



March 2009

Free Range Kids

Phone: 5465 1342

39 Robinson Road,
Laidley Qld 4341

Hatchery Happenings

Last month in the babies room we have been doing nursery rhymes, playing with musical instruments and lots of recycled material play with a lot of boxes parents have donated. The children loved the box play which was used to extend their skills socially, cognitively and developed their motor and spatial skills.

We also had a great time making valentine's

love hearts with lots of pretty collage materials. The children's favourite activity was playdough and coloured spaghetti.

Happy Birthday to Jacob, Breanna and Charleigh who turned one in February.

We hope to get outside a little more for some outdoor play this month since the weather is cooling slightly. This will assist in developing their gross motor skills as

some of our children have just begun to crawl or getting very close to it.

We welcome Grace, Jak and William to our room and their families.

Don't forget to pack a change of clothes, hat and sheets daily.

Until next time
Mrs Abbott and Mrs Quinn.

Signing your child in and out

- Did you know that to receive your child care benefit your child must be signed in and out everyday?
- Did you know that it is a requirement of The Office for Early Childhood Education and Care that each child is signed in and out daily?

Please ensure this is done each morning and afternoon to ensure all regulations and guidelines are met.

Each day your child requires

- **Hat**
- **Sheet**
- **Spare change of clothes**
- **Bag**
- **Nappies (if required)**
- **Comforter (if required)**

All of these items must be named so staff can return them to the correct owner.

Toddler Tales

Mrs Hansford and Mrs Blanco welcome you all back to the room and welcome lots of new friends as well. Already this year we have been very busy and have set up a Sea Theme where we have made fish, crabs, jelly fish, water, boats and collaged a beach theme. The children put a lot of effort into this colourful display and even more effort into pronouncing the words of the activity they were constructing. We had a lot of fish and crabs though we worked with the words and soon the children were saying fish and crabs. At this age they are so eager to learn. From this we have continued on with our Australian corner which I hope you have all taken the time to admire. We have our koalas in the gum trees and our kangaroos jumping through long grass and of course – our Australian flags all presented amongst some Steve Parish pictures of Aus-

tralian animals. The children have on offer a number of animal books for them to look at during the day to discover and explore the animals in the natural habitats eating, sleeping, playing and as some of the children have noted – hiding. Our Australian activities have not ended there, we have moved onto Aboriginal paintings which the children have shown immense interest in. We have offered long brush painting, stick painting (which looks absolutely fantastic) hand printing and paint smearing. The children love being hands on and getting dirty – or is it the hand washing they enjoy more – mmmmm interesting. We have continued on with the touch sensory skill and the children have explored cooked spaghetti in a variety of colours, a variety of collage materials, playdough and some new sand activities for the children to experience different textures. This month we plan to work on hand songs, counting and colours so

keep an eye on our program for the exciting activities your children have participated in. Over the past few weeks we have sent home some general information for your perusal – hope this comes in handy. Over the year we will continue to send home snippets of information, so if there is any information that you are seeking just let us know and we will see if we are able to source it for you. A gentle reminder to parents – can you please ensure that you apply sunscreen to your child upon arrival at the centre daily and ensure they have a hat. Mrs Blanco and I are looking forward to a busy and productive year with the children and parents as well. If there is anything you would like to ask or are interested in please feel free to come and have a chat with us. Till next time – Mrs Hansford and Mrs Blanco.

Kindy News

A big "Hello" from the Kindy Room. I (Mrs Amos) am settling in well, absolutely loving working with Miss Eyles and, of course, your beautiful children. Last month, we focused on various animals, being responsible and colour and shape recognition. We have started this month with "All about Me" and feelings. We are continuing with our colours and shapes reinforcing

concepts in a variety of ways. The children are also being introduced to many new songs (and old favourites) incorporating gross and fine motor development. Please feel free to stop me and have a chat with any questions.

Until next time

Mrs Amos and Miss Eyles

Preschool Particulars

Well in the Chicken Run room we have been very busy bees. We have been talking about and making a lot of different animals including ducks, frogs, grasshoppers and Humpty Dumpty. All of our new friends have settled in very well and have established relationships with the children and staff in the room. We have been working on a variety of developmental activity looking at motor skills, special awareness, coordination,

social skills, concentration, etc, as well as having lots of fun!

We have welcomed our new teacher Ms Edmonds who is assisting Mrs Schultz this year. She has become enthusiastically involved in what's happening in the room.

If you have any questions or worries please drop in and have a chat. We will be glad to help wherever we can.

Mrs Schultz and Ms Edmonds.

Schoolies

Well hello Schoolies Parents, Firstly, I would like to introduce myself to those of you who may not have met me yet. My name is Miss (Julie) Paroz and I have moved from the Preschool Room to the Schoolies group. I would also like to introduce Miss (Kristi) Major who will be assisting me in the Schoolies room this year. She is new to the Centre but has settled in very well. She is currently studying the Bachelor of Education—Early Childhood.

We have been doing a lot of fun things such as paper Mache, baking dough beads, computer play and Valentine's Day craft. Each day we take photos of what we get up to so keep your eye out for them.

Miss Paroz and Miss Major.

If your child forgets their hat, they will need to play on the veranda during outdoor play time. Please help them to remember their hat each day so they can fully participate in the program.

LOST

Children's watch.

It has a flower shaped face and coloured writing on the band. If it has made it into your child's bag by mistake, please return it to the office.

Please remember to check your child's hair for head lice before they attend day care.

If your child is seen scratching their head, staff will check for head lice. If lice are found the child will need to be collected and treated before returning to the Centre. If lice are found in your child's hair, the child will wear their hat until collected to minimize the chance of the lice spreading to other children. Please assist us by keeping our Centre Head Lice Free.

Thankyou to those families who supported our Family Portrait Fundraiser. We raised \$240 which will be donated to the Red Cross Victorian Fire Appeal.