

## *Free Range Kids Newsletter*

*February 08*

Welcome to February and I would like to welcome back all our new families and our families that have had a long break.

Amanda Wills  
Director

### Upcoming Events

#### Breakfast

Breakfast is a very important meal of the day for the children to be able to function all day. Our Centre opens at 6.00am and yes we will give the children breakfast but the cut of time is 7.30am. Could you make sure that your child has had breakfast as we are experiencing a lot of children calling out to our cook Mrs McCann at about 8.00 – 8.30am saying they are hungry and they want food.

## HATCHLINGS ROOM



Mrs. Vol is off holidaying in Fiji for two weeks so we have had Mrs. Welbourn and Mrs Blanco helping us out. All of new littlies are settling in well and having fun exploring all our activities. We have had play dough which has been popular and painting. We are slowly getting into more art activities as the children learn to explore this area. It has been quite a rainy month so we have brought activities such as the tunnel, inside, so that the children can still work on their gross motor development. We have still managed some outside play on the verandah on days that it hasn't been quite so wet.

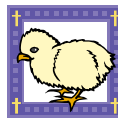
Just a reminder to parents when you drop your children off please put anything in the fridge that needs to be, medication forms and daily reports are in plastic sleeves in the folder on top of the lockers if required, fill in daily reports with any information you may need us to know, put nappies in the nappy basket and it would be greatly appreciated if you are able to take the time and make up your child's cot for us in the morning, and please, please, please remember to label **ALL** of your child's belongings. All of this enables us to be able to spend more quality time with your child.

Once again a reminder to look at your children's scrapbooks, we spend a lot of time putting these together and it would be great to know that you all look at them to see what your child is achieving in the day and to get some feedback to know if we are on the right track. I have also put a list of names up for those that I need new scrapbooks for.

Once again Thank You.

Mrs. Ryan, Mrs Voll, Mrs. Welbourn and Mrs Blanco.

## CHICKS ROOM



The Toddler's room is back to almost full capacity, so if you are requiring any more days now is the time to book those extra days, not many days spare. Everyone seems to be settling in well all our new friends are now a part of the Toddler room family. Mrs Belinda Schultz is with us on a fulltime basis now, so we have been working together on the daily routine so to give the children a routine they are comfortable with. Just a quick reminder if you haven't done so yet could you please provide your child with a scrap book. So this month we have been working on bonding with everyone. So by for now from the Toddler's room.

Mrs Terressa Gillespie and Mrs Belinda Schultz

## CHICKEN LITTLE ROOM



Thank you, Miss Brown, Miss Fountain and Mrs Abbott.

## CHICKEN RUN ROOM

The Preschool room is filling up very quickly with all our new families. We are at the start of the year which we will start with basic learning and then as we start to enter into the middle of the year we will be looking at our school readiness checklist.



Until next time, Mrs Debbie Schultz, and Mrs Belinda Schultz

## ROOSTERS



Well it's the start of another school year, Yeah. We have been extremely busy already in the afternoons at Free Range Kids. I'm hoping by now that most of the parents know about the transition of taking the Before After School program to the Laidley State Primary School grounds due to increased number's and interest. If you have any queries please see Mrs Wills(Director). Activities that the schoolies have been enjoying are Playdough, leggo, crafts, homework, board games and computer time. We have a group of schoolies that love to listen and dance to the music. Even Miss Paroz tries to bust a move or two, how funny is that. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to come and have a chat with me.

Cheers  
Miss Paroz

## Policy Review

### 2.3 Public Holiday / Allowable Absences / Annual Leave Policy

Created: 11.4.05  
Review Date: 15.2.06  
Review Date: 23.5.06

**Legislation**

**Department of Families and Community Services Childcare  
Handbook 2005-2006**

#### **Objective:**

To ensure all families are aware of the fee requirements for Public Holidays, Allowable Absences and annual leave.

**Explanation:**

Fees are charged on a booked care basis i.e. families pay for their position to be held in the centre on their booked days. The centre still operates costs on these days and as such needs to maintain its income.

**Implementation:**

Parents will be asked to pay full fees for public holidays and allowable absences.

The Australian Government allows 30 Allowable Absence days per Financial year including, annual leave, occasional days and sick days (without a Doctor's Certificate). Families will be notified when they are nearing the end of their 30 allowable absences per year. If a family comes to the centre from another centre and advises they have used their 30 allowable absences, Child Care Benefit cannot be applied at this service. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure they do not claim more than 30 days allowable absences per year.

**Evaluation and Review**

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis with the consultation of parents and staff. Current legislation, Regulations and QIAS standards will also be taken into consideration.

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This Public Holidays/Allowable Absences/Annual Leave Policy will be reviewed on an annual basis with the consultation of parents and staff. Current legislation, Regulations and QIAS standards will also be taken into consideration.

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PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION TO THE OFFICE FOR ACCREDITATION PURPOSES: THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (parent name) have read the above Policy form and make the following suggestions for change.

## Policy Review

### 3.5 Transition of Children through Age Groups Policy

Created: 11.4.05

Review Date: 15.2.06

**Objective:**

To ensure the transition process for children to the next age group is undertaken in a smooth and stress free manner for the child, other children in the group, staff and parents.

**Explanation:**

As children grow and develop they will be moving into the next age group. This can be a stressful time for both the parent and the child. A transition procedure has been implemented to ensure the transition process is smooth for all concerned.

**Implementation:**

Staff will ensure observations are taken on a regular basis to monitor the development of children. Where possible, children are moved to the appropriate section according to age; this is governed by the availability of care and the development needs of the child. Throughout the year staff will assess a child's readiness to move up and will discuss this with the parents. Every effort will be made to accommodate the child's needs and parents' wishes as to moving up or staying in a group. However the overall centre occupancy rate and needs of children across all the groups must also be taken into consideration when moving children between groups.

Staff will complete a Transitional Visit Report when children attend trial visits to the next group. This will be done on a daily basis for a period of at least 1 week. If the child feels secure in the group and the parents are happy for them to move, the permanent move will be made in the following week. Where possible, staff need to follow up on the transition through visiting the child in the following week and keeping in touch with the parents and new staff on the child's individual needs.

Staff will also need to send the child's developmental records with the child when they move to the next room.

Staff in the new room will need to ensure they set up a locker for the child and give the parent an orientation of their room.

The Director will also keep in touch with the parent during the transitional period to ensure the parent is satisfied with the way the transition is progressing.

**Evaluation and Review**

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis with the consultation of parents and staff. Current legislation, Regulations and QIAS standards will also be taken into consideration.

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