



Mountain Community Children's Centre

Family Newsletter

February 2020

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News from Louisa ...

New children

Welcome to our new friends Coralai, Jacob, Fern Amayah, Jasmine, Mark and Ildiko in the Joey's room and Benjamin, Brooklyn and Mazikeen in the Lizard room. We welcome you and your families to the centre.

Building Update

Building is well underway with so many tradespeople working on site. The building is looking amazing and so big. We can't wait to show you the progression as the building goes up.





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News from Louisa ... (cont.)

Bunnings BBQ

Thank you to all our families, management committee and staff who came along to help out at Bunnings on Sunday. We had so many helpers and appreciate you all volunteering your time. Thank you also to the families who donated soft drinks for the day. The funds raised will contribute to installing solar power and a generator on our new building.

Celebrations Performance

On Tuesday 17th March 2020 at 10.30am we will have an entertainer come in to hold for the children called "Celebrations". The show will take the children on a journey filled with the stories, music, dancing and ceremonies from different cultures and see how some of the most popular celebrations are celebrated around the world.

Baby News

Congratulations to the Spark family (Montana in the Joey's room) on the birth of their baby girl Isla 2 weeks ago. Congratulations also to the Harwood family (Aria from the Joey's room) on the birth of their baby girl Luca. We hope everyone is settling into their new routines and enjoying having a new baby at home.

Harmony Day

We will be holding our annual Harmony Day celebration at the Centre on Friday, March 20th. You are all welcome to join us for lunch at 11.30am to celebrate Harmony Day. Even if it is not your child's day please feel free to come along and join in.

We would love to share the cultural diversity of our families here at the centre. You can share in this experience by bringing along a food from your family. This may be savoury or sweet, hot or cold. We have facilities to warm food if it needs to be warm.

We will send out a note with more information in early March.

Dog Safety Visit

We have organised a dog safety visit for the 3-5 year old children at the centre. We will be receiving a visit from a dog trainer and her well trained dog to teach the children about safe behaviour around dogs. The visit will take place on Tuesday, 31st March at 10.30am. We will be sending an email reminder before the event.



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News from Louisa ... (cont.)

Excursion Permission for 2020

We will be issuing new excursion permission forms shortly for our walking excursions for this year. Please complete them and return to the office.

New Enrolments

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 experiences with the children please come and see me or email suggestions to louisa_f@bigpond.com

Kind Regards

Louisa Foxford
Nominated Supervisor



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News from our Educational Leader Kathy

Welcome to our new year at Mountain Community Children's Centre. We are looking forward to a wonderful year with our amazing families and children.

We have started to send out a form in regards to the goals you, our families, would like us to work towards with your children throughout the year. These goals might be something as simple as greeting the educators upon arrival at the centre, developing social skills, or anything developmental such as fine motor skills or emotional security and resilience. There will be short term as well as longer term goals input.

In our centre philosophy we state "we believe that families know their child best", therefore we strive to incorporate the observed interests and abilities of each child together with the input provided from families, to develop an individualised play based curriculum. Providing goals for your children promotes this philosophy.

If you are not sure of the goals you would like to contribute, please discuss with your child's educator and they can assist you with idea.

We value your input!

We are all looking forward to working alongside you, for the benefit of your amazing children!

Until next month,

Kathy

MCCC Educational Leader



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Joey's Room News ...

Room Leader – Rhiannon Hines (Monday to Friday), Alison Monaghan (Monday to Friday)

Welcome back everyone! We hope you had a great break over Christmas and we are excited to see you all again. We would love to welcome Fern, Olivia, Ildiko, Jasmine, Jacob, Mark, Coralai and Amayah to the Joeys Room!

This month we kicked things off by learning about Australian Animals. At group time we have been reading books about different Australian Animals and the children seem to be enjoying the stories. For craft we have even made some Australian animals. We made spikey Echidnas with paper plates and brown paint. When they dried we added some eyes and practiced our fine motor skills and cut some spikes into its back. We also did a screen printing experience with Australian animal stencils and water paint, you can find them up on the wall in our room.

