

Vale Park Preschool Newsletter

Term 1, week 1

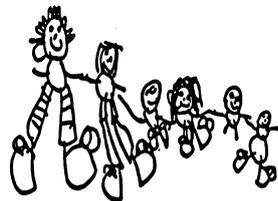
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Diary Dates

Tuesday 7th February

Governing Council Meeting

7pm—8.30 All welcome

Please enter through staff car park

Tuesday and Thursday's

Vale Park Primary School

Library Visit

10.45—11.15

Saturday 11th March

Bunnings BBQ

Tuesday 14th March & Thursday

16th March

Preschool Photo Days

Thursday 13th April

Last day term 1

FEES

Term 1 preschool fees are due at the end of week 4, Friday 23rd of February. Invoices were put in pockets during week 1.

From the Director

Happy New Year

Welcome to the 2017 Preschool year!

We are very excited to be back and have been amazed with how well the children have settled in to our new environment.

They are doing a great job and are starting to make new friends and participate in group experiences.

When you start in a new environment there are so many new things to learn. It is important that children develop a sense of belonging to the preschool. We would like to thank you all for:

- Placing your child's lunch in the lunch trolley/baskets and providing your child with healthy food to eat;
- Providing fruit and vegetables in 2 containers labelled for snack. Children often eat all the snack at the first snack time and therefore are hungry in the afternoon;
- Placing a labelled water bottle in the trolley each morning;
- Bringing and picking up your child at the correct time; (Children become anxious at picking up time when they see other children going home especially during the first few weeks.)
- Signing your child in and out;
- Being patient with educators as they learn about your family.

Educators are often busy at the beginning and end of the session but are very happy to talk to families. If you would like to have a chat about your child please approach an educator who can talk to you then. If you would like a private chat, we can make a time to talk later.

All families will have the opportunity to participate in a sharing meeting towards the end of the term (parent/teacher interviews).

Exit Procedure and Child Safety

To ensure the safety of all children we ask that all parent/caregivers ensure each child is farewelled from the mat by an educator before leaving the mat. If your child has not said goodbye please send them back to the mat to do so.

Please also ensure that only your child leaves the front gate with you and be aware of other children slipping through the doorway or gate.

It is also important for an educator to know if someone else is picking up your child. Inform an educator and also write this information in the diary near the sign in/out form and sign it.

During the first few weeks of the term educators are becoming familiar with family members and may also ask for your name at pick up times.

Thank you for your support to keep all children safe.

Fees Box and Cash Payments

Have you noticed the blue box in the main preschool room? This box is our fees box (if paying by cash) and any money/payments you need to pay can be placed in this box. When paying your fees by cash please show an educator before placing the money in the box, they will document your payment. Write a description of what the payment is for on the front of an envelope (under fees box) and the child's name. Then pop it in the fees box.

The prompt payment of preschool fees support the smooth operation of the preschool. The preschool relies on fees paid by families to run the preschool. If you are experiencing difficulty paying the fees please speak to Sharron.

Illness

You've got what?

This link can be a valuable resource when you have a sick child and are wondering how long to keep your child at home or the incubation period of an illness. The online version of the book we use is www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/youvegotwhat

Preschool Photos

Tuesday 14th and Thursday 16th March

Bruce Hobby will be taking preschool photos. Bruce will take photos of the children engaged in play experiences. He takes time to make the children feel comfortable. The photos will consist of a group photo and a series of photos of your child.

Bruce allows families to buy as many photo's as they want, in colour or black and white. He will come in on two days, which correspond with the children's Attendance pattern. Bruce will arrive about 9am and the group photo will be taken in the morning around 9.45am. If you do not want your child's photo to be taken please speak to an educator.

Vale Park Preschool Library Visits

During the term all children will visit the Vale Park Primary School library.

A group of 22 children will visit the library on Tuesday and Thursday mornings on alternative weeks from week 4. A permission form has been placed in the communication pockets.

We see this as part of the children's transition to school program.

