

Bush Baby News

2 William Street, The Oaks NSW 2570. Phone: 4657 1327. admin@theoakspreschool.com.au

TERM 1 WEEK 10 2021



CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

Welcome back to Term 2! I hope you all enjoyed your Easter and school holiday break and had the opportunity to enjoy the gorgeous autumn weather we were treated to.

As well as welcoming you back to preschool for Term 2, I have to also welcome you back to our revamped Wattle and Willow Rooms with our new flooring having been installed during the school holiday break. The new floors not only look great, but they will also allow our educators greater flexibility when setting up activities (especially messy play), and will provide for a more hygienic environment for children and educators alike.

As you can imagine, replacing the floors was quite an enormous effort with all furniture from the Wattle Room and office needing to be moved and stored in the Willow Room, and then, after the Wattle Room floor was completed, all furniture needed to be moved from the Willow Room to the Wattle Room so that end of the building could be done. Finally all furniture and resources needed to be moved back to their rightful place... did I mention it was quite a task!?!

My sincere thanks go to Mrs Sayre and the staff who put in many extra hours during the holidays to ensure this project was completed before Term 2 commenced, and to my board colleagues who were also on hand to lend some furniture removal muscle.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Term 2

Monday 19/4/21 to Friday
25/6/21

22.4.21 Earth Day
2 to 8.5.21 Compost Week
7 to 11.6.21 World Ocean Week
4 to 11.6.21 Nadoc Week
21.6.21 International Yoga
day

Term 3

Monday 12/7/21 to Friday
17/9/21

19 to 23.7.21 Pyjama Week
16 to 20.8.21 Science Week
1.9.21 Educator Day
1 to 5.11.21 Grandparents Week
8 to 12.11.21 National Recycling
Week

Team work makes the dream work as they say, and this was certainly a case of all hands being on deck to get the job done. Thank you one and all.

Our Mother's Day hampers are really starting to take shape with so many beautiful gift donations having come in already. Thank you in advance to everyone for your efforts in selling raffle tickets for our Mother's Day Hamper raffle - your efforts and the funds you will help raise are so valuable to preschool and all the children who attend our preschool. There will be multiple hamper winners so good luck to all those who are buying raffle tickets, and should you need more books of raffle tickets to sell, please ask at the office or mention it to an educator and they will be able to get these for you.

As always, if you have any feedback, questions or queries please don't hesitate to chat to myself, another board member, Mrs Sayre, or of course, pop it in the Suggestion Box at the Wattle Room sign in desk.

Kind regards,

Bec Pollard

Welcome back for Term 2. We hope you all had a lovely break and are ready for a fun filled term ahead.

Before we broke up for holidays last term, our Wednesday children were lucky enough to be invited up to The Oaks Public School for their Easter hat Parade. It was nice to be able to finally get out and enjoy the community as we have not done this for over a year. The children and parents that attended along with the staff all had a wonderful morning. We were also excited and thank all the families that attended our Easter Hat parades, again it was so nice to welcome families back into our Preschool. We feel like it has been way to long.

Staff are looking forward to hosting our Mothers Day Morning Tea's this week 9.30-11.30 Monday 3rd, Wednesday 5th and Friday 7th. Please come along, bring some morning tea with you and enjoy time with your child, completing some activities.

As many of you may have noticed we had the flooring replaced over the holidays also and I'm sure you will all agree it looks wonderful. We will be completing some more fundraising events throughout the year to assist in payment of the flooring, so be sure to look out and participate in those events.

UNWELL CHILDREN

As the weather cool's we have notice many children who are still attending Preschool that are unwell. As restrictions may have eased, we are still unable to accept sick or unwell children into Preschool. Staff are still monitoring all children as they enter and if we suspect your child to be unwell we will ask you to take them back home or should they become unwell during the day we will call to come and collect

MORNING PROCEDURES

As you would all agree the mornings have been absolutely lovely at Preschool so we have decided to take advantage of this and are starting our day outside.

