

# Centre News



JUNE 2020

## A NOTE FROM CENTRE DIRECTOR

Welcome back to our wonderful families. As of the last two weeks, we have a high attendance rate and each week we are welcoming more families back. I would like to thank our wonderful families and carers for your continued support and trust during our transition back to face to face childcare over the coming weeks.

Also, I would like to give my sincere thanks and recognition to our wonderful teachers, educators, and staff in our service. Our staffs all play a vital role in our local community. Without our Teachers, Educators, staffs and their colleagues, our economy would grind to a halt and most importantly, our children would not get the best possible start in life.

These are very challenging times and the circumstances around COVID-19 are unprecedented. Our commitment to instituting a rigorous hygiene regime has been implemented and I have received lots of positive feedback from staff, parents, and students. Staff's, families' and children's temperatures and health are being monitored each morning and afternoon and to date there have been no high readings requiring people to be sent home. We appreciate our staffs, families and children's patience and cooperation, especially during peak dropping off and picking up hours and our parents may need to wait for a couple of minutes before entering the centre.

Physical distancing for staff and parents is a key element of ensuring a safe learning environment.

I must re-iterate my request that parents/cares move on in a quick but orderly manner after dropping off their children at the entry gate to each room. It is absolutely imperative that all parents/ carers spend the minimum amount of time in the centre or in the car

park to ease congestion and frustration of others.

It is important for everyone to monitor your family's health, keep children at home if unwell, and avoid socialising on childcare grounds at pick up and drop off.

We love having your children back with us. Perhaps you are a little nervous about how this next stage of managing the pandemic will unfold. We understand your feelings and I assure you we will remain vigilant and proactive in our response to any changes in government and health advice moving forward.

I thank you again for your trust you have placed in our management of the COVID-19 challenge.

## *Free Childcare Ending - A Return to The Child Care Subsidy*

On Monday 6th June 2020, the Australian Government and Education Minister announced that as of midnight 12th July 2020 free childcare will come to an end. Services will be required as of 13th July 2020 to begin charging and recovering the gap fee from families for any care provided as per the obligations under the Family Assistance Law.

### **What does this mean for Families?**

From 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020, the Child Care Subsidy (CCS) and Additional Child Care Subsidy (ACCS) will be applied to your account for any care provided following this date.

Families are encouraged to check their details are up to date in their Centrelink online account through myGov. This includes their family income estimate for 2020-

2021. *The Government will also ease the activity test until 4 October to support eligible families whose employment has been impacted as a result of COVID-19. These families will receive up to 100 hours per fortnight of subsidized care during this period.* That means you might be eligible for sending your children to the centre for 5 days per week, even though you work, study or training hours are less than 48 hours per fortnight.

Families who were getting CCS before 6 April 2020, won't need to do anything as long as they have remained eligible. Your CCS will start again automatically on 13th July 2020. If families are new to childcare, they should lodge a claim for determination of CCS as soon as possible. If you continue to utilize our services following 13th July 2020 and your CCS approval has not been supplied to the service, you will be required to pay full fees during this period.

Families who received CCS in 2018-2019 financial year and still haven't confirmed their income must do so by 30th June 2020. If you do not do this your CCS will not start again automatically on 30th June.

***Families who haven't update their direct debit account details on the Xplor Website, are required to have it done by the Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July.***

***Families who are still owing balances for the child care service before 6<sup>th</sup> April, are required to pay the debts off before the Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July.*** All families can find their statements via the Xplor App, under the section 'Finance'. If you have any questions, please email us via [minimicampsie@gmail.com](mailto:minimicampsie@gmail.com).

## NEW CHANGES TO OUR PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

We have installed a new Parents Notice Board at the foyer, where our families can seek for important notice, information, and resources.

A 'I Am Here Today' board to show all educators who are on duty on the day is installed at the foyer as well. Our families can now easily know the educators who are working in each room on the day, as well as the person in charge on the day.

We have relocated the 'Our Local School' information section next to our home library. The table at the foyer will be used to display our Quality Improvement Plan (QIP).



## MEET OUR EDUCATORS

We would like to formally introduce Ms Emily, Ms Enas and Ms Jyotsana (Jyo) to our families.

Ms Emily joined our team in November 2019 and has been working part-time with us since then. She is currently studying Bachelor of Early Childhood Education in the University of Western Sydney. She will be floating in all the rooms. She can speak fluent English and Mandarin.





Ms Enas joined us at the beginning of this year. She holds the Bachelor of Education in Egypt and a Diploma of Children Service in Australia. Ms Enas has been working in this industry for more than 15 years and ran her own family day care before. She can speak fluent English and Arabic. Ms Enas will join our preschool rooms as one of the main educators.

Ms Jyotsana, you can also call her Ms Jyo, joined us at the beginning of this year. She is Certificate III qualified and currently is studying Diploma in Early Childhood Education. She will be working in the baby room and young toddler room. Ms Jyo can speak fluent English and Nepali.



We are excited to have Ms Emily, Ms Enas and Ms Jyotsana to join our team. Please feel free to talk to them if you have any questions or concerns regarding your children.

## POLICY UPDATES

- Breastfeeding Policy 2020
- Physical Activity and Small Screen Recreation Policy 2020

Please come to reception to view these policies. Please feel free to provide feedback regarding these policies.

## EVENTS IN JUNE

- Mobile Dental Incursion – Presentation for Preschool rooms
- Red Nose Day -26<sup>th</sup> June, Red Dress up
- eSafety Month – part of our eSafety Early Years program.
- Parent-Teacher Night will be postponed due to COVID-19, maybe July.

**Excursions are still on hold due to COVID-19.**

## QIP UPDATE

We are currently working on Departure and Arrival Policy, improving our documentation forms and planning style. If you have any input for our QIP please email [minimicampsie@gmail.com](mailto:minimicampsie@gmail.com).

## CHANGES TO THE ROOMS

We have decided to use animal names in Dharug and Dharawal language to name our rooms. Dharug and Dharawal are the language spoken by the aboriginal people living in the Canterbury-Bankstown area.

Blue room 1 (0-1.5yrs) is now called **Burrage Room**. The word 'Burrage' means Koala.

Blue room 2 (1.5yrs – 2.5yrs) is called **Wumbat Room**, which means Wombat Room.

Green room (2.5yrs – 3.5 yrs) is called **Guganigine Room**, which means Kookaburra room.

Red room 1 (3.5yrs – 6yrs) is called **Baragarang Room**, which means Kangaroo Room.

Red room 2 (3.5yrs – 6yrs) is called **Murawung Room**, which means Emu Room.

As the number of children returning to the preschool rooms has increased, we have re-grouped the two rooms to avoid having too many children in one room, especially on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Please check with the educators to see if your child has changed to another room.