Dear Preschool Families and Caregivers,

Welcome to term 3. We have had a very cold and wet start to the term.

Thank you to all the families who have returned their child’s Learning Folder and provided goals and feedback. We appreciate and encourage you to be involved in your child’s learning. We are still waiting for a few folders to be returned. It would be very helpful if the Folders could be retuned next week, as we would like to finalise and implement your child’s goals and continue adding to the folders.

The outdoor environment continues to be a focus for children’s learning. Our carrots are growing and new plants have been planted in the front garden to attract butterflies (NRM grant). Many small creatures have been found in the garden and the Sand Goanna and caterpillars have been observed and drawn. The trees have been pruned.

Amy and Belinda, two University teaching students are completing a teaching practicum with us this term.

From the Director

Diary Dates

**Monday 8th & Thursday 11th August**
BurnSafe Visit

**Fees Due**
Friday 12th August

**Bunning’s BBQ**
Sunday 14th August
(Windsor Gardens)

**Tuesday 6th & Wednesday 7th September**
CAFHS checks

**Thursday 8th September**
Governing Council Meeting

**Tuesday 13th & Wednesday 14th September**
Vale Park Preschool Olympics

**Thursday 29th September**
Pupil Free Day

FEES

Term 3 fees should be paid by Friday 12th August.

If you are having difficulty paying fees, please speak to Sharron.
Currently we are reviewing a number of policies and are seeking family input. A copy of the policies are displayed on the Parent Information Board. Please read and make comments. If you would like a copy, please speak to an educator who will be happy to copy them for you.

Women’s and Children’s Health Network, through Child and Family Health offers free child health checks at key ages between birth and 5 years. As part of this service, CAFHS nurses visit preschools throughout SA to offer health checks to all children between 4 & 5 years of age. The health check includes a discussion with you about your child’s growth and development, immunisation status and they will also assess your child’s distance vision, hearing, height and weight and oral health. Once a term we have available a number of appointments for our children. These checks take place at the preschool. Appointments for this term will be on Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th of September. This will be the last opportunity to have the Health Checks at the Preschool this year. Notes will be placed in your communication pockets in the next couple of weeks. Please speak with an educator to organise an appointment time. If your child has already had a health check or you do not want an appointment please advise Alisa. We believe these health checks are extremely useful and well worth your time to attend with your child.

We are having our last Bunning’s Sausage Sizzle at the Windsor Gardens Store on Sunday 14th August. You may like to come along and purchase a sausage for your lunch. Money raised from this fundraiser will go towards the development of a frog pond. A very big thank you to all the families who support this event.

The BurnSafe Junior Education Program will be visiting us on Monday the 8th and Thursday the 11th of August at 10:15am. This program is a fun, interactive and free preventive program designed to educate children about the incidence of burn injury. It will also equip children with practical prevention strategies and basic first aid knowledge. Almost every burn injury a young person suffers is preventable and BurnSafe encourages children to be more aware of the incidence of burn injury, its major causes and how they can reduce the risk of suffering a burn injury. The children will engage with puppets, practice the steps of "stop, cover, drop & roll" to extinguish a clothing fire and learn a song about first aid. If you do not want your child to participate, can you please speak to an educator before the visit.

Vale Park Preschool will hold their own Olympics on Tuesday the 13th and Wednesday the 14th of September. Please keep this date free in your diary. We would like to include games from a variety of cultures. If you have any suggestions please speak to an educator.

At the end of each week we have a small bag of items 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 please speak with another parent on the list and swap with them or speak to a staff member. The roster for term 3 is on the notice board and will be put in your pocket.

Thank you to:
Gabriel Arevalto W1    Jimmy Griffiths W6
Harry Hendry W2        Kaia Weeks W7
Hiroto Minami W3       Kiara Shah Ruby Lynch W8
Isabella Henry W4      Kobe Tran & Sammi Rehn W9
Jake Lyon W5           Violet Reuter, William Rule W10

End of term washing: Yara Tabet, Yassin Sayed Ahmed, Yohan Llantada
Throughout the curriculum there are two themes:

We all have a right to be safe

We can help ourselves to be safe by talking to the people we trust

During term one, the curriculum focused on the topics of ‘The right to be safe (feelings, exploring the concepts of safe and unsafe, warning signs)’ and ‘Relationships (identity and relationships, fair and unfair, trust and networks)’. This term there will also be a focus on the Child Protection Curriculum and the topics that will be covered are ‘Recognising and reporting abuse (parts of the body, touching, recognising abuse, secrets)’ and ‘Protective strategies (strategies for keeping safe)’.

Focus area 3: Recognising and reporting abuse

Children have the right to be safe from all forms of abuse – physical, emotional, sexual and neglect.

Topic 1: Parts of the body

At this stage of development children are becoming purposeful and effective users of language for communication. They are playing with and experimenting with new words and demonstrating confidence in expressing ideas, thoughts and feelings, and asserting their rights. They are listening attentively, seeking information and clarifying understanding. It is important for children to learn a shared anatomical vocabulary in relation to parts of their body. At preschool we will be naming the parts of the body using correct anatomical terms and using the words, ‘private parts’ to describe the different parts of the body for boys and girls. Children will be taught that their whole body is private.

Topic 2: Touching

Children will be taught that they have rights regarding their body, the right not to be touched. For medical and safety reasons, they may allow an adult to touch them. Some people we can hug, others we might shake hands with or say hello to and some people we don’t touch. Children need to be taught how to recognise the difference between appropriate and inappropriate touching.

Topic 3: Recognising abuse

Most abuse is perpetrated by those known to the child. The children will explore safety within the context of both strangers and those known to them.

Familiar stories and scenarios relevant to four to five year olds will be discussed to elicit responses about feelings, thoughts and behaviours. There will be a focus on what a child could do.

Topic 4: Secrets

Children are vulnerable to abuse and neglect because it is usually perpetrated in a climate of secrecy. It is important for children to distinguish between a safe secret (surprise birthday present) and an unsafe secret (inappropriate touching). If children are unsure if a secret is safe or unsafe they should check with a trusted adult. There is no secret that cannot be told to a trusted adult.

Scenarios that may be discussed using toys or puppets include:

- A sister tells you not to tell mum about her birthday present.
- Someone takes food or a toy out of another child’s bag and tells them not to say anything to an adult.

Focus area 4: Protective strategies

While adults have a responsibility to protect children, children can also help to keep themselves safe. Protective strategies such as persisting with telling an adult they trust when they are not feeling safe is emphasised. Children are encouraged to be assertive and persistent and use networks. These are life skills.