



Mountain Community Children's Centre

Family Newsletter

June 2017

2829 Wisemans Ferry Road

Mangrove Mountain

NSW 2250

Phone: 4374 1239

www.mountainchildren.com.au

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News from Louisa ...

Bunnings BBQ

We have booked a fundraising BBQ at West Gosford Bunnings for Saturday 8th July. Stay tuned for more details! Help will be needed.

Positive Solar Fundraiser

We have joined with a local solar company to hopefully install a solar system in the centre. We need your help. Please also forward this exciting incentive to your family and friends. You will find the information flyer in your child's lunchbox from Tuesday. We thank you in advance for your support.

Welcome Kristie

We now welcome Kristie Rahkola to the centre on a permanent basis until at least the end of the year. Kristie will be in the Joey's room on Monday's, Tuesday's, Wednesday's and Friday's while Mary is taking some leave. Judy will also be taking some leave in June.

New Casuals

We welcome to the centre 3 new casuals; Shona, Mags and Kat. Please make them all feel welcome!

Students

We currently have 4 students joining us here; Paris in the Joey's room, Courtney and Jesse in the Lizard room and Alyssa in the snake room. Please introduce yourselves and make them feel welcome.

Jackets for Winter

Can you please send along an extra warm jacket clearly labelled with your child's name? We will still be playing outdoors even on the cold days. You can send in a beanie and or scarf as well if you would like your child to wear one as well.

Slippers for indoors

You may send in slippers to wear indoors as well. However, please also send in outdoor shoes as we would like to keep your child's slippers free from sand or dirt.



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News from Louisa ... (cont.)

Photography for our website and Facebook page

We are currently having new photographs taken of the centre and grounds to add to our Facebook page and website. A few have already gone on display. Have a look and let us know what you think. At the moment, there is no photos of the children on either our website or Facebook page. I will be sending home a permission note asking for your permission for photos of your child to be used. This is not compulsory and it is your choice. If you do not want your child's photo to be used you can let us know on the permission form. If you indicate you would allow your child's photo to be used the permission is valid for 12 months. I will also show you the photographs that will be used before they go online. At any time, you may choose to change your mind. Photos of the children busy playing and enjoying their time here are wonderful ways to show the great things that go on during the day.

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.

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

Casual Staff

We are currently looking for more casual staff. If you know someone that may be interested could you please ask them to call Louisa. Below is the advertisement we have put in the Community News.

Casual staff required for Mountain Community Children's Centre. Essential Formal Qualifications required either Early Childhood Teacher, Diploma or Certificate III in Children's Services. Or working towards any of these qualifications. Need to be available to work Monday to Friday, between the hours of 7.30am and 5.30pm. Working with Children Check Reference Number essential. Experience with working with children under 6 years of age (in a centre based environment) preferred. Email mountainchildren@bigpond.com or call Louisa on 4374 1239 for enquiries.



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Joey's Room News ...

Room Leader – Mary Todd (Monday to Friday), Judy Brown (Wednesday to Friday), Trainee – Alison Monaghan (Monday – Friday), Kristie Rahkola (Monday, Friday)

Welcome to our new Joey friends Aster, Daley, Edwin, Edison, Ellie, Finley, Hudson, Katie, Ruby and Sam! We hope you enjoy your time with us!

Thank you to all our mother's and/or grandmothers who were able to attend our Mothers' Day Afternoon Tea. The children genuinely enjoyed themselves as we hope you did. We hope that everyone had a great Mothers' Day and you all enjoyed your gifts the children made.

As the colder weather approaches, can you please ensure that you send along a small blanket as well as sheets for rest time? Could you also ensure that your child's jumper and jackets have their name written on them? You are most welcome to send along a set of slippers for the children to wear indoors if you would like as the weather cools down.

We have been discussing autumn with the children over the past few weeks, they have been enjoying playing and rolling among the leaves in the yard as well as assisting to rake and collect leaves for craft activities. We have been using a lot of natural resources to decorate our room in autumn colours which you can see as you walk in.

