



## Welcome to our September Newsletter

*Castlemaine Childcare Co-operative – LDC and FDC - operates on the land of the Dja Dja Wurrung and Taungurung clans and we acknowledge elders - past, present and emerging.*

### Dear Families

#### FDC – Important Account information

When you receive your invoice, your child has already been provided with care and we have already paid your educator for providing that care, therefore to ensure the all-important cash flow we require, we have **a prompt 3-day payment due by date on the invoice**. Please ensure that you keep to this contract with us.

It is vital that you follow up with Centrelink regularly to make sure that you have done everything that you need for your claim for Child Care Subsidy (CCS) and then follow up to make sure that your claim is proceeding. In the meantime, you will still need to pay invoices as they become due.

Furthermore, please ensure that when making payments, you **use the account holder's name as your payment reference**. The account holder is the person in your family who is directly claiming the CCS. When we are receipting payments, we can only see the account holder's name, not the name of partner's or grandparents from whom a payment may have come. *Please check any direct debiting you have in place from your bank* and make the necessary changes to show the account holder's name as reference. Thank you!

#### LDC

We are always delighted when families can join us on excursions with the children. We would be extra delighted if you could apply for a Working with Children Check as a volunteer. Please use the link below.

<https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/> A volunteer Working with children's check is free.

Please also remember that when you sign in and out on the tablet that it is a legal document and for us to meet compliance, we need to make sure that the sign in and out is completed by an adult not a child. Thank you.

As the end of year quickly approaches just remember that all accounts need to be at a zero balance to secure your 2020 position.

### Important Dates

**23 Oct Reptile visit 3-5 yr old  
10am**

**5 Nov Melbourne Cup day  
CLOSED**

**8 Nov Annual Shopping  
spree**

**12 November 5.30pm  
Carinya AGM**

**13 Nov K'roo Steam train  
excursion.**

**4 Dec at 6pm - Carinya  
Children's Christmas Party  
at Botanical Gardens**

**Dec 19 - Last day of care  
Jan 14, 2020 First day back  
for children.**

### Please Remember

LDC Centre - Advise of absences through **KidsXap app**.  
REMEMBER to SIGN your child IN and OUT each day

KidsXap web portal address:

<https://castlemainechildcarecoop.kidsxap.com.au>

#### LDC IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**KidsXap – Please use the app to check bookings, confirm bookings, update your address, bank details etc**

**Make sure you have an active MyGov account. Only you can confirm enrolments, changes and view subsidies via this app.**

## **Committee of Management:**

# Notice of Annual General Meeting & 2020 Orientation Evening

Castlemaine Childcare Co-operative AGM  
PROMPTLY at 5.30pm Tuesday 12 November 2019

If your family uses Castlemaine Child Care Cooperative services, either centre based care or family day care, including after school care, you are members!

**The Co-operative requires active membership to function properly: one of the easiest ways to be an active member is to attend the AGM to hear about our success and to elect the 2020 Board of Directors.**

For all our child-care services to thrive, we need our members to participate in this meeting.

We require both long day care and family day care representation and value the diverse voice of our membership.

**WE REQUIRE FOUR NEW DIRECTORS.**

**This is a family friendly event, your children are welcome, food is provided.**

Some of our amazing educators will share their programming and give us an insight into 2020 vision and an opportunity to celebrate what we do best.

You can also use this opportunity to engage with our fantastic community of members:

meet and mingle with other families using our services outside the often rushed drop off and pick-ups.

We will provide long day care centre-based families space and time to orientate themselves with their new rooms and educators.

**All members are expected to RSVP your acceptance or apology via email to [carinya@castlemainechildcare.com.au](mailto:carinya@castlemainechildcare.com.au)**

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## AGM Tuesday 12 November, 5.30pm

# NOTICE OF ELECTION

In accordance with the Rules of the Castlemaine Childcare Co-operative Limited, notice is given that an election will be held on **Tuesday 12 November 2019 at 5.30pm** for the positions of Director on the Board of Management of the Co-operative.

