



Mountain Community Children's Centre

Family Newsletter

May 2020

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News from Louisa ...

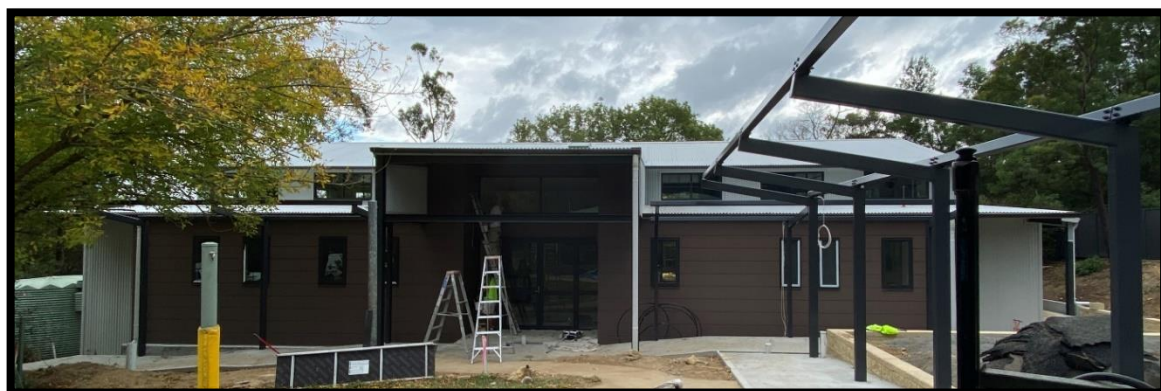
Welcome to our newsletter for May. It has been quite a different past month for most of us and we are lucky to slowly be returning to some form of normality.

Our newsletter this month is a little briefer than usual as we wanted to share important information with you as soon as possible. We are aiming to deliver our newsletter in its regular format again from

June.

Building Update

The building is coming along very quickly and is nearing completion. Flooring has been laid and the kitchens are being installed from today. Our Joey's room is currently being upgraded with a new coat of paint, new kitchen, and new lino flooring. We are so excited to move back and begin our new adventure at Mangrove Mountain. At this stage we don't have a definite date for our move yet but are anticipating for it to happen within the next couple of weeks. We will share any information on our move with you as soon as it becomes available.





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Uni Students at Centre

We currently have 4 University of Newcastle students completing practicum placement at our centre. Kim in the Joey's room, Rachel in the Lizard room, and Ben and Naomi in the Snake Room. Please introduce yourself and say Hi. The students will be observing children for their studies. Just a reminder that families have signed permission for this to occur upon enrolment. Students may also approach individual families to discuss children's interests.

Child Care Arrangements

As children are returning to the centre after the virus threat has eased, the centre is starting to fill up again. We have really missed the children and love having many of them back with us.

However, as we no longer receive the full child care subsidy from the Government and no fees from families, we have to carefully budget for our staff and are not able to roster as many casual staff members as previously. As a result, we may need to prioritise children of essential workers and vulnerable children. If this affects your child/ren, we will personally contact you to discuss a suggested change of days.

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

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.

Child Care Fees

Under the current government legislation, child care is currently provided free of charge to families until the end of June 2020. At this stage we are expecting the system to revert back to the child care subsidy system from the beginning of July. We will share more information on this as soon as it becomes available.



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Update Family Income Estimate on MyGov for 2020 - 2021

Services Australia has asked eligible families who receive payments from Centrelink, such as Child Care Subsidy (CCS) and Family Tax Benefit (FTB) to provide your family income estimate for the 2020-21 financial year.

You need to do this even though you aren't currently paying child care fees. This is because Centrelink will use this estimate to work out how much CCS and FTB you will get **next financial year**.

There's more information about [updating your family income estimate for the 2020-21 financial year](#) on the Services Australia website.

If you have any questions regarding fees or enrolments, please call me or send me an email to mountainchildren@bigpond.com

Kind regards,

Hannah