Children need real experiences with real people

Hello everyone, the end of year is slowly creeping up and I promise to hold onto my tears until the end of the year.

Have you ever asked the question, “Tell me about your day!” and the response has been, I can not remember what I did. Or “I did nothing!!”

We have a daily journal that will answer all your questions as well as give you a little peep into the kind of day your child has been involved in.

Below are some of our term 4 adventures so far.

HELP!! I AM STUCK!!!
On a sad note, our Furry friend Fluffy passed away on Tuesday the 20th of October.

Unfortunately, the joy of owning a kinder pet goes hand-in-hand with the heartbreak of losing one, whether because of old age, illness, or an accident. And that can be very difficult. Our furry friends are often the first to greet our kinder friends in the morning and from time to time have given comfort and companionship to friends when they have felt sad or lonely. While we felt we wanted to shelter the children from this loss, we knew we had to share this sad news with them and help them cope with this loss as a family.
Snuffy (white guinea pig) has been showered with much love since the death of her sister and she is reminded each day, that she is not alone and we love her.

Starting school: By now majority of you would know the school your child will be attending in 2017. Could you please write this on the poster above the sign in/out book. This will enable me to complete your child’s transition report. A transition report is a statement that summaries your child’s strengths as they start school, identifies their interests and tell your child’s prep teacher how they can continue to support your child’s learning and development. All transitions reports will be handed out in the first week of December. If you have any concerns please let me know.

Here are some transition tips:

• Show your child where the school is and talk about how you will get there.
• Arrange play-times with other families whose children will be going to the same school. It helps if your child knows another child at their school at the start of prep.
• Practise the things your child will need to do to get ready for school (remembering to take their hat, putting things in their bag) Be positive about starting school and enjoy your child’s excitement.
• Attend orientation days
• Talk to the school about how you cab make your child’s first day run smoothly.
• Encourage your child to continue to do things for themselves such as dressing, going to the toilet, washing their hands, opening and closing their drink bottle.

If you are have any concerns in regards to your child attending primary school next year, please email me to arrange a meeting.
I also encourage all the 3 year old parents to contact me, if they would like to have a meet and greet before the new kinder year begins. My availability is on a Tuesday and Thursday 1.30-3pm.

Carpentry - We would love to explore this in December and need your help. Could you please collect some of the following and drop them in the provided box:
- Buttons
- Bottle Tops
- String
- Lids
- Stickers
- Material and any other unique bits and pieces.

Take care and I hope you have all enjoyed reading this reflection piece.

Lots of cuddle Enza xoxoxooox

Reflection by Sigrid

Creating wrapping paper was the biggest project I did with the children over the last couple of months. It is the children’s annual participation towards fund raising. After discussions the children decided to give part of the funds raised money to the Royal Children’s Hospital so that the children that are there, could receive a clowns’ visit. We created the wrapping paper by using three different painting techniques. These exercises worked on different fine motor skills, for example:
- control of blowing air from the mouth through a straw
- strengthening of fine motor skills: eye-hand coordination
- following instructions; using different material in an appropriate ways;

The children were excited about the colours they mixed with a roller; they enjoyed chasing the food dye over the paper and they loved adding the glitter on the magical wax paper.

The children were enthusiastic participants as they knew, these papers could be used for wrapping presents at home.
With spring arriving we saw bees on our daily walks. The question arose, how bees make honey. We researched this and we noticed that bees need lots of flowers to collect nectar, which they turn in their stomach into honey. Children have been practicing all their bee knowledge by reducing to pick flowers on our daily walkabouts.

I often go on tree planting weekends and I showed some photos and we discussed the importance of trees. Children came up with some amazing insights like: trees produce good air for us to breath; without trees, the birds and little animals would have no place to live; it as well got mentioned, that trees get cut to make paper.

From this interest it moved to the world of bats. Again I was amazed, how much the children know on the subject. We created bat masks as well as puppets, which led the children to great drama play.

I enjoyed the children’s interest in the ways of nature and I loved to accompany them on their roads of discovery.

To celebrate children’s week last week, the three yr old Kinder team organised some special events that took place during the week!