**Election to the position is for a two (2) year term commencing on 12 November 2019.**

**Any active member of the co-operative (any parent / guardian with children currently enrolled in the Long Day Care or Family Day Care programs) is eligible to stand for election.**

The Board is responsible for the overall management of the co-operative including financial sustainability - budget and fee setting - strategic direction and planning, appointing and supporting the Service Director. The Board meets 10 times a year at Carinya in Templeton Street. The Board are volunteers.

- **Uncontested Vacancies: Four**

**Current Directors remaining in office for another year of their 2-year term:**

- Chair – Sophie Burke; Treasurer – Chris Cook; General Member – Daria Ha

**Current Directors who are standing down at the 2019 AGM**

- Secretary – Timothy Watson; General Member – Geoff Turner.

**Current Directors nominating for another 2-year term: Nil.**

If you wish to stand please contact Rose for a nomination form, or if you have questions about the opportunity call Sophie Burke, Chair on 0428553155.

## **LDC Reminders for all centre-based children - please:**

- ❖ **send a change of clothes appropriate to the weather with your child.**
- ❖ **bring a piece or two of fruit daily.**

**Do you have KidsXap on your phone? Ask us for assistance to download the app so that you receive daily important information and are ready for new applications. This is our preferred mode of communication with families – Download Now!**

### **For all Families:**

**Remember to sign your child in and out on arrival and departure. CCS will not apply if you do not sign in and out digitally. THIS IS A PART OF LEGISLATION AND MUST BE COMPLETED BY AN ADULT. CHILDREN MUST NOT SIGN IN OR OUT.**

**Remember to confirm your enrolment on MyGov.**



## Koala Room with Nat and Cedella

### Our visits to the Botanical Gardens

With Spring in the air, it has been our focus to enjoy more excursions. We made our way down to the Botanical Gardens last week for the first time, which proved to be very exciting for the children. We watched the ducks and their babies on the water, which provoked some new words and conversations about what sounds the duck's make and how we must be safe and stand back from the water. We also had some time to kick and throw the balls around and visit the playground to extend on some of our large muscle development, balance and confidence.

Exploring the community are a vital part of a child's early education. They expose a child to a range of different experiences and enable them to gain a sense of the world in which they find themselves. Excursions encourage a child to embrace the unfamiliar and often every sense is employed in observing and understanding what they're experiencing. We will continue to make trips to the gardens and ovals around our beautiful Community as our children broaden their understanding of the world in which they live and recognise that they have the right to belong to many communities.



## Possum Room with Demi, Maddy, Emily and Ange

That's a wrap! Parent and Educator meetings are finished - thank you to all the families that came along for a catch up.

We would also like to thank Sophie and Staumn for donating an outdoor table as this will allow us more opportunities for mealtimes outside now that we are coming into the nicer weather.

Maddy, Demi and the children had their first meal on the new table today (25/09/2019). It was such a lovely day we decided to spend as much time outside as we could. We also had a friendly magpie drop in for some garlic bread, "Cheeky Magpie" Archie laughed. Rufus then began giggling, "Magpie, Magpie".



Yesterday (24/09/2019) the entire centre headed down to the oval for a group excursion to celebrate all things Footy with everyone dressed up in their favourite teams' colours. We also had some of the families bring down their children that did not attend that day, which was great. Heather had set up heaps of activities for us, with loads and loads of footballs and other types of balls.





## Kangaroo Room with Sue, Felicity, Lisa, Gemma and Mel

Hello to all families

Spring has sprung! We are all excited to have some warmer days for exploring and learning outside - please remember to pack a sunhat for your child daily.

At this time of year, we return to focusing on supporting each child to strengthen skills learnt so children continue to develop a strong sense of wellbeing.

Wellbeing incorporates both physical and psychological aspects, includes good physical health, feelings of happiness, satisfaction and successful social functioning. A strong sense of wellbeing provides children with confidence and optimism to maximise their learning potential. It encourages the development of children's innate exploratory drive, sense of agency and a desire to interact positively with others.

