



August Newsletter

The staff for Term 3, 2019 include

- **Anne Whittleston** (Director / Educator)
- **Jen Reid** (Assistant Director / Educator)
- **Tracey Alexander** (Community Development Coordinator)
- **Tamara Hall** (Speech Pathologist)
- **Sarah Harry** (Occupational Therapist)
- *To Be Confirmed* (Family Practitioner)
- **Janet Hazel** (Educator)
- **Roshni Amroliwala** (Educator)
- **Courtney Robb** (Educator)
- **Stephanie Hamdorf** (Educator)
- **Coby Romano** (Educator)
- **Adrienne Hicks** (Educator)
- **Amanda Smith** (Educator)
- **Lisa Mildrum** (Educator)
- **Jodie Murray** (Educator)
- **Andrea Randell** (Educator)
- **Kim Malnai** (Educator)
- **Stacey McGarrigan** (Educator)
- **Magdaline Saredakis** (Educator)
- **Julia Tilley** (Educator)
- **Iona Angely** (Educator)
- **Yogini Patel** (Educator)
- **Steph Byron** (Educator)
- **Le-arna Rathjen** (Educator)
- **Katie Bartlett** (Educator)
- **Cathy Mazzarolo** (Admin Officer)
- **Jo Oliver** (Cook / Educator)
- **Nobuko Nakajima** (Cook / Educator)
- **Sue Hall** (Finance Officer)
- **Kylie Webster** (Finance Officer)
- **Simon Costello** (Grounds person)

Community Development

Hi everyone, by the time you read this I will be settling into my new Senior Community Development role in State office for a few months. A new person will be arriving to our Children's Centre Community Development position shortly and will be looking forward to meeting you all.

In the meantime we wanted to share with you several options that will be coming up at the Centre for you and your children. Please reach out to Sarah, Occupational Therapist or Tamara, Speech Pathologist if you have any questions or stop by and chat with Cathy or Kylie in the office if you would like to make any bookings.

- Our Thursday programs, **Baby Bop** and **Baby Move & Groove**, with Sarah and Tamara are already booked out for Term 3, but please let us know if you would like to go on our waiting list.
- Due to popular demand we have added an additional **Mums & Bubs Fitness** program on Monday mornings with our Personal Trainer, Sophie. This means mums can choose either a 45 minute group at 9:30am or the new group at 10:30am. A reminder that Sophie also offers a Thursday evening class for adults only at 6 pm.

Our Allied Health staff Sarah (Occupational Therapist) and Tamara (Speech Pathologist) will be facilitating a range of workshops during Term 3.

- **Being with Big Feelings**- a series of 4 workshops, offered fortnightly Tuesday mornings 13 Aug- 24 Sept.
- **The Wonderful World of Toddlers**- Thursday 8 August 6:30pm.
- **Getting Ready for Reading & Writing**- Tuesday 3 Sept. 6:30pm

Please note a crèche will be available for all 3 of these programs; however bookings must be made in advance.

PJ Story time will coincide with 'Book Week' celebrations, to be held on Thursday 22 Aug. 6:30pm.

What's the Buzz?- 16 week social skills program will be adding a brand new series, starting in Term 3 and continuing throughout Term 4 for any child, aged 5- 12 years who is challenged by social interactions and expectations. For more information and costs please contact Michelle (one of our facilitators):
michelleharris@inet.net.au

A new **Raising Baby** (6 week parent program) will also begin this term facilitated by Sarah (OT), with our first group being held on Tuesday 13 Aug and running weekly until 17 Sept. 1pm- 2:30pm.

Similarly, **Nurture Nest** will continue throughout the Term on Friday mornings 10am- 11:30am with Melissa, our midwife, and open to any family during the antenatal and post-natal stage.

Please also feel free to join us fortnightly on Friday afternoons for our **Coffee and Chat** in the community room. Our first get together will be Friday week 1, 26 July 2pm- 3pm.

Thank you everyone, take care, Laura.

2020 Preschool Program

On 2 August 2019 letters will be sent to families who live in our immediate catchment area

- ❖ Bridge Road
- ❖ McIntyre Road
- ❖ The Golden Way
- ❖ The Grove Way

offering a place in our Preschool Program for 2020. Depending on the number of available positions, offers for families who live beyond the catchment will be mailed out on Friday 16 August.

The aim of this procedure is to ensure that children are offered a place in their local centre. A consistent state-wide approach, including the establishment of local catchment areas, ensures that all families are provided with the same information about their enrolment options.

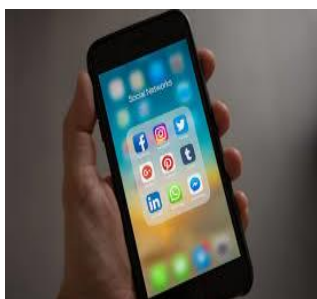
Better start... ✓

Attendance



Research shows that success in learning is directly proportional to regular attendance and participation in Education and Care programs. Irregular attendance is an early indicator of the potential for **disengagement** from the education program. Poor attendance can limit children's achievement of skills and experiences and may lead to underachievement which leads to further disengagement with nonattendance in later school years and consequently lack of success in adult life. Dr Susan Krieg – (Senior Lecturer at Flinders University) stated in a research article **“School engagement predicts success later in life”** It is important to recognise that the patterns of engagement begin very early, much earlier than formal school.

