



# Mountain Community Children's Centre

## Family Newsletter

### August/ September 2018

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### News from Louisa ...

Welcome to the August/September issue of the newsletter.  
Thank you for all of your support over the month.

#### Early Childhood Educators Day

Early Childhood Educators Day recognises and celebrates the work of Australia's educators in early learning centres (long day care centre based), kindergarten/preschool services, family day care, occasional care and Outside School Hours Care (OSHC), for their wonderful contribution to the wellbeing and healthy development of the young children in their care. Take the time to say thank you to the educators on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September.

#### Child Protection Week

National Child Protection Week has been running annually since 1990, starting on Fathers' Day each September. An initiative of the National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN), it is an opportunity for government, business and community to come together to promote the safety and wellbeing of children, with particular emphasis on messages such as:

- We all have a part to play in protecting children
- Even small actions can help to improve a child's future
- By building stronger communities, we are creating safer environments for all children

*You can play your part every day by:*

- being kind to children and families
- looking out for all children, not just your own
- being a positive role model for children
- supporting families to get help
- stopping and listening to children

#### Citrus Donations

Thank you to all of the families who have brought in oranges and mandarins to share with the children and the staff. We really appreciate your generosity and the children love them.



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#### News from Louisa ... (cont.)

##### **Movie Night**

Thank you to all of our families who came along to share the movie night with us. We all had a wonderful time. Thank you to the management committee for all of your help with organising the night.

##### **Father's Day Afternoon Tea**

You are all welcome to come along to join us for afternoon tea to celebrate all the fathers, grandfathers, uncles, brothers or any significant male in your child's life. The afternoon will be from 3.30pm-5.00pm on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018 here at the centre.

##### **Superhero Week**

Don't forget to come dressed in your superhero costume during the week of Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September to Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September. We are collecting donations for muscular dystrophy during superhero week so please bring in a gold coin.

##### **Sharing your skills or talents**

Do you or someone in your family have a skill or talent that you could share with the children? This could be playing an instrument, cooking, gardening or anything else. We would love to have you join us and share this talent with the children. We love supporting and encouraging our partnerships with families.

We have an open-door policy. If you have any friends who would be interested in the centre please send them to visit. They are welcome anytime.

If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to come and see me. Or if you would like to contribute in any way to the experience with the children please come and see me or email suggestions to [louisa\\_f@bigpond.com](mailto:louisa_f@bigpond.com).

**Kind Regards**

**Louisa Foxford**

**Nominated Supervisor**



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### Joey's Room News ...

Room Leader – Mary Todd (Monday to Friday), Alix Mear (Trainee, Monday to Friday) and Maria Batuyong (Monday, Wednesday and Friday)

Since our last newsletter we have had an enjoyable month supporting the children's interest in simple shapes – triangles, circles, squares, rectangles and stars. We did this through simple craft activities, drawing and songs such as Ram, Sam, Sam and I'm a Triangle; as well as cooking experiences such as fruit skewers.

We combined the children's interest in trucks and shapes by making box cars for the children to drive and creating a transport dramatic play with hi-vis vests, hard hats and a petrol bowser.

The children have also enjoyed creating special gifts and cards for their fathers.

We hope that all our children's special male figures will be able to join us for afternoon tea this Friday from 3.30pm.

We have been working hard in partnership with families to support our older children in their efforts to learn to use the toilet. We are so proud of the progress our children have made. The children are now starting to express an interest in naming their body parts and facial features so we will be focusing on this over the next few weeks as well as enjoying superhero week and introducing spring.

If you have not already signed your child's permission slip to allow us to go on simple walking excursions around the property, could you please do so to allow us to explore the changes that each season brings.

Regards

Mary, Alix and Maria



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#### Lizard Room News ...

We have welcomed our new friends Jack, Phoenix and Aster to the Lizard Room this month. We are excited to have them in our room and they are settling in well.

As we continue to follow the children's interest we have changed our home corner into a pet shop. The children loved helping to sort the different coloured pet foods into the correct containers before pretending to sell the animals and their food to their friends. During craft time, the children attempted to match some animals with their home before colouring in the worksheet. The children all did well and loved telling us about the same animals they had at home and where their animals sleep. Thank you to Chloe for bringing in her bunny rabbits to share with her friends. We all loved watching them and having a turn at patting them.

Over the last couple of weeks, we have started to go on excursions with the children outside of the preschools gates. The children have really enjoyed going to visit the cows, horses, birds and the excavator. Along the way the children love collecting flowers, feathers, sticks, rocks, we even found an 'octopus' in the creek one day.

