



# Mountain Community Children's Centre

## Family Newsletter

### November/December 2018

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#### News from Louisa ...

Welcome to our final newsletter for 2018.

Thank you for all of your support over the year with all of our events and fundraisers.

Thank you to all of our management committee for all of your hard work and dedication throughout the year. Without all of your volunteer hours we could not have achieved all that we have this year.

Another thank you to all of the staff for an amazing job throughout the year. Thank you for giving up your weekends to help out at centre events. Thank you for taking so much care.

#### **Cake Stall at the End of Year Concert**

We are inviting the Snake Room families to bring along a cake, cupcakes, slice or biscuits to sell at the End of Year Concert. If you could label with ingredients that would be much appreciated.

#### **Maria**

It is with sadness that we say goodbye to Maria. Maria's last day will be on Thursday 29th November. We will be having a farewell morning tea at 11am on her last day. Maria was contracted until the end of the year as Kristy will return from Parental Leave. A new position became available for Maria immediately at another centre in Berowra. We thank her for her contribution to our centre. Her, love, care, experience and bubbly personality has been such a pleasure to have here at our centre. She will be truly missed. We wish her all the very best for her future.

#### **Room Staff for 2019**

##### **Joey's Room**

Mary – Room Leader (Monday - Friday)

Alix – Room Assistant (Monday - Friday)

Kristie – (Mondays while Alix is at Tafe)



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### **Lizard Room**

Belinda – Room Leader (Monday - Friday)

Rhii – Room Assistant (Monday - Friday)

### **Snake Room**

Kathy – Room Leader (Monday - Thursday)

Ally – Room Assistant (Monday - Friday)

### **Programming, Lunches and RDO's**

Kristy – Monday, Friday (Tuesdays covering RDOs for Mary, Rhii and Belinda)

Judy – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

### **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 experiences 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)

We have been busy as usual in the Joey's room. We are continuing to support the children's toilet training efforts with several of our friends moving into undies while others have started sitting on the toilet. Please let us know if we can help in any way. Putting our shoes and socks on has also been a big push for the older children and just this week we have started to offer the older children the opportunity to attempt to manage their own lunchboxes, i.e. choosing their sandwiches first etc.

Scissor skills were introduced in the play doh last month. We have now progressed to using scissors with paper and doing small snips. Some of our friends are now able to cut along a short line.

Social skills such as sharing and turn taking are blossoming, particularly as we have recently got some larger dump trucks etc. Verbal language is also exploding as we share ideas and information regarding every day experiences based on trucks.

Recently I have had conversations with several parents who are struggling to get their children to eat fruit and vegetables. In an attempt to support our families could each family send in a piece of fruit or veg we can share for fruit break.

I will post some snack/ lunch box ideas on our Facebook page. Please bear in mind we need to re-introduce food that we have previously tried as the children's taste buds mature.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Christmas Concert.

Regards

Mary, Alix and Maria



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### **Lizard Room News ...**

This month we have been taking turns doing nook news. The children have been very excited to get the book bag and bring a favourite book from home to share with everyone at group time. They spoke about the name of their book, what it was about, their favourite page and who reads it to them.

The Lizards have been practising our Acknowledgement of Country at the start of the day (first group time) and most of the children have learnt it really fast. Well done Lizard friends!!!

We have been enjoying The All about Today Calendar. The children enjoy singing enthusiastically the days of the week song, helping count the numbers for the date, name the season, the month and what the weather is.

The new Beach area is going well with the children using the table and chairs as they interact with each other, while dressing up in sarongs and flower necklaces. We have started doing some flower craft to decorate the walls in the area also.

Bike riding in the maze has been popular. We have been practising our Gross motor skills of balance, coordination, and spatial awareness.

The Christmas concert is approaching fast and our songs are coming along nicely. We have been practicing really hard and are getting very excited to show all our family members who come to watch us sing.

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)

We are down to the last few weeks of our year with Christmas rapidly approaching. Our Snake friends have all been attending orientation at their new big schools. We know they will have lots of fun at school and we will miss them!

We are lucky to have our student Paris in our room – she is completing her Diploma prac with us.

Last week she organised and presented a wonderful gardening experience. The children planted pears, carrots, strawberries and tomatoes. They helped to water them and now we are observing their growth. We hope they grow quickly so we can eat them!

This relates to learning outcome 2, where the children show respect and care for the natural world.

Our fairy corner has come to its conclusion now. Because the children have been attending big school, we have set our home corner up as a school classroom. We have placed school uniforms to dress up in, desks, pencil, work books, the white board for the teacher and so on in our home corner and the children have thoroughly been enjoying dressing up in school uniforms and playing big school. We will also have a school display of all the schools our friends will be attending with a picture of each child next to their new school. This promotes a wonderful sense of belonging for the children with their school.

We have started to practice some songs and dances for our end of year concert. The children are getting excited about Christmas and can't wait to perform for you! We hope you can all come to our concert at Kulnura Hall on December 2!

Until next time,  
Kathy and Rhi



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#### News from the Office ...

##### Enrolments for 2019

Thank you to everyone who has sent back enrolments for their children for next year. If you still haven't sent your enrolment form back, please do so as soon as possible to secure your child's spot for next year. I will be emailing enrolment confirmations out shortly.

##### Upcoming Dates

It's a very busy time of the year for all of us, please take a moment to look at the dates for your diary below. We will share more information on upcoming events as it becomes available. Please also note, that our last day for 2018 will be Friday, December 21. **The Centre will then be closed for the Christmas break from December 24 - January 14.** Our first day in 2019 will be Tuesday, January 15.

Until next time,

Hannah

#### Dates for your Diary ...

##### DECEMBER

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Christmas Concert at Kulnura Hall (Details to follow)
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Show 9.30am here at the centre
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Graduation Afternoon (Details to follow)
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	Last Day for 2018

**CENTRE CLOSED FROM DECEMBER 24, 2018 – JANUARY 14, 2019**

##### JANUARY 2019

Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Centre Reopens
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## Management Committee News

Next Committee Meeting

Monday 21<sup>th</sup> January 2019

7pm

At Mangrove Mountain Golf Club

All welcome to attend