Immunisation Record

Immunisation is a simple, safe and effective way of protecting children and others in the community by reducing the spread of disease. It also helps to protect those who cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons from being exposed to preventable diseases.

With this in mind we currently ask parents to inform us about their child's current immunisation during the enrolment process.

We have been informed by DECD that families with children enrolled in a DECD preschool, are to provide immunisation evidence to their preschool by the end of term 1 2017. Please show an educator your child's immunisation records as soon as possible so that educators can document the information. If your child is not up to date with their immunisations and there is an occurrence of a vaccine preventable disease at the service, then your child will be asked to stay away from the preschool for a period of time, known as an exclusion period. A letter has been attached that provides more Information about this process.

Preschool T- shirts

Some families ordered t-shirts last year. Unfortunately the order has been lost. I have requested that the order be processed as soon as possible. We will contact families as soon as they come in. We hope to have them here by week three.

Preschool Staff

Our preschool team consists of both full time and part time staff.

Director: Sharron Octoman

Teachers: Danielle Francis
Liliana Sabou

ECW: Christine Chambers
Alisa Laden
Livia Williams

Preschool Support: Rasha Tabet, Nazak Tehrani,
Alisa, Christine

Currently Theepha and Qing are supporting children with English as a second language.

Our photos are on the Parent Notice Board (above the sign in/out table)

Can you help?

One of the creative experiences we provide for children involves using wood. This experience invites the children to problem solve and create as well as further developing their motor skills and hand strength required for literacy development. Wood-working also provides an authentic and meaningful way to develop mathematical concepts such as measurement and spatial concepts.

Sunbed Outdoor Products at Windsor Gardens kindly supply us with wood.

We require families to help us by offering to take and collect two small crates.

If you can help can you speak to Danielle or Sharron.

Recycled and Natural Materials

At preschool we use both recycled and natural materials as part of the learning environment. These materials are for the children to discover, discuss, compare, measure, sort, count and make patterns with. They are also used for creative making and designing. All of these experiences support and extend the children's mathematical, scientific, communication and creative skills.

If you have any unwanted materials at home please bring them in. The children will enjoy using them.

Milk , egg and Nut products

At preschool there are children who are anaphylactic when they come into contact with nut, egg and milk products.

We are asking for your support to help us keep all children safe at preschool.

It is important that the children eat fruit/vegetables for snack and have yoghurt/cheese/milk at lunch time. Perishable foods also require a cold pack to keep them at the right temperature for consumption. No nut products please.

Governing Council Meeting

Our first meeting for the term is on Tuesday 9th February at 7pm. Joining the Governing Council provides a special opportunity to be involved in your child's learning and the decision making process of the Preschool. All families are welcome to join. We meet twice a term and will decide when we will meet for the rest of the year at this meeting.

The meeting is held at the front of the preschool and you can enter the building from the staff car park.

Please speak to Sharron if you are interested or require more information.

Family Picture

As a way to continue to develop the children's sense of belonging here at Preschool we invite families to bring in a picture of your family, special person or animal that we can place near our dolls house. Homes and families are the foundation to children's identity, therefore we would like to create the feeling of a family home through the dolls house with images of all of the Vale Park Preschool families.

Celebrations

Celebrations are an important element of our preschool program. They provide an opportunity for children to broaden their understanding of the world and to learn about other cultures and traditions.

Celebrating important cultural events relevant to the children and families attending our preschool contributes to a feeling of belonging and a sense of community.

Would you like to help us celebrate?

If you have any ideas for Chinese New Year or would like to help us celebrate, please speak to Danielle, Liliana or Sharron.

Washing Roster

At the end of each week we have a small bag of washing that requires washing. All families are put on a roster to complete this task once during their time at preschool. We understand that family life can be busy and if this roster does not suit, can you please speak with another parent on the list and swap with them or speak to Alisa. The roster for term 1 is on the noticeboard and will be put in your pocket. Thank you to:

Adedamola & Alana—week 2

Xander & Asher—week 3

Alexis and Ayumi—week 4

Allira & Beau—week 5

Andreina & Cannon—week 6

Annabel & Charlie— week 7