



Ph: 5472 3665/5470 6284 Mob: 0472 698 513 [www.castlemainechildcare.com.au](http://www.castlemainechildcare.com.au) Newsletter May 2018  
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## Welcome to our May newsletter

### News for all families – LDC and FDC!

**Dear families – please ensure** that you are **ALWAYS** contactable when your child is in care or provide an alternative contact for that day or part of the day if you will be unavailable. Being able to promptly collect your child who has become ill, helps to stop the spread of infection to others. Children who become ill or are injured, **always** want the people closest to them and it can be very distressing for them if we cannot easily get in touch.

#### ACCOUNTS/FEES – Parts 1,2,3

1. **New Child Care Subsidy (CCS)** – follow the link below to ensure you are ready for the changes!

[https://www.centrelink.gov.au/custsite\\_pfe/pymtfinderest/paymentFinderEstimatorPage.jsf?wec-appid=pymtfinderest&wec-locale=en\\_US#stay](https://www.centrelink.gov.au/custsite_pfe/pymtfinderest/paymentFinderEstimatorPage.jsf?wec-appid=pymtfinderest&wec-locale=en_US#stay)

2. **Account payments** – Please remember we are **UNABLE TO ACCEPT CASH payments into the office**. Please pay fees via our direct debit system, set up your own weekly/fortnightly direct debit, make cash payments at Bank Australia or use the EFTPOS at the office.
  - All accounts are to be paid in advance and as always, thank you for your prompt payments.
3. **Fee Payments** – One of the most important ways in which you can continue to support your not-for profit parent owned and governed child care service, is to pay your accounts on time. This ensures our continued financial viability and minimises the amount of time that administration spends chasing up late or non-payments, thereby increasing the amount of time that can be spent on quality education and care for the children. Please help by doing your bit. If you are experiencing trouble meeting your financial obligation, please contact us to advise of any possible delay to payment and to arrange a new payment schedule.

#### LONG DAY CARE Centre News

***From 2 July 2018, the LDC daily fee will increase to \$106***

**Kindergarten Information evening** - 3 and 4-year old Kindergarten Information Evening for 2019 kindergarten enrolments. **Monday 28 May at 7.00pm**. Come and meet the Kindergarten teachers who will provide general and specific information on our program for you to learn about the curriculum on offer, the routines and environment of the Kindergarten area of Carinya. All welcome but please RSVP!

### Important Dates

**Bush Kinder every Monday of Term Two for kinder children.**

**9.00am – 2.30pm**

**Kindergarten Information Evening 28 May 7.00pm**

**PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

**Centre closed 11 June**

**Fee increase 2 July**

**New Child Care Package implemented 2 July**

### Please Remember

To advise us of absences, a text message to

**0472 698 513**

**or call**

**5472 3665**

**or email**

[carinya@castlemainechildcare.com.au](mailto:carinya@castlemainechildcare.com.au)

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

***LDC daily fee will increase from 2 July 2018 to \$106 from the current \$101.***

***New Child Care package changes - Please make sure you have a MyGov account that is active. It is your responsibility to confirm enrolments, changes and view subsidies via this app.***

## FAMILY DAY CARE Scheme News

**New software** – All families will now have received an account from the new software system. No doubt there will be some teething problems as all the information and nuances are addressed. If you are having trouble with your account, please contact us as soon as possible so that it can be sorted before the next account is due.

## Educational Leader – Sarah

Dear families,

**RED NOSE DAY** - On Friday 29 June, we will be participating in Red Nose day. Last year 3200 Australian families were affected by sudden and unexpected infant death syndrome (SIDS). Monies raised through the Red Nose appeal go towards counselling and bereavement services for families experiencing grief.

To support this great cause, we're asking that everyone come dressed in red for the day and bring along a gold coin donation. Additionally, on the day we will be having a cake stall in the reception foyer, with all proceeds going to this great cause. We will post more information closer to the time.

**LANDCARE GRANT** - I'm also really pleased to announce that we have been successful in our application for a Junior Landcare Grant. This was for \$1000 and will go towards our Kitchen Garden that is taking shape. We have allocated funds to go towards soil, a variety of plants (with a primary focus on indigenous plants) and gardening tools to use in the kitchen garden. Special thanks to the Landcare Group!

## Committee of Management News

Farewell to Helen Martin who has contributed to Castlemaine Childcare Co-operative Committee of Management through her secretarial-ship, as a gangbuster fundraiser and working bee attendee. The energy that Helen brought to the committee has been fantastic and she is sorely missed. Thankyou Helen.

Chris Cook has joined the committee at the last meeting (15 May) taking up a casual vacancy. Warm welcome to you Chris.

