



# grenfell preschool & long day care centre

newsletter

3rd August 2009

## Sick Children at the Centre

If your child is sick, we ask you to keep them home to stop the spread of any illness to other children.

If a child has commenced medication, they **MUST** be kept at home for at least 24 hours to allow the medication to take effect.



## Swine Flu

The NSW Health Department states that if any child develops influenza-like symptoms, we are to separate them from the other children and we are to contact their parents immediately to pick them up from the service and they are to keep them home until they are well. Parents can contact their GP for further advice.

Staff and children are encouraged to continue to take appropriate precautions: cover mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing and wash hands regularly with soap and water or alcohol-based hand gel, including after contact with soiled tissues, after blowing their nose or coughing, before eating, and after going to the toilet or changing a nappy. If staff or children are sick with an influenza-like illness, they will be advised to stay at home and limit contact with other people to avoid infecting them.

## Whooping Cough (Pertussis)

**There are suspected cases of Whooping Cough in Grenfell.**

Pertussis affects people of all ages, but can be very serious in babies. It can be prevented by immunisation at two, four and six months of age. Booster shots are needed for four-year-olds and teenagers, and adults living or working with small children.

### "Be Wise and Immunise"

Immunisation Clinics are held at the Grenfell Community Health Centre on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. Ph: 02 6343 1811

## Upcoming Clinics for 2009

- 19th August
- 16th September
- 21st October
- 18th November
- 16th December

## Aspard Document

This annual reporting document forms part of the accountability process for allocation and expenditure of public funds. We have had to change our enrolment form to help answer some of the questions in this document and have enclosed page 1 & 2 of the enrolment form for you to update. Please return them to the as soon as possible. Thank you all for your help!

## Quandialla Preschool

We have had some great news from CareWest to say that we will be receiving funding to keep the preschool at Quandialla running. For over 20 years, we have conducted a preschool at Quandialla and this year we have 13 students attending. We are licensed for 20 children. If you know of any child that would like to attend the Quandialla preschool please tell them about the service or get them to ring the Centre. It runs every Wednesday at the central school from 9.15am to 3.15pm.



## Star Room

The Star Room has been abuzz with the children dismantling an old computer. It must be in 1000 pieces and no way of ever getting back together. Emily has asked if there is anyone out there that has an old computer, radio, phone etc that the Star Room children could have so they can extend their skills and dismantle more.

## Pyjamas Day

The Star Room have been talking about what it would be like to wear their Pyjamas to preschool so Belinda and Emily are having a Pyjama Day on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2009. If your child/children would like to wear their Pyjamas to preschool, they are welcome to. Remember to send warm clothes for the children to play outside. Some of the staff will also be wearing their PJ's.

## Work Placement

We welcome Jody-Lee Leibick to the Centre this week. Jody is a former Grenfell girl who now resides in Albury. Jody is undertaking work placement studies and we hope she enjoys her time at the Centre.

## Question Corner

### (An article from the Story of the Day)

The Star Room has introduced a new question corner. Its aim is to use it as the basis for planning child initiated experiences. The children often ask questions that are complex and more often they, cannot be satisfied in a one-sentence response. We have sectioned off a clear, neat area in our room for this process to occur - such as giving the children an area to clearly document their ideas and through the support of a teacher writing skills as key words are documented on their creations.

#### Our first attempt ...

During morning meeting, Megan was the first to notice we had a question mark hanging from the roof and Harrison knew what it was.



Emily explained what would happen in this new area and asked Tyler to share his question with the children that he had asked on Emily's arrival. *Do Wheelie and Racey sleep?* (Guinea Pigs) Emily explained the next step to discovering our answer is to go to our new corner and document the question.

Together we discussed what you could use to research the answer:

Hugh: *the computer*

Ben: *be like scientists*

Tyler: *use Polly's mum's encyclopaedias*

We had planned to create rainbows with reflections and mirrors (extension from rainbow book last week) although we decided to extend on this spontaneous child initiated discussion about sleep and how important it is.

Later during language group time we had an open discussion on our current knowledge about sleep to see if we could answer our own question about guinea pigs and their sleep (please refer to our poster in the room). Then using the internet we learnt that guinea pigs nap both day and night and that sometimes they sleep with their eyes open!

As we all continue to ask questions and make our own projects we will extend our questioning skills and develop our knowledge more by the process of finding answers to our questions as we get the thrill of working as real scientists to find our answers.

Inspired from reading 'Learning About Science', M Fler and A Cahill, AECA 2001.

## Coats/Jackets

Please send your child's coat /jacket with them to the Centre for when they go outside to play. Please remember to put their names on them. I remind all parents to label their children's belongings. Please check in the lost property to see if there is something of your child's.



## School Transition

The Grenfell Public School's transition this year will start in October and run for 5 weeks on a Friday. There will be more information in a later newsletter.



## Book Fair

The Book Fair starts on the Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2009. There will be a display of books in the foyer for you to look at all week and purchase if you wish.

## Four Weekly Statements

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DWEER) have informed us that all childcare services operating under the Child Care Management System (CCMS) are now required to provide four weekly statements to individuals using care at their service. You will receive your first four weekly statement on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2009.

## Total Learning Catalogues

Please return your Total Learning catalogues by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August., orders can still be placed but the discounts finished Friday 31<sup>st</sup>

**\*\*PINK\*\*BLING\*\*SING\*\***

To help raise much needed funds for breast cancer we are helping Kim Berry with her endeavour. We ask if each family would kindly buy a ticket or sell some tickets. Extra tickets are available at the office. Please return sold and unsold tickets on or before Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September.

## Dates to Remember

AGM

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> Sept 2009 at 7pm

Pyjamas Day

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2009

Book Fair

24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> August 2009

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