We had a special visit from Jo, from the bin company Cleanaway. Jo came and spoke to the children about her job and the big trucks her company uses to collect all the rubbish from the different coloured bins. We spoke about the safe spots we could watch the truck from before we sang a song about the truck called "the wheels on the truck." Using our arms and feet we re-enacted the actions of the wheels, claws and hopper of the truck. Jo then helped us learn about the importance of using the correct bin to help our environment and about what happens to the rubbish and recycling after the bins have been emptied. We then all had a turn at choosing some rubbish from Jo's bag and picking which one of her 3 different coloured bins it should go in.

The lizard children have been very busy making special father day gifts for their dads. We hope they are as excited to receive them as we were making them.

Until next time,

Ally and Belinda.



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#### Snake Room News ...

Room Leader – Kathy Rawsthorne (Monday to Thursday), Rhiannon Hines (Monday to Friday)

First, we would like to wish Rhii a very Happy 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday, we all hope she had a wonderful day!

We have been very busy making our presents and paintings for our special daddys and poppys for Father's Day. We hope the important male figures in our children's lives can make it to our Father's Day afternoon tea on Friday.

We have been enjoying being imaginative in our space command centre. We love dressing up in our astronaut costumes and blasting off into space in our rocket ship!

After our space corner is finished, we would like to set up a roadworks/ construction zone in our dramatic play area. If anyone has any road construction toys – trucks, excavators, diggers, road signs etc. they would like to donate or loan we would be very grateful.

This week has been Book Week. We are always promoting the children's love of literacy so we decided to introduce Book News in our room. Each day we will be sending home a newsbag. Could you please help your child choose one of their favourite books (something they are familiar with) to talk about at group times.

Our new baby silkworms have been hatching. We have been observing them and discussing their life cycle. We will set them up on a display table, so we can watch them grow every day. Thank you to Marcus' mum Jo who has been supplying us with mulberry leaves to feed the silk worms. As they grow bigger they devour many leaves each day, so if anyone else has a Mulberry tree at home we would love a supply each week! Thank you!

We have been loving our walking excursions outside the preschool grounds. The children have been finding lots of different nature items and a variety of natural environments to explore. On one of our walks along the driveway we noticed a lot of litter that had been thrown there. So we used this as an opportunity to promote environmental awareness of caring for our natural world and keeping it safe. We discussed what we could do and the children decided that we should take bags with us and pick all the rubbish up and place it into our preschool bins. They were very enthusiastic rubbish collectors! Now our environment is a lot cleaner thanks to these wonderful little people! This type of learning relates to our learning framework – outcome 2.4 where we promote respect for our environment.



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#### Snake Room News ... (cont.)

We also enjoyed a visit from Jo from Cleanaway who presented a recycling talk called Binwise about the correct bins to place all our rubbish in. The children all had the opportunity to select some rubbish and think carefully about which bin it belonged in before placing it in the bin. As a follow on from this, the children cut pictures from catalogues and problem solved which bin to add their pictures to.

Some of our children have been enjoying exploring colour mixing and creating new colours. We presented some science experiences based on colour mixing designed to create an awareness of new colours formed by mixing the primary colours together. The children became clever at predicting the new colours.

These learning experiences promote outcome 4.1 and 4.2 where children are developing skills such as experimentation, investigation, persistence and researching.

Until next time!

Kathy and Rhii

#### News from the Office ...

##### Child Care Subsidy

With the introduction of the child care subsidy that took place in early July, the weekly/ fortnightly payments have changed for all our families. You still receive your statements fortnightly. If you ever have any queries in regard to your charges, please do not hesitate to contact me. I'm in the office on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays or feel free to send me an email to [mountainchildren@bigpond.com](mailto:mountainchildren@bigpond.com) at any time and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

##### Immunisation

Since January 2018, it is a legal requirement that all children who attend child care are fully immunised (or on a recognised catch up schedule). Please ensure you bring us your child's updated immunisation history statement after they have received additional immunisations.

##### Kiosk Sign In/ Out

The kiosk sign ins and outs have been working very smoothly, thank you for your continued support! However please feel free to approach any of our staff if you are every having trouble with it. We will be more than happy to assist you.

Kind regards,

Hannah



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#### Dates for your Diary ...

##### **AUGUST**

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> August

Father's Day Afternoon at the Centre from 3.30pm

##### **SEPTEMBER**

Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> – Fri 7<sup>th</sup> September

Superhero Week

Please send your children dressed in their favourite Superhero outfit and bring in a gold coin donation.

Mon 10<sup>th</sup> September

Committee Meeting 7pm  
Mangrove Mountain Golf Club

##### **OCTOBER**

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October

Casey's Warehouse Shopping Night 6-8pm  
Casey's Toys, 24 Karalta Road, Erina

##### **NOVEMBER**

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November

Bunnings BBQ at West Gosford (details to follow)

##### **DECEMBER**

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December

Christmas Concert at Kulnura Hall (details to follow)

## Management Committee News

Next Committee Meeting

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2018

7pm

At Mangrove Mountain Golf Club

All welcome to attend!