The invitation stands for any shareholding parent or parent who can become a shareholder to speak with one of the existing committee members if they are interested in finding out more about the time commitment or roles of the committee. Committee of Management meetings are currently held on the third Tuesday of the month. Please speak to Rose at the office of Carinya or to one of the parents listed below.

With thanks,

Geoff Turner (Chair), Flynn Hart (Treasurer), Daria Healy Aarons, Kiera McDonald, Zoe Edquist

## Koala Room with Nat, Melody and Emily

Hello Koala Families

We have some new additions to the program as we are extending on interests and from that, new learning that we are observing. We have had lots of fun doing finger painting this week, an extension on the sensory play and an opportunity to continue learning through our senses. We have added cars and wooden blocks to the program, following up interests that have developed through time spent in the Possum Room. Dress-ups have also been lots of fun as we enjoy some role play while expressing ourselves. Our beautiful knitted Five Little Ducks characters have been an opportunity to build upon our numeracy, language and literacy skills.

### Learning is Fun!



“Play is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning. But for children play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood”

*Fred Rogers*



## Possum Room with Maddy, Gemma, Sally B and Ange



The Possum children are developing more and more every day in all areas of development; social, emotional and physical. Standing out the most is the children's self-help skills at routine times; we have been working hard with each child to help them become more independent and confident in everyday routines. We have been practising putting on our own bibs for lunch, wiping our own hands and face after meals, finding our own hats before heading outside and finding our own beds by looking for our own individual pillow case.



The children in the Possum Room have all engaged in reading with an educator or looking at picture books either by themselves or with a friend. We read a variety of books each day relating to different topics. The children find stories fascinating as we flick through the pages wondering what is over on the next page. The children show interest and ask questions verbally or non-verbally by pointing to different pictures; this can initiate lots of conversation and intentional teaching moments.



When the weather has been too cold and wet to get outside, we have been staying in and getting creative with the playdough. Maddy collected lots of natural materials from outside for us to use in our playdough play!

## Kangaroo Room – Felicity, Lisa, Sue, Josie and Cedella

Last month we said “farewell and thank you” to Peter who has been a valuable staff member in our room this year. We now **welcome Josie** who has been appointed to the Monday/Tuesday position in the Kangaroo room. Many children are already familiar with Josie being in our room as she has worked with us in a casual position for the last 2 months. We look forward to Josie being a permanent member of our team enhancing our program with her special ideas and skills!

We are well into autumn now, the children are noticing and discussing the very different weather we have been experiencing, the leaves changing colours and falling from the trees, the cold wind and rain. We are learning to consider the weather when we choose to go outside now. We don't need sunhats, but we do need long sleeves. Soon we will need beanies, raincoats and gum boots for those rainy days when we still want to explore outdoors. Please help your child enjoy the environment by helping them choose appropriate clothing for our weather and bringing spares for variable weather days including a complete change of clothes - more if your child is still practicing toilet-training.



We have noticed an increase in confidence within most children; communication and conversation skills are developing; and new friendships are being formed within the group. We are continuing to reflect on emotions and how to deal with them appropriately to encourage more resilience and self-regulation within each child. The children are all now familiar with their educators and our routine; they actively engage in our learning activities and participate in transitions between our different activities. This participation builds confidence in their abilities and develops a sense of belonging and contributing to their Kangaroo group.





This last month has been exciting with regular excursions out and about to the library, football oval and hub garden and we notice the changes and improvements at the garden and love to check on our chook friends. The Wednesday children have been talking about excursions to platform 3 to watch the steam train arrive from Maldon. This week Zoe (with us on other days) came down to the station with her dad and grandma to experience the train with us. Any parents that can join us on Wednesdays, 11.15am - 11.45am are very welcome and the children would love to meet up with you at the station. The children have learnt so much from the visits; we have noticed their play involving trains is more complex and knowledgeable giving them more opportunity for social skills between themselves to further develop. We are looking for a wooden turntable for our train track in the room if anyone has a spare or finds one at an opp. shop - it would be a most welcome addition to our set-up.

As you know the educators in your child's room use a variety of ways to observe and record the learning journey of each child in an individual folio. These folios are now available in our room (top right shelf by back door) for your viewing. Please help yourself to reading your child's folio when you get the opportunity. We welcome your feedback and/or input to these important documents.

If you have any queries or topics you would like to discuss, please come and talk to us.



## Pre-Kinder Wombat Room News from Heather, Sally and Carolyn

### Wombat News

Thank you to all the families who were able to join us in our celebration of family week. It was so enjoyable for the children to have families join them for the various planned activities such as pancake making and plate decorating and lovely for families to join us for the more routine activities such as rest time, gardening, singing and story time. Thank you also to those who brought in a favourite family story, photo or song to share with the group. Heather is continuing the plate decorating activity so any family who has not decorated a plate still has time to do so. We hope the family visits continue throughout the year and want you to know every week is family week in the Wombat Room!