The children have also been showing an interest in their emerging gross motor skills - climbing the A frames, jumping on the gym mats, walking along the balance beams and completing obstacle courses. They have also been requesting to ride the bikes more and more often, and the children are becoming increasingly confident on them. If your child doesn't already have a helmet at the centre could you please send one in with their name clearly labelled on it as we would hate for them to miss out.

The children are also beginning to show an increased interest in learning their colours. To build upon this we will focus on a particular colour each week. During this time, we will be encouraging the children to wear this particular on the days they attend the centre.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask us.

Regards! Mary, Judy, Ally and Kristie



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Lizard Room News ...

Room Leader – Belinda Stark (Monday to Friday), Rhiannon Hines (Monday to Friday)

We have welcomed some new Lizard's to our room recently and they have been made to feel welcome. Hello to Zoey, Keira, Scarlett, Bronte and Ben!

Over the last few weeks we have had two students experiencing life as an educator in our room: Courtney, undertaking her Diploma work experience and Jessie, from the University of Newcastle. Jessie will be with us in a couple of weeks for a block placement so she will be with us every day. Please welcome them to the Lizard Room!

The children have been enjoying making nature crafts using leaves and flowers to create small trees. We have also used autumn leaves to do screen printing with.

The children have also been busy at the play dough table using the plastic scissors and plungers to strengthen their fine motor skills.

Outside we have been loving rolling and jumping on the new gym mat, very kindly donated by Ben Hall's dad, Nick!

Bye for now,

Belinda and Rhii

Snake Room News ...

Room Leader – Kathy Rawsthorne (Monday to Thursday), Kristy Hirons (Tuesday to Friday)

We have a fantastic new dinosaur dramatic play area in our room that originated from an ongoing interest of a few of our children. We all helped to paint Kathy's box which became our dinosaur cave, complete with hanging vines. We have lots of dinosaur models to investigate. We are discovering that some dinosaurs ate meat and were 'carnivores' while others were plant eaters – 'herbivores'. We have also learnt that some dinosaurs walked on four feet, some two feet, some were flying ones and others were swimming ones.

We also have sand in our sand trough so we can dig for dinosaur fossils!



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Snake Room News ... cont.

We are also enjoying participating in many different dinosaur arts and crafts too, as well as listening to many different dinosaur stories and books.

We have been practicing writing our names as well as learning how to hold our writing materials with the correct grip. Having a correct pencil grip doesn't come naturally to all children as they like to hold their pens in their fist wrapping all their fingers around it. We will be attempting to refine these grips and will let you know if practice at home would benefit them.

We will be have a student in our room for the next two weeks – Alissa – who is studying for her Early Childhood degree. She has been coming to the centre on a Friday so some of the children will already making her feel at home here.

Is your child attending 'big school' in 2018? If you are not sure, now is a good time to ask Kathy or Kristy for their opinion and advice. It is a big decision and if their birthday falls from February/March till July, there is a lot to consider – do they begin their formal education younger or older? Studies have shown they manage better throughout their school years being older but every child is different and copes in difference ways.

If there are any special goals you would like us to work on with your children, don't hesitate to ask. We will attempt to talk to all of our Snake Room families to see what things they think are important for their child to develop or refine for the rest of the year.

Until next time!

Kathy and Kristy

Management Committee News

Next Committee Meeting

Monday 19th June 2017

7pm for a 7.30pm start

All welcome to attend!



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News from the Office ...

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Immunisation

Please remember to provide us with an updated immunisation history statement when your child's has their next immunisation. This is a statutory requirement.

Also, if your child's immunisation is not up to date, your child care benefit will be cancelled and the government does not back pay until the end of the financial year. You will be liable for paying full fees during this time.

Kind regards! Michelle

Dates for your Diary ...

2017

JUNE

Monday 12th June – **CENTRE CLOSED** for Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

Monday 19th June – Committee Meeting, 7.30pm

JULY

Monday 3rd to 14th July – School holidays (Centre Open)

Saturday 8th July – Bunnings West Gosford BBQ fundraiser

Monday 17th July – Committee Meeting, 7.30pm

All of the cakes for our special occasions here at the centre are donated by ...

Dolce Charlene Catering

Dolce Charlene can cater for all your special occasions

PH: 4374197

MOB: 0428741130

Email: charlene.xuereb@bigpond.com