Could you please assist staff by ensuring you have put sunscreen on your child before they commence their day.

Parents are also asked to take their child to their room and assist them in their unpacking procedure. Remember children have been doing their own unpacking (part of them learning to care for own belongings and independence).

You will notice 2 baskets on top of the trolley, one for morning tea and one for fruit, to be separated before their lunch box goes onto the second shelf of the trolley. Please ensure your child has their drink bottle with them before you bring them into the yard.

THANK YOU

To all the families for their generous donations to our Mothers Day Raffle.

The Lynch Family for arranging the raffle tickets for us, and the donation of the hi-vis shirts.

Nati Bloom for the donations.



PARENT HELPERS

We are excited to be welcoming back parent helpers. It has again been over 12 months since we have been able to invite parent helpers into Preschool. We have changed how parent helpers will be able to assist us however. A roster has been placed on the Wattle Room door, (please only 1 helper per day) for families to chose their preferred day, please write your name on the roster.

Families are invited (either mum, dad, grandparents etc) to come and share a story, craft etc with the children and assist staff in preparing for lunch times.

Ideal time frames would be from 11am until 1pm, however we are happy to work with whatever suits families, please discuss with your child's educator should you have any questions.

ROOM NEWS

WILLOW ROOM

Welcome back to the willow room for term two. Following on from last terms interests we have started looking at family origins and talking about different countries and cultures. We have been singing the "Australian National Anthem" and singing "Heads shoulders knees and toes" in Greek. Due to Anzac day being on the weekend it also fitted into our program to talk about the Anzac's and the countries that our Anzacs went to war too. We will continue to extend on learning about culture after some children talked about different music and dances from their culture and different foods and traditions. If Families have anything they would like to come in and contribute to our learning about cultures please let us know. We are looking forward to a productive term and will continue to work on our goals of promoting children's independence, confidence, a positive self esteem and resilience though a stimulating playful environment.

WATTLE ROOM

Welcome back after the holidays. The children have enjoyed sharing for news all of their special outings, activities and holidays. Last week the wattle room children celebrated earth day on Thursday. They joined in for craft activities, stories and group discussions. We also participated in some Anzac day stories and craft on Friday.

This term we have started looking at Australia and Australian animals after a very special story one of our Wattle room friends shared with us. We will be extending this throughout the term looking at other countries around the world, their culture and native animals.

Families if you have anything you would like to share with us (stories, photos, traditions, activities) from your cultural background we would love to have you come in and share this with us.

EDUCATIONAL LEADER SPOT

Name writing:

Many children have been showing interest in name writing and there are many activities such as manipulating playdough, rolling it into form letters, threading and building with lego making letters, to name a few that assist with hand grasp and strengthen fine motor skills, so try think outside the box of always trying to get your children to use a pencil to write their name as it will further develop confidence and interest in writing rather than always doing the same thing. Shower screen doors with the fog and in the sandpit are also fun activities when learning how to write.

A few things to remember if your child is writing their name:

Ensure they are using foundation letters and only using a capital letter for the first letter in their name and lower case letters to follow. Encourage children to write at the top of the page from left to right just like we read and forming letters from top to bottom.

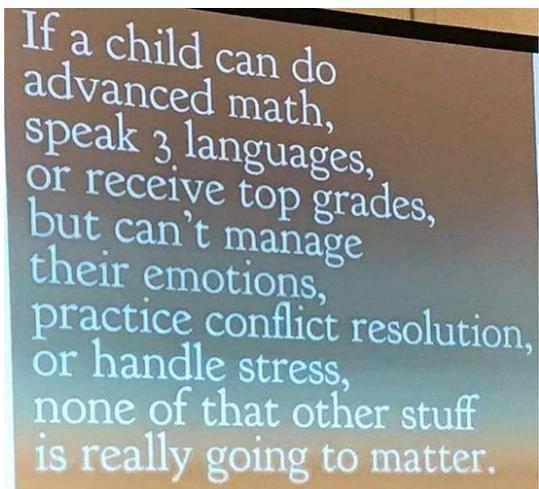
School readiness:

Educators have been brainstorming about school readiness and the view that school readiness is all about things such as writing your name, counting, recognising numbers and knowing shapes and colours. Although these skills are developed at preschool through many activities, we wanted to challenge that view of also considering other life skills that are equally important for school readiness such as confidence, independence and resilience, agency, creativity and emotional wellbeing.