Thank you to the parents who have been engaging with us in relation to superhero/gun play as the children use costumes and props such as pretend guns to imitate superheroes they admire. At other times, the children are “playing out” what they have seen and/or heard on television news reports. This imaginative or dramatic play can be very confronting to adults and other children not involved in the game. A part of our professional practice is continuous critical reflection of observations of children’s play and the opportunity for intentional teaching moments, such as when to step in as “moderators”.



The children’s interest in this play provides many opportunities for learning and for fostering children’s imagination and creativity as they explore aspects of identity through role play.

We will continue to observe this play and recording some of the learning or discussions we have with children in relation to superhero play. We will share this with you in our program book and as always welcome your feedback and input. We are also doing our own research on this topic and will feedback any findings. You may also read more by following this link.

[http://ncac.acecqa.gov.au/educator-resources/pcf-articles/The\\_value\\_of%20superhero\\_play\\_Sep08.pdf](http://ncac.acecqa.gov.au/educator-resources/pcf-articles/The_value_of%20superhero_play_Sep08.pdf)



## Echidna Room – Kristy, Ray and Louise

### Food Nutrition:

We have been focussing on learning about the five food groups this month and what types of foods would be an **everyday food** or a **sometimes food**. We have used both formal meeting times and informal get togethers (for example at the morning munch and crunch table) to look at the types of foods we're eating to refuel our bodies. The children then followed on to make an everyday and sometimes foods poster for the centre, both of which are displayed near the kitchen door. We used food magazines and cut out pictures that represent all five food groups and some "yummy" (Harvey), foods for our sometimes poster. The children were able to share their ideas of what makes an everyday and sometimes food (you can read these ideas on the display wall near the kitchen door and in the reflection diary).

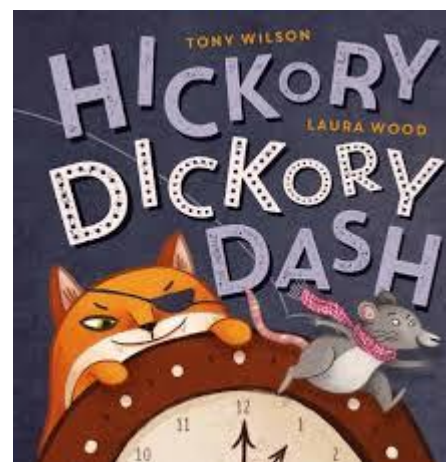


As a fun follow-up experience we made fruit kebabs for afternoon tea with the children. Again, we used the five food groups poster to determine if all our fruits were everyday fruits (yes, they were).



### National Simultaneous Storytime:

We are excited this year to participate in this fun experience to promote the benefits of reading stories to children. Both the Wombat and Echidna children will arrive at the library at 10:30am on Wednesday 23 May and the Mayor will be reading this year's story "Hickory Dickory Dash" at 11.00am for all children. If you happen to be in the vicinity of the library, then please pop in and join us!







### National Families Week:

We are enjoying celebrating National Families Week this year and it has been a lot of fun. We cannot thank all our families enough for their support, ideas and suggestions including their tried and tested recipes, sharing favourite story books, parents visiting to play and spend time and grandparents coming to say hello too. A big thank

you from the Wombat and Echidna teams and from the children, who have been very excited at the thought of a family member coming to see them at their 'work'.

### Clothing and the end of the day:

As we head towards winter and bring in more items of clothing, offer a quick note to all families about how we can all help a track of their own belongings. If possible as part of your off routine, it helps to let your child choose their own snack name tag, hang their jacket outside on a hook that has their name tag, if their name tag isn't there, then help them by taking it down hanging pouch and encourage them to choose a hook. If you please don't be tempted to do this for them... we have no



we wanted to children to keep morning drop tub, find their name on it. If from the are in a rush, problems with

those 'drop and run' mornings where you need to be somewhere quickly! We will then help your child to do this for themselves. It really does make a difference over time to children's level of awareness about the spaces and items that are their responsibility. Whenever possible please remember to write your child's name or initials on items of clothing, hats and footwear.

### Reminders for all:

- ❖ A reminder to please send an appropriate change of clothes with your child.
- ❖ Please bring a piece or two of fruit daily.
- ❖ Please remember to sign in and out on arrival and departure.

## *I've been busy*

Did you do a painting??

No, But –

I did a lot of other things,

Almost too many to say.

I talked and laughed and thought and played.

I've had a lovely, busy day.

Did you do a painting?

No, But –

I climbed up and down the ladder

And held on tight at the top.

I talked on the phone, and told my friend

What I wanted at her shop.

Did you do a painting?

No, But –

I found some worms where the soil was wet.

We dug the holes quite deep.

