

GUMNUT GROVE



Childcare Centre

Volume 10, Issue 2 February 2016

Director's Report



Director's Report-
Page 1

Caterpillar News

Butterfly News

Clare's Recipe

Belonging, Becoming
and Being- All children
experience learning that
is engaging and builds
success for life.

Welcome to our February newsletter, well the children are all nicely settled now and into our routines for the year!

Thank you to all those families who have taken a box of chocolates to support this fundraiser. Our fundraising is going towards the upgrading of our very tired kitchen, we are applying for some grants and hopefully have some big fundraising events in mind for this year. Our Kitchen needs a revamp as the building is over 30 years old, so this year we are focusing on raising funds to support this renovation. Hopefully in the coming weeks I will have some dates to keep available for our fun and exciting events.

We have already had some fun events for the year including celebrating red love day, Australia Day and Chinese new year. We also have some exciting events planned for the rest of the year, so keep an eye out for these. Our next events will be St Patrick's day green day on Thursday 17th March and our Easter hat parade will be held on Thursday 24th March, more details to come.

Kind Regards

Meghan Pratt

Caterpillar News – February

What new in the Caterpillar Room?

Wow, what a start to the year. It has been so lovely seeing familiar faces as well as new faces within our room this year. January and February have been a busy two months for us settling in new children. We have spent this time forming new relationships and getting to know each other within the Caterpillar room. Our new friends have settled in well and so far enjoy the environment we have created for them. Over the next few months we will continue to settle children and get to know each one as they spend more time with us.

We have been busy decorating the room, as the beginning of the year we start with a blank canvas. We have enjoyed brush painting, finger painting, stamping and cotton bud painting. We love art and craft and aim to do a different activity each week. Watch as our room is transformed into our own little home here at Gumnut.

We have many different ages amongst us here in the Caterpillar room and it is so lovely to see the older children reaching out to the younger ones within the room. We have seen some beautiful friendships formed already. This is one of the many wonderful things we get to see.

We have been providing the children with a simple program since January to assist with children who are new to our environment ensuring they have consistency on arrival. As we have not changed many activities though out the room, next month we are welcoming some changes as well as any input from families. We are looking forward to working with families to introduce activities that are stimulating and interesting for your child/ren.

Reminders:

Please don't forget to bring in a hat for your child as it is still very sunny and hot.

Please remind the staff each morning on information regarding your child such as bottle times, sleep times and general wellbeing. This helps us to provide the best possible day for your child,

If your child has had Panadol within the last 12-24 hours it is important that you let the staff know.

Please label ALL items. Clothes, hats, dummies, bottles, sheets ext. Staff at Gumnut always endeavour to return items but it can get quite confusing for busy staff without identification.

Plases remember to provide your child with 1 nappy a day

If your child is under 12 months old bottles must be taken home to be properly washed, bottles left at the centre of a child older than 12months will be put through the dishwasher, but we do not provide any other cleaning facilities.



Butterfly News

Welcome to our Butterfly news, we would like to welcome all our new friends to our room, the children who transitioned from the Caterpillar Room to the Butterfly Room have settled in so well, and our new friends to Gumnut Grove have also settled well into our room.

In our room we have celebrated Valentines day in a red way, the children also got to decorate heart biscuits and we have also celebrated Chinese New year with the children and we got to experience eating sang chow bow and fried rice which was a huge hit with the children and will appear on our menu again. The children enjoyed learning about the Chinese culture and painting dragons and monkeys for the year of the monkey.

In our curriculum we have been doing lots of sensory experiences in which the children have been loving! Sensory activities provide children with another meaningful avenue for learning. Sensory tables or several tubs rotated regularly with wondrous sensory materials are worthwhile investments for hours of learning, exploring, and fun. Because children learn best by having "hands on" experiences with materials, sensory experiences are vital to young children's learning. Some of our sensory experiences include mud play outside with water and sand this has been a huge hit with the use of recyclable materials including pipes etc.

For those parents who have not realised we have a art folder box in the staff trolley and every child has an art folder with their name on it, so when the paintings/ craft are dry staff either hang up art work or we place inside the tub, please feel free to have a look and see if your child has any art work to go home.

The children who attend Gumnut Grove on a Monday this term are lucky to participate in music with Margaret, the children love the variety of songs and instruments she brings to the centre. During this music session there is lots of dancing and singing. The children love to play the drums, bells, tambourines and tapping sticks.

The children are loving our room, in particular the home corner area where there is loads of role play emerging, encouraging social relationships and communication amongst the children. The jungle has also been very popular with the children creative and imaginative play emerging. The book area has also been very popular with the children showing a love for books, this is a quiet cosy area where 1 or 2 children can enjoy some quiet time and share some stories.

The children are also enjoying our daily music program and our language group sessions, these are developing children's concentration spans, a love for learning and stories and promoting concepts including counting, colours etc.

Till next time.....

Meghan, Deb, Carlie, Jill and Ash



Attached is 2 recipes that have been requested from families, if you notice your child really loves a recipe please do not hesitate to ask us, we are more than happy to give to you or place in the newsletter.

Meat Balls in Tomato sauce

Ingredients

500gms Fine Mince
1 Large Onion- finely Chopped or 1 teaspoon onion flakes
¼ cup Bread Crumbs
1 egg
1 teaspoon sugar
½ teaspoon salt
Pinch of mixed herbs
1 Large can (Big Red) Tomato soup
1 teaspoon oregano



shutterstock · 165902708

Method

Make meatballs by combining mince, onion, breadcrumbs, egg, sugar, salt and mixed herbs. When the ingredients are combined roll the mixture into balls and place in a casserole dish. Pour over soup and sprinkle with oregano. Cover and cook in a moderate oven for 1 ½ hours. Serve with vegetable pasta.
Enjoy.

Chicken layer Bake

Ingredients-

1 Dessertspoon butter
3 Dessertspoon P. Flour
1 litre milk
1 Dessertspoon chicken stock
1 Cold chicken
½ medium onion- diced finely
1 Tsp Parsley
Risoni (a type of pasta)
Tasty grated cheese

Method:-

Make white sauce with butter, flour and milk. Add chicken stock. Break the cold chicken up into small skinless pieces. Add chicken, parsley and onion to the white sauce and stir. Pour into a casserole dish. Sprinkle with Risoni and tasty cheese. Cook in Moderate oven.