***Please ensure your child's regular attendance!
Please phone us and let us know if your child is not attending for the day.***



***Please ensure that while your child is at the Children's Centre that you are contactable via your phone.
Please make every effort to respond to messages left on your phone as soon as possible.***

Parent Opinion Survey

All families of our Children's Centre will soon receive a Parent Opinion Survey. This survey is a mandatory reporting requirement for all Department for Education Schools, Preschools and Children's Centres.

Each year the Parent Opinion Survey is given to parents/caregivers to help us gain feedback about the Children's Centre and the range of programs that we provide.

The information you give is collated and then reflected upon during planning processes - the planning of the learning program, the centre priorities, strategic directions and achieving the National Quality Standard (NQS).

The information is also used when completing the Annual General Report.

This is your opportunity to express your views around what you value about the Children's Centre and its programs and to offer constructive and innovative suggestions about how we can continuously improve our service to you.

Curriculum

Keithcot Farm Children's Centre has a strong focus on **Numeracy** across our site.

Numeracy is defined as the capacity, confidence and disposition to use mathematics in daily life.

We use **Numeracy and Literacy Indicators** to

- ✓ Inform planning and teaching across our site.
- ✓ Monitor children's numeracy and literacy development.
- ✓ Inform the Preschool Statement of Learning for discussion with and reporting to families
- ✓ Support the transition of children from the Early Years site to the Primary school.

Children engage in **literacy** experiences daily. This may be by reading stories and words on packaging; practicing writing their name on their work, writing their own stories or copying different words.

Literacy/ Numeracy packs are available for all children to borrow on a daily basis. They are a great opportunity for children to make further links between home and the centre.



If you have not borrowed a literacy/ numeracy pack or not sure where they are located – please ask an Educator.

Throughout the week, groups of children continue to have the opportunity to visit Keithcot Farm Primary School library.



If there is time we then walk to the oval for running and ball games – there the children demonstrate that they are confident in changes to the routine and they are open to new challenges and discoveries.

Parent Complaint Policy

We all expect quality and expert care and teaching for children in order that they achieve their potential. We also recognise that at times things may go wrong. If you have a concern or a complaint, we want you to let us know. It's important to learn from mistakes or misunderstandings so that we can improve your child's experience and learning, and also improve processes where possible.

A complaint may be made by a parent if they think that the Children's Centre has, for example:

- ✚ done something wrong
- ✚ failed to do something it should have done
- ✚ acted unfairly or impolitely.

Your concern or complaint may be about:

- ✚ the type, level or quality of services
- ✚ the behaviour and decisions of staff
- ✚ a policy, procedure or practice.

Sometimes a complaint is about something we have to do because of State or Federal law. In such cases we are able to talk to you about the matter and help you understand the requirements and why they exist.

The first step in working through a complaint is to talk to your child's Primary Educator. (If you do not know who this is – please ask at the front office or give us a call on 82512700).

If you still are not satisfied then please refer the concern to the **Director – Education and Care: Anne Whittleston**. Ask at the front office for a copy of the **Parent Complaint Policy - Guide to Raising a Concern or Complaint**.

Website

Have you had a chance to access our website?

The address is

www.keithcotfarmcc.sa.edu.au

Or you can simply "Google" Keithcot Farm.

Preschool Health Checks

As part of a range of services to children and families in SA, the Government provides funding to Child and Youth Health to offer free health assessments for Preschool children. The assessment includes vision; hearing; height and weight; dental health; general discussions with parents on health issues (eg. Immunisation) and questions on children's growth and development.

A CYH Nurse will provide health checks on

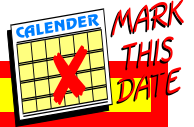
Wednesday 14 August and Tuesday 29 October 2019



If your child is 4 years and 3 months or older and you want your child to participate, please collect a consent form from our front office. **Bookings essential.**

A parent or caregiver must accompany children to the Health Check.

Dates to Remember



Monday 22 July:

Preschool program recommences for Term 3.

Friday 26 July:

First Coffee & Chat for Term 3, continues fortnightly.

Friday 2 August:

2020 Preschool Enrolment letters will be sent to families who live in our catchment and surrounding areas.

Thursday 8 August:

The Wonderful World of Toddlers: Parent workshop with Sarah and Tamara. 6:30pm- 8:30pm

Wednesday 14 August:

Preschool health checks.

Monday 17- Friday 23 August:

Book Week Celebrations

Thursday 22 August:

PJ Story time, everyone welcome. 6:30pm- 7:30pm

Tuesday 3 September:

Getting Ready for Reading & Writing: Parent workshop. 6:30pm- 8:30pm

Thursday 26 September:

Last preschool day for term 3

Friday 27 September:

Preschool closure - Long Day Care continues as normal for children booked into a Friday and through the school holidays.

Monday 30 September:

Public Holiday

Monday 14 October:

Preschool program recommences for Term 4.