

FREE RANGE KIDS NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2007

February has been a busy Month for us all. Miss Brown and Miss K had their wonderful holiday in Fiji. Miss K has come back as Mrs. Voll (apparently the full name is just way too hard to pronounce). We have also had several cases of chicken pox in the centre poor Mrs. B Schultz being one of these. I have attached information on vaccination against the chicken pox for your information. In the times when staff are absent for whatever reason, it is important to us that your child experiences as little change as possible. We attempt to replace the staff member with another that your child will be as comfortable and familiar with. Most of the staff in the centre, including our casuals, are familiar with most of the children in the centre as they mix together at outdoor activities regularly. Feel free to approach these staff members and talk to them about your child.

STAFF CHANGES:

You would be aware by now of our changes of staff and seen some familiar faces in different places. Debbie Schultz is really enjoying the challenge of the Pre School room . Two Mrs Schultzs' in the one room will be interesting, and we will leave it to the children to see how they respond to that one. Poor Mrs. Bennett missed her last day as she came down with the chicken pox also. She promised to come back when she is better and say a proper goodbye to all the children. Lacey is very excited about being Group Leader in the nursery but unfortunately is unwell this week. Belinda Schultz is filling in for her as she knows all the babies well from the time she was in there when Debbie was on holidays. Rebecca is our new assistant in the nursery, you have probably seen her doing relief work for us. She is a mother of two young children and has many years experience in the child care industry. Please feel free to drop in and say hello to her sometime.



Mrs McCann our wonderful cook is taking a well deserved holiday next week . Tracey (Mrs. Abbot) another of our relief staff will be filling in for her, she has lots of experience in the kitchen and I'm sure will do a wonderful job.

CENTREPAY

Just a note to let parents know we now have Centrepay available for those who wish to use it. This is where your fees can come directly from any payment that Centrelink makes to you on a regular basis. It is centre policy that all non-working families subscribe to Centrepay to pay their fees.

PARENT SURVEY

The winner of our Parent Survey Competition was Karen Mitchell (Marcus's Mum) from the Chicken Littles room. Thank you to all who returned their surveys, look out for the menu survey that we will be doing next as a response from the parent survey we feel we need to get more detailed feedback on our menu. Take note of our Menu now displayed on the parent noticeboard as you walk into the centre.

CENTRE EVENTS



We will be placing calendars of events around the centre for you to see to be aware of special days or events that are coming up. Don't forget that as a parent or grandparent you can always get involved in your centre by story reading, playing an instrument or teaching a craft etc. children love it when their parents and loved ones get involved and come along to activities. We have an open door policy and encourage parent involvement wherever possible.

SHAVE FOR A CURE.

Our next big event happens on Friday 16th March. Julie (Miss Paroz) has volunteered to have her head shaved to raise money for the Leukemia Foundations Shave for a cure. A donation tin is in my office and donations can be made to any of the girls or myself and they will give you a receipt as any amount over \$2.00 is tax deductible. So get behind this very worthy cause and a very brave Miss Paroz. Come along at 3.30 p.m. on the Friday afternoon enjoy an afternoon tea with us and get behind Julie and support her while her hair comes off. The other staff members will be colouring their hair for the day, if we get plenty of sponsors you could see us all with different coloured hair, so sponsor the staff member you would like to see with crazy coloured hair!!!



HELLO FROM THE HATCHLINGS

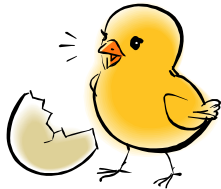
We welcome Rebecca (Mrs Scholl) to the nursery and she is loving taking care of all the babies. We have been listening to our nursery

rhymes and reading books to help our language skills lots of outdoor play for the older babies who love digging in the sandpit and swinging on the swing. We have been using playdough and painting pictures with gooey paint.

Mrs Poole is away for a short while and Mrs Belinda Schultz is taking good care of us until she is well enough to return.

A reminder to all parents to ensure all belongings are labeled with your child's name, don't forget to label bottles as with quite a few the same it is easy to get them mixed up when they are washed. See you next time. Mrs Schultz and Mrs Scholl.

BULA !! FROM THE CHICKS



Wow! Another month has just flown past in the chicks room and boy have we been busy.

Miss K. has returned from Fiji as has Mrs Volanaba and is refreshed and revitalized. Mrs Gillespie is taking 2 days off in March to celebrate her daughter Ella's first birthday.

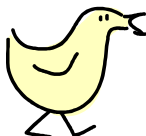
Just a few quick reminders about items that are brought to Free Range, please ensure that **everything** is clearly marked with your child's name, and that each day that they attend you provide sheets, hat, shoes, spare sets of clothes, nappies/training pants and any other personal items such as bottles or dummies. Also could you please supply a scrapbook for your child's artwork.

We are going to introduce an indoor/outdoor programme in the room again to get children settled and into a routine. The weather isn't as hot during the days now and the children are able to spend more time outdoors if they wish. Please feel free to come and have a chat to us about your child and the programme we are running.

Until next time.

Mrs Gillespie and Mrs Volanaba

CHICKEN LITTLES NEWS.



Hi from the kindy room. What a month! I am back from my holiday in Fiji and the children enjoyed learning a few words. Bula --- Hello. Vinaka---- Thank

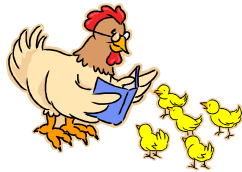
you. Vinaka to Miss Paroz for taking such good care of the children while I was away.

In the last week we have been exploring the human body with help from Harvey (human torso) he has a heart which beats and lungs to help us breathe. We will look more into our bodies over the next few weeks. Over the next month we will be incorporating more outside programming and including our chickens and garden more. Have you noticed our gardens being planted and cared for by our volunteer gardener Kathy. She will help us learn about planting and growing in the garden.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING EACH DAY: HAT
HELMET, SHEETS, SPARE CLOTHES AND REMEMBER TO TAKE THEM
HOME EACH DAY.**

Thank you Miss Brown and Miss Fountain.

CHICKEN RUN RAMBLINGS.



Hello from the pre school. I am looking forward to spending time getting to know your children. Most of you know me from around the centre. Belinda has been helping out in the nursery while Lacey is unwell so Mrs. Abbot has been assisting me and doing a great job in helping us to get to know each other. We are working on learning to know each other, recognizing our name and writing our names. We are doing this by having lots of group games such as Duck Duck Goose, Ring a Rosie. We are using stencils to help our writing skills and improve our fine motor. We are having lots more outdoor time with group games when the weather is not so hot to keep us inside.

Please feel free to come and have a chat to me about our programme and your child's progress.

Until next time.

Mrs Schultz and Mrs Abbott.