On Monday we were lucky enough to be invited to participate in the annual Collingwood Children’s Farm open day, which is always a fantastic experience.. there were hay bale rides, cuddles and pats with some of the animals (definitely NOT the cranky cats!), face painting, music sessions, and so much more.. everybody had a wonderful time and could not stop sharing their stories on the bus ride back to Kinder.
Wednesday saw Sigrid and Rachel cook up a barbecue storm at Spider Park, and we were super lucky that the sun was out and we could spend a languid morning just exploring and munching yummy barbecued tofu sausages, corn, and veggie sticks. An experience that was enjoyed by all!

And to top it off, we had an extra special Morning Circle in the park on Friday morning. It was so lovely to sit in the sunshine with Didi, quieten our minds for a minute and just listen to the sounds of the birds as they flew overhead... In times like this I often reflect on how fantastic it is that we have the freedom to leave the Kinder gates and get out into the community so regularly. Our daily park trips make taking the children out for big adventures like these so much easier, as they are so used to navigating different situations and following instructions. Just another reason to love our walkabout program!!

Love Paige xoxoxoxo
28 OCTOBER 2016

REFLECTION

Thank you for the opportunity to work with your children and families and for the very warm welcome to your centre.

As I started working at Sunrise Preschool in a relief capacity and then on Friday afternoons on 2nd August, I have only spent seven sessions with the children.

I am constantly learning about each child’s interests and skills and about the community.

I work to develop trust and respect whilst learning about each child’s personal development and emotional intelligence.

On Friday afternoons, I have been developing practical work skills, children taking on responsibilities such as watering the garden and washing the sand toys. Working towards providing a calm, calming atmosphere for the end of the week.

Both play and work I believe are important for children and so this term, I would like to introduce carpentry and finger painting. The latter experience provides an emotional release as well as being soothing and calming for children.

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One rainy day we asked the children “Where does rain come from?” Some children said space, some were not sure and others said rain comes from the lakes and rivers. To show children the water cycle in action we decided to set up our very own water cycle using a glass bowl, cling film, a cup and water. It is placed in a sunny spot to help the process of evaporation. It was very exciting but we had to be very patient as the process of evaporation, condensation and precipitation was very slow. However it did work and we collected water in the glass.

We have been talking about colours and making colours with the paints so we did a colour transfer experiment, using dye and paper towels. The dye was absorbed by the paper towel and some of the dye from each container was transferred through the paper towel into the empty containers creating a secondary colour.

We found a treasure chest at kinder one morning and next to the box was a clue. Several children helped decode the clue and we learnt the key to open the treasure box was in Clausen Street Park. As soon as we got to the park everyone worked together to find the key. Once found we took it back to kinder to see what treasure was inside. As we opened the box we saw beautiful blue gems, which were shared with our friends at sunrise.

This lead to children making pirate ships with pirate flags, a helm and pirates. Some children tested their ships in the water and found out quickly what happens to paper in water.

We made air dry clay by mixing cornflour and PVA glue. Children made shells, letters and shapes once dry they painted them in bright colours.

Thank You
Krishna
Weekly update - November

- Children are growing fast and are actively playing during the day, can you pack extra snacks in the lunchbox so children can graze in the afternoon if they are hungry after afternoon tea!

- **Children’s Mail pocket** - The pocket are deep and you may not see what’s in them, if you can dig deep and check if you have anything in the pocket.

- **Working Bee - This Saturday 5th November** 10am - 1pm - RSVP by 3/11 (lunch will be provided),

- **Bring a shovel, wheel barrow we only have one in at Sunrise**, children can help out too!

- Jobs to be done: topping up tan bark, sandpit and sanding, looking forward to seeing you there!

- **The official SunSmart** policy has kicked in. As a Sunsmart Centre we are governed by this policy which means your child needs to wear hats and sunscreen. We supply the sun hats and sunscreen.

  We have supplies of Sunscreen for you to apply on your child, or if you choose to bring your own please supply and label clearly, give the sunscreen to one of the Educators. It is the parent responsibility to apply sunscreen in the morning, we will reapply after lunch!

  - **Sunrise Magic Show Fun(draiser)** for Saturday 19th November 5.30pm - 8pm $55 per child (added to fees) RSVP via email by 5th November. (2.5 hours parent free time at Sunrise for little people)! LIMITED SPACES LEFT

  - End of year Celebration for children, all families together with Thornbury, grandparents and special person - **Saturday 3rd December please join us from 10am - 12midday** - at Edinburgh Garden Community room - more details to follow.

  - **Lockers** - if you can clear out your child’s locker each week including crafts, art work etc.

  **Baba Nam Kevalam****

  **Love Is All There Is**