
This term we have started sponsoring through Compassion Australia a little girl called Akoua. She is 4 years old and comes from Togo, a country in West Africa. We are extending this to an overall focus on Africa which will include activities, discussions on animals, food and culture to become aware of similarities and differences between people and communities. As part of this we will provide activities/experiences where children will develop their sense of identity eg respect diversity and explore different identities and points of view in dramatic play.

Our program for the term is on the noticeboard and you have all received one. On the back is a photo of Akoua. We will be writing to her and sending photos to introduce ourselves. The children are talking about what they could send her and what to tell her about Tumby Bay. They are very excited to be part of Akoua’s life.

EXCURSION
On Tuesday 7th June we are going to the Gymnastics Centre in Port Lincoln and then to the bike track at the Port Lincoln Children’s Centre. Please treat it like a normal Kindy day and send fruit, lunch and snack as usual. Cost will be $7.00. Please pay ASAP if you child will be coming so we can finalise numbers.

CLEANING KINDY TOYS
Would anyone be able to come in for an hour or so and clean/wash some of our toys? eg Lego, construction, home corner toys, wipe puzzles. Would be much appreciated.

CLOSURE IN JULY
Due to the extension of the Rural Care room and Asbestos removal from the whole building DECS requires the centre to close for the July school holidays plus the first week of term 3. The first day back to Kindy will be Tuesday the 2nd August.

UNIVERSAL ACCESS
Due to new Licensing Regulations we need to sell some equipment that is too high. We have put notices around town. We plan to buy more equipment that meets standards with money from the sale. If you know of anyone who may be interested please let them know - make an offer - prices quoted are negotiable.

National Quality Framework
We put in place national standards to ensure high quality early childhood education across Australia. It will set a new National Quality Standard that services will be assessed against. Info sheets for families on noticeboard. Also website www.deews.gov.au

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Equipment for Sale
We will be implementing Universal Access where all 4 year olds children have access to 15 hours of preschool before starting school at the beginning of Term 3. Our first week of term will be Tuesday 2nd August. So from then on the session times will be: Tuesday - 8.45 - 3.00 Wednesday -12.30 - 3.00 Thursday - 8.45 - 3.00
Are your children getting enough sleep?

Sleep is something our bodies need to do to function normally. It is important because it maximises brain growth and prepares children to learn tomorrow.

Toddlers (ages 1-3) and Preschoolers need about 10-12 hours sleep and it is very important to help children develop good habits for getting to sleep.

Establishing a bedtime routine helps children relax and get ready for sleep. Here are a few suggestions to establish that routine.

- A winding down routine during the half hour before bedtime—eg. Reading a story, cleaning teeth, no TV
- Stick to a bedtime, alerting your child both half an hour and 10 minutes before
- Set fixed times for going to bed
- Keep consistent mealtimes
- Make the bedroom quiet, cosy and dark
- Keep bedrooms for sleep and not TV

Sleep is very important to a child's wellbeing. A lack of sleep can have a negative effect on children's behaviour and interfere with their learning, daily routine and social relationships.

Sleep is something our bodies need to do—it is not an option.

Help your child to be healthier, learn better and enjoy life by ensuring they are getting at least 9-10 hours sleep a night.

For more information—www.parentingideas.com.au

Phonological Awareness Project

Emergent literacy skills are the best building blocks for learning to read and write. Our curriculum provides learning experiences to develop your child’s skills through oral language, phonological awareness and print knowledge.

From the beginning of this term we are going to be involved in a Phonological Awareness Literacy Project in the Eyre and Western Region. This will involve training to examine and screen phonological skills. We will then develop experiences to extend our teaching of phonological awareness in our program.

Phonological Awareness is the strongest predictor of children's future reading and spelling abilities and therefore must be a major focus. It is the understanding of different ways that oral language can be broken down - sentences back down to words - words back down into sounds.

Activities include
- clap out syllables eg. in child's name - how many beats?
- talk about rhyming words in stories, games - what rhymes, what doesn't
- beginning sounds of words - eg. children's names - what else starts with......?

We have a resource book called “ABC & Beyond” which gives examples of ways to promote literacy skills that you can easily do at home. Come and have a look.