Wellbeing is correlated with resilience, providing children with the ability to cope with the day to day stress, activities and challenges. Children's developing resilience and their ability to take increasing responsibility for self-help and basic health routines promote a sense of independence and confidence. Physical wellbeing contributes to children's ability to concentrate, co-operate and learn.

We are excited to know we have a booking on the Steam Train for a picnic to Maldon on **Wednesday 13 November**. We invite and encourage any parent of children booked with us on other days of the week to join us with your child on this fantastic group excursion. More information will be available very soon but please see room staff if you have any queries. This is the culmination of the year's interest and visits to the train and children (and educators) are getting very excited about our picnic day and steam train trip.

In the next few weeks we will begin transition visits to the Wombat and Echidna rooms. This is an important part of our programme; our intent is for children to become familiar with educators and the new space they will be in next year. The Information Night will be held on Tuesday 12 November at 5.30pm and our Pre-Kinder Teacher encourages parents to come along to find out all about this next step in your child's education.

Felicity and Sue would like to thank all parents who took the time to come along for a meeting. It was great to catch up with you and we so appreciated the very positive feedback we received from you all. We are, of course, happy to chat to parents any time that you may wish.

We would like to congratulate all the parents and siblings on the arrival of your new babies. We welcome them into our Carinya community and have been enjoying the excitement surrounding these significant events in your children's lives.

Thanks, from the Kangaroo room team!







## Pre-kinder Wombat Room with Heather, Carolyn, Josie and Tarryn

Wombat News September!

During this term it has been lovely to witness an increase in the children's social development; demonstrating greater cooperation during shared play experiences, clearly articulating their thoughts and feelings, as well as demonstrating a greater understanding of others.

The supermarket, café and kitchen play experiences have provided an ideal opportunity for these social interactions. The children have been contributing their ideas and knowledge of their familiar experiences.



Mortar and pestles were added to the kitchen preparation area to experience crushing and blending herbs, spices and fresh produce from the garden. The children combined the ingredients and created a variety of dishes to share; stews, soups, cakes and pastas.

Another popular shared play experience has been creating cubbies. With great enthusiasm and energy, the children have created many cubbies using a variety of materials. Block walls, tables, chairs and lots of fabric. Each building material has provided its own limitations and structural concerns. Many things are being discussed and considered as they create these spaces; the size, strength, stability, safe enough for occupancy and suitable roofing. The thinking and strategies that are put into place assist with the understanding of early engineering concepts, as well as the incredible amount of cooperation and communication that is occurring during the creating phase while enjoying the space together.



We were fortunate to have a Melbourne Museum Dinosaur incursion. We learnt about how dinosaurs lived on our earth many thousands of years ago. We have been discovering how they lived, what they ate, how big they were, all by studying the fossils that have been found in the ground.

We got to see and touch some very big dinosaur bones and measured how long some of the dinosaur's legs were compared to our bodies. Their legs were much longer than our whole bodies.

Just a few reminders about our clothing and hats as we head into Spring. With this changeable weather, the children have many layers of clothing that is being taken on and off throughout the day. **Please label all clothing**, as well as their hats. We have a very large collection of unnamed clothing, that we would really like to return to their owners! At the end of each day could you please check the hooks outside as well as the shelving inside for any items of clothing. Thank you.

Looking forward to some warmer weather and sunshine. It feels like it has been a very long Winter!

Carolyn, Ray, Josie, Tarryn and Heather.





### **Echidna Room – Kristy, Sally and Ray**

Beginning term 4, Sally and I would like to support all the children to work on a small individual project based on any ongoing interests that we have identified over their kinder year. Through a process of assessment, we will guide the children to develop a concept map of what they would like to achieve and encourage the children to draw on the full range of their talents, abilities and strengths. We are hoping the projects will provide some challenge to enable the children to develop some new skills as well.

