

2nd November, 2023

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Preschool Program

Read it Again

As we are nearing the completion of the Read It Again program on Tuesday/Thursday, it is strongly encouraged that the concepts that have been explored are reinforced at home.

When reading with your child, ask them to tell you about;

Print Knowledge – Discuss the title, title page, author, illustrator. Count how many words are in the title. After reading the title, what do you think the story is about? Can they find any letters that are in their name etc.

Vocabulary – There are so many words that we assume the children know. Check in occasionally with a word or two in the book. For example, ‘what does grin mean?’

Phonological awareness – Rhyming words, breaking down words into syllables (clap once for each syllable eg An -drew, Mar-vell-ous), opposites and sequencing events. These concepts can be targeted through games while you’re driving in the car or waiting for something.

Narrative

- Beginning – the kick-off event
- Middle – The main part of the story
- Ending – How did it finish? Was it a happy ending?
- Characters (bossy, kind, tall, friendly). They will use adjectives to describe them.
- Setting – where are the children playing? What is the setting of the story. The pictures will provide lots of clues.

Please remember to enjoy reading with your child. Only one or two of these concepts should be explored at one time. We want children to love stories and reading, it is important to explore these concepts organically and to not overwhelm them.

Dates for your Diary

Fire Safety visit – Tuesday 7th November

The rescheduled visit by our local fire fighters is Tuesday 7th November.

- We will observe what firefighters wear and recognise that although they may look scary with their masks on, they are safe people and are there to help you in the event of an emergency.
- We will learn what a safe fire is (BBQ, campfire) and an unsafe fire.
- We will learn what to do if there is a fire at our home. Where is your family meeting place? We will be learning the importance of knowing your address and how to make a call to the fire brigade.
- We will learn what to do if our clothes are on fire.

Tablelands Community Service, Intergenerational visits

Our final four visits to TCS fall on a Monday. Permission slips will be distributed shortly.

Aunty Kathy - Storytime

We are so excited to welcome Aunty Kathy to Uralla Preschool on Wednesday 8th November and Wednesday 6th December to share some activities, songs and games with the children.

Portfolio Presentation and Afternoon Tea

We look forward to inviting families to join us in celebrating the children who will be starting school in 2024. Please save the date for Tuesday 12th December at 2.00 pm. More details to come.

End of Year Celebrations – Activities Day

We are looking forward to a day of fun and laughter on the final session of the year. Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th December. Again, there will be more details to come.

Last day of Preschool

The last day of preschool for 2023 will be Friday the 15th December.

Enrolment Information

All new and returning students should have received their enrolment pack for 2024. Please return your updated details form, updated immunisation records (if applicable) and Fee Relief Nomination Forms as soon as possible. Many thanks.

Illness

There seems to be many illnesses floating around the community at the moment. The volatile spring weather has seen lots of dust, pollens, hot and then cold conditions which have possibly exacerbated health issues as we try to determine if they are allergies or in fact illnesses.

Thank you for supporting your child's health in these situations. In addition to cross infection, allergies and illnesses can leave children feeling exhausted and emotional, often prolonging symptoms.

Air purifier

An air purifier will be installed in the preschool in the coming weeks to aid in the quality of air including viral and allergen control. We are hoping this will assist in the overall health of the children and educators.

Anne Percy

Director

On behalf of LisaMarie, Kathryn, Jodie, Deb, Kristy, Tara and Brienna.



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