To promote healthy eating we have also done a couple of cooking experiences with the children based off their interest. The first experience was making smoothies and this was a hit with the children! We used bananas, mangos and mixed berries to make some delicious smoothies for us all to try. Most of the children really enjoyed the concoction and even asked for seconds and thirds. A few children have shown an interest in cooking eggs in the home corner, so we made some scrambled eggs with the children to follow up on their interest.

Outside the Joey's have been enjoying the gross motor equipment. They have been working on their balance and foot eye coordination on the coloured stepping stones and wooden beams.

Inside we have finally finished our family tree that is displayed over near the bathroom. We would love for everyone to send in a photo of their family for the children to hang up on the tree. You are more than welcome to send the photo via email and we will happily print it off for you.

Thank you,

From Rhi and Ally



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Lizard Room News ...

Room Leader – Mary Todd (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday), Kristy Hirons (Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday)

Welcome to the Lizard room. We have started the year as a happy and settled group, with new friendships being made, as those who remained in the Lizard room from last year become more familiar with those who have moved up from the Joeys room. As well as old friendships being reignited.

We have been focusing upon self help skills such as toileting, managing lunch boxes, putting shoes and socks on and packing away.

The Lizard children are loving scissor skills at the moment so we will continue to support this over the coming months by providing them with different cutting experiences such as paper and play dough.

Another passion has been counting and number recognition. We will continue to offer the children the opportunity to extend upon their knowledge through games, songs and felt board stories. The children are also passionate about music and pretend to play guitar and drums at every opportunity. I will be attempting to help the children to make their own instruments but the children would love a visit from anyone - family or friends - who can play an instrument to them.

Kristy and I would love to hear from you about any of your children's interest or if we can help in any way.

Bye from Mary and Kristy



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Snake Room News ...

Room Leader – Kathy Rawsthorne (Tuesday to Friday), Belinda Stark (Monday to Friday)

Welcome to the Snake Room for 2020! Belinda and I are looking forward to a wonderful year with our Snake friends! They are all very excited to be in the big Snake room and they have all settled in well, displaying a wonderful sense of belonging. To further enhance this sense of belonging, you will be able to order a special Snake shirt for your children. The order forms will go out to you in early March, so please keep a look out for them.

We began the year by using intentional teaching to introduce a topic of “Our Country Australia”. We have been exploring what our country looks like, where it is in the world and investigating and learning about our unique wildlife. We also explored our flags. We discussed the different colours and symbols on our flags and what each meant. Yulara displayed wonderful pride in her Aboriginal flag “that’s my flag!” she said excitedly.

We also have been learning a new song about being Australian called “We are one”. The children have been learning and singing it enthusiastically. We watched an ABC advertisement featuring this song that included some Indigenous children singing the song in their language. Thank you to the families that have brought in their family photo for our new family tree. This tree promotes a wonderful sense of belonging and the children love to see their family displayed on the tree.

While we were reading a story at group time, the children showed an interest in the teeth in the story. We spoke about how we needed to brush them morning and night and look after them as we only have one set after we lose our baby teeth.

This dental hygiene interest led to a focus on healthy eating and foods that are good for your teeth (and not so good). We then introduced our magic lunchbox story. We will continue with this interest.

We are looking forward to working with you, our wonderful families, for the benefit of your children. Please don't hesitate to speak to myself or Belinda if you have any questions or input into our program.

Thank you, until next time
Kathy & Belinda



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News from the Office ...

Immunisations

Thank you to everyone who has recently sent through their children's updated immunisation history statements. Please ensure that you email or bring in your children's documentation after each immunisation as we are legally required to keep these statements on file.

Upcoming Events

Please find a snapshot of all events in the coming months for your diary below.

Hannah

Dates for your Diary ...

MARCH

Tuesday, 17th March 10.30am

Celebrations Show
Note to follow

Friday, 20th March

Harmony Day at the Centre
Note to follow

Tuesday, 31st March

Dog Safety Show for 3-5 year olds
Note to follow