life cycles, insect life cycles, colours, duration in days of the week, months and seasons).



### **Kindergarten Closure day Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> of April**

Kindergartens have now been granted an additional 2 pupil free days a year to use to work with other sites in our partnership. This equates to 4 a year. This term we have planned a day to work with other preschools focussing on Numeracy.

**Emergency Evacuation** - A constant discussion is our protective behaviours curriculum around feelings, safe and unsafe behaviour and emergencies. We will be practicing our emergency evacuation this week, where we walk to Stradbroke School.

### **Family Information Sheets**

We would really appreciate if families can please fill out the Information sheets which we have put into the pockets. We find this information very valuable and we use it to help with our future planning.

### **Literacy and Numeracy Indicators at Preschool**

#### **Literacy: I use language to connect with my world**

Our Literacy focus this term is about encouraging children to communicate and express their ideas through conversations, asking questions and listening. We have set up story tables and have small story groups before lunch Tuesdays and Thursdays.

#### **Numeracy:**

This term we are focussing on:

- *Explore symbols and patterns in my environment*
- *Identify and talk about shapes and properties*
- *Investigate same and different*

### **Governing Council:**

The AGM and first Governing council meeting for the year is on Thursday 20th February at 6.00pm. All families are welcome to come along and we are always looking for families to be on the Governing Council. Please see Tina if you are interested in becoming a member.

### **Signing In and Out:**

Please support the Kindergarten staff to safely look after your child by ensuring you sign your child in and out of Kindergarten each day. Thank you to those families who have been doing this. Older siblings under the age of 18 aren't able to collect siblings or sign them out as these sheets are a legal requirement.



### **Instagram page:**

In 2019 I created a "Rostrevor Kindergarten" Instagram page in response to introducing another way of keeping parents informed. Families are welcome to follow the page it will be general information about what is happening at Kindergarten and not about specific children. Please be mindful if you comment on photos as we want to keep it positive for everyone, staff also need to adhere to DECD policies to ensure safety for everyone. If you have any concerns please speak to Tina.

### Reminders: Parking

We ask families to not use the car park outside the Kindergarten to drop off and pick up children as it can create a safety issue with children coming in and out. If you have a circumstance where you require a disabled car park please speak to staff so we can help accommodate your needs.

### Ice packs in lunch boxes

The weather temperature has been unpredictable but we get concerned that some children don't have an icepack in their lunchbox. We recommend keeping the food cool as we find yoghurt, cheese and meat products are sometimes still in their lunchbox and they are eating them at the end of the day.

### Collecting children at the end of the day

We are working on a routine with the children of waiting to leave until staff say goodbye. It helps us to know who is accounted for and allows for staff to finish off the story or game with minimum interruptions. We would really appreciate your help with this at the end of the day.

*Tina, Vicki, Rachel, Angela and Kimmy.*



# Happi the Orangutan

Orang-utans in Borneo and Sumatra are losing their homes and food as forests are converted to Palm Oil and timber plantations. It's a major threat to their survival.

Borneo's population is estimated to have been 288,500 in 1973, current estimates are 55,000, they are listed as **critically endangered**.

35% of Borneo's rainforest has been cleared for the demand of paper, timber and Palm Oil. This year we have sponsored an Orangutan called Happi after the children voted on which animal we should choose.

*Each year we sponsor an animal through a website called Palm Oil Investigations.*



Happi will go home with children **overnight**. Families can document the visit using photos, drawings and words on an A4 piece of paper and put it in the folder to share when you return to Kindy the next day.

### Quick facts

- The word Orang-utan comes from the Malay word "Orang hutan" meaning human of the forest.
- They live in tropical Rainforests of Borneo and Sumatra in Southeast Asia.
- They eat leaves and fruits, nuts, bark and insects.
- They measure 1.2m to 1.5m tall and weigh up to 100kg. Males arm span can stretch 2m wide from finger to finger.
- They can live in captivity for 50-60years and in the wild 30-40 years.
- Females take 10-15years to reach maturity, usually giving birth to one infant every 6-8 years and the infant will stay with its mother for the first 10 years.
- They spend most of their time up in trees, sleeping in leafy nests away from leopards and big cats.

**Outcome 2 from the Early Years Learning Framework:**  
Children are connected with and contribute to their world and Children become socially responsible and show respect for the environment.