We feel this is a unique opportunity and we are expecting that children will contribute in their own meaningful way however we need your help to make this happen! As the term begins, we will be putting a call out to families and friends in the community who may be able to share skills and passions and possibly provide a mentoring role.

One theory that will inform part of our assessment process as we work together on the project is Howard Gardner's theory of Multiple Intelligences please click on the link below if you are interested in learning more about this.

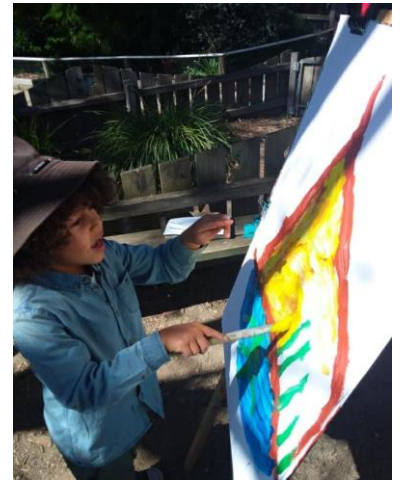
<https://www.verywellmind.com/gardners-theory-of-multiple-intelligences-2795161>

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**Ellery House** – A term 4 opportunity for our youngest and oldest community members.

We have been invited to embark on a fortnightly visit to Ellery House located at Castlemaine Hospital's Aged Care Facility (please see Sarah's newsletter piece for more information). Sarah and Bec met with the coordinators in mid-September and made tentative plans for this exciting addition to our program to begin in the first week of term 4. The program will involve the Tuesday children and a series of different activities that the children engage with alongside members of Ellery House.

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## Looking after ourselves.... and each other!

As we near the end of the year we all can be faced with the added pressure of;

- Financial budgets
- Organising end of year and Christmas celebrations
- Choosing a school or kinder
- Planning holidays and time with extended family members
- Changing relationships

All the current research around mental health tells us that being able to connect with someone and talk is a crucial factor in supporting the wellbeing of *all* members of our community and that includes you!

Anglicare Victoria (based in Bendigo) provide a wealth of family services and support systems for families in our area. One such service is **Child FIRST** providing a central, community-based referral point for a range of family support services designed to support children and families within Victoria (see a list below of some of the support services offered within Bendigo)

As a way to ensure your needs are being heard and met, we have provided the contact details for Anglicare below.

**LOCATIONS:** 10 Mundy Street, Bendigo, VIC 3550

**PHONE:** 03 5440 1100

**LINK:** <https://www.anglicarevic.org.au/contact-us/locations/>

**SERVICES:** (please see the website for the full list):





**CAN YOU PLEASE HELP BY**

# **DONATING TO OUR BOOK BOX?**

**If you have borrowed books from our book box, could you please returned or replaced them? Then we can continue to foster the love of reading in our kids.**

**THANK YOU :)**

## Patsy's After School Care

My After-School Care service operates at Chewton Primary School on a Tuesday and Thursday 3-30pm to 5-30pm in the multi-purpose room.

I am aware of the school structure and how much time the children spend inside the classroom. I focus mainly on physical, communication, relationships and wellbeing of the children during the time my program is running I follow My time My place practises.

During the program we mainly work as a group where the children engage in a wide range of activities and experiences that are of their choice to follow on with their interests and extend on skills and knowledge. All activities and experiences are suitable for each individual child's abilities. We use strong team encouragement throughout the time together to further skills and self esteem confidently when going out of their comfort zone.

A group of the children have been working together to make their very own car track to follow on with their interests within this area. The children have used a range of new and recycled materials to make the track using materials such as paper, cardboard and texters. This project has continued through out the past term and still current. During this project the children have been able to use their creativity skills and communication skills.

I believe that the children having options freely to engage and follow their interests within different areas of learning.



➤ Outdoor arts using chalk.



# Patsy's After School Care



- Providing the children, a quiet reading environment indoors.

- Providing the children, the opportunity to extend their gross motor skills during a group activity of cricket.



- Physical activities outdoors.