For lunch I ate tomatoes and rice,

Then I settled down for a sleep.

Did you do a painting?

No. But –

I used five boxes to make house.

We took the teddy in, too.

I sat on the mat with my legs tucked up

And listened to "Wombat Stew".

Did you do a painting?

No. But –

I watered all the growing plants,

Then I saw you at the gate.

I might do a painting tomorrow –

or perhaps you'll have to wait!

Joan Waters.



## Sheridan's Family Day Care Fun April/ May activities.

Welcome everyone and come have a look at our busy month. I love working as a family day care educator as it allows me to personally tailor the education for each child over the time it takes for skills to be developed through a fun and nurturing environment.

Family day care for me has not just been birth to 4 years transition but a life forming experience where children have made bonds and been part of our family for many years beyond kindy ages, with the school holidays, before and after school care that I offer.

Here's a look at the older children school holidays and weekend care.



The children have extended their conversation of passion for deserts and love of cooking to the mud kitchen where the master chef kitchen has become a competition complete with judges, hours of trialling textures and adding components to create master pieces.



Supporting the children's love of art in all forms and adding technology to our day as we watched a You-tube clip on tie-dyeing and how to create different designs, this is the happy outcome and a full day's creations.



From planning and designing through to the excitement of having made their own clothes, the children gain self confidence in seeing how using technology can help them plan, choose and gather needed items, following step by step instructions, working hard and practising time management skills through to seeing the end results.





From colour mixing and colour spreading/bleeding – Chemistry - we moved onto.....

STEM (Science, technology, engineering, maths). Learning with the fun of creating slime using measuring, reading recipes and following the process in our messy (and as we found out) muscle-building experiments.

To add the Engineering element, I set a challenge to build a tower with straws and tape working in a team to build a structure strong and high. The children only had two items and each other. This means working together, perhaps finding a leader, sharing ideas, trial and error and many theories. First the children hoped to be able to make it as high as their smallest helper, this then moved to the next tallest child then jumped as their vision and confidence grew to make it as tall as me. Let me tell you the children made it and loved showing their parents their skills.



We discussed jobs that the children could do when older as they loved seeing these structures come to life built with their own two hands and thought up with their own minds.

We hope you have enjoyed a little tour of our programme.

My parents have direct access to see what their children are up to through the day and the ability to discuss with their children at home from a mobile/or email friendly device, through the programme I provide.

The parents of all children in my care can comment and the children can see and read directly throughout the day giving families contact and connection while at work and play.

For future booking and waiting lists please contact the office for my details.





**Mt Alexander**

Family Day Care

Carinya Early Education Hub



## Deanne's Family Daycare

Monday to Thursday

Campbells Creek

Ph: 03 5472 2937 or 04 0892 2904

Email: [tweedledea@gmail.com](mailto:tweedledea@gmail.com)



### Makers....Makers....Makers

What do you do when children turn up with something that they are interested in at that moment?.....Forget your program and go with the child's interest.

Why? .....Because who knows how long it will last and what learning they will gain from it.



After being told about a pirate day that was being held at kinder the next day. JV and I decided that we could try to make 'Pirate Things' from paper. We searched the internet for images and instructions. We found a Bicorn shaped hat and we put a jolly roger on the front. Our sword is called a Cutlass. Paired with a pirate t-shirt and a red scarf JV definitely looked the part on Pirate Day. Sometimes the simplest things turn out quite amazing.



A dvd of the Cat In The Hat, A Large Piece of White Paper, Red Paint, A Cereal Box and Some Sticky Tape make a fabulous Cat Hat.

But be careful as we all know the Cat In The Hat can be quite cheeky and sometimes downright naughty. I was lucky that when wearing the Hat LB was only cheeky.

You could make smaller and smaller versions of The Hat to fit inside each hat just like in the book.

MC turned up this day with a largish box and many appologies from his Mun saying he insisted on bringing it. I couldn't believe my luck .....boxes are one of the worlds best art items. You can do so much with them. One of the first things I did was ask what MC was making out of it. He told me he was just making a door. He had already made a slit in one of the boxes wall. I showed MC some doll house furniture I had made out of cardboard and asked if he would like to make some for his box. He told me it had to be bigger so his Beanie Boo could fit. With some extra cardboard, sissors and some sticky tape together we made a table, chair and a bed. I had one very happy young man and sleepy Beanie Boo at the end of the day.

And finally I did get some of one my programs in. Colors Colors and more Colors. One of the things I love about my job is seeing how much fun kids have while they are learning. BW is having a whole lot of fun learing just how water paints Feel, Smell and even Taste.....Yep Taste. Just as well all my paints are child friendly

**.Deannes Family Daycare now has vacancies Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday.**

**Kinder Drop off and Pick up avaiable.**

**Call 040 892 2904**