While we still use some Intentional teaching, educators follow children' s interests and scaffold play and conversations by asking children "what do you think?", "How do you think we can do it?". Open ended questions promote thinking and problem solving, we always encourage children to try themselves first then challenges when we feel its needed. play we may introduce and role model vocabulary to assist children in their needs and wants and extend on play through adding materials.



assist with
During
expressing
children



If a child can do advanced math, speak 3 languages, or receive top grades, but can't manage their emotions, practice conflict resolution, or handle stress, none of that other stuff is really going to matter.

REGULAR ITEMS

SUN PROTECTION PROCEDURES

Preschool has a comprehensive sun protection policy. To familiarise families with our procedures, a summary is included in newsletters biannually for your reference. The full policy manual can be viewed at any time and is kept on the shelf under the sign in area.

The Oaks Preschool supports Sun Safe Play for Children through:

Role Modelling: Educators will role model Sun Safe behaviour to children, such as wearing wide brimmed hats, sleeves, collars, longer shorts, skirts or long pants and sunblock. Parents and visitors at the preschool for extended periods must wear appropriate clothing, hats and sunscreen. This is important because children learn by example and modeling.

Sun safe clothing: Children are encouraged to wear shirts with collars and sleeves that are made from closely woven fibre. Singlet tops and dresses with straps are not appropriate and are not to be worn.

Sun safe Hats: The preschool has a "No Hat, Play in the Shade" policy. Hats should cover the face, ears and neck. Caps are not appropriate hats for sun safety or preschool. Preschool will keep a number of spare children's hats, washed hygienically after use.

Sunscreen: Parents/Carers are to apply sunscreen to their child before coming to preschool. SPF30+ broad -spectrum water-resistant sunscreen is to be kept near the Sign-in Book for parents to apply sunscreen to their child before leaving if not applied at home. This method is not as effective as home application. During the day educators and children will apply sunscreen 20 minutes before going outside

Outdoor activities will be held in these shaded areas wherever possible, especially between September and April. During these months outdoor activities will be avoided between 11am and 3pm. Preschool programs include sun safe teaching and discussions.

CHILD SAFETY

Leaving your child for the first time, and trusting others to care for them is a big step. Enrolling your child at preschool is important for their independent development and for them to practice social skills and caring for themselves.

The staff, educators and management at the Oaks Preschool are committed to keeping your child safe and to providing information for families on how to keep their children safe.

We do this through:

1. Employing trained staff and ensuring educators continue to update their knowledge according to current regulations and laws
2. Ensuring staff are fully trained in emergency First Aid, anaphylaxis, asthma and fire procedures.
3. Ensuring staff are familiar with all safety requirements and practice emergency procedures often
4. Complying with all safety requirements for equipment and buildings and maintain these regularly
5. Supervising children effectively both indoors and out
6. Our preschool program including many opportunities for both intentional teaching and spontaneous opportunities for helping children learn safety messages such as
 - Road Safety
 - Healthy eating-Nutrition
 - Sun Safety
 - Physical Health
 - Hygiene and Dental Care
 - Safe play and Behaviours
 - Stranger Danger
7. Educators being aware of, and identifying concerns with the safety of children through child protection training. This includes signs of neglect, physical, sexual and emotional abuse. Staff at the Preschool are mandatory reporters and, as such, are obliged, under the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 (NSW)* to report any concerns they may have regarding any children in our care.

If you have any questions regarding our processes for keeping children safe, please see staff.

