



Preschool and Rural Care Newsletter

Week 6 Term 2

Dear parents,

What a busy start to the term we've had. Firstly, we welcome our new students Brooklyn and Arya to our kindergarten. We hope that you and your family have settled in nicely to the Cummins community. I'd also like to welcome our newest staff member to the team, Tayla Fergusson. Tayla has been working as part of our rural care staff on Mondays and Fridays. We are delighted to have her with us in the preschool setting also.

Last week, we enjoyed an excursion to see 'The Gruffalo' live on stage. The show, along with the bus ride was hugely enjoyed by all. Thank you to parents who volunteered to join us to help with supervision.

This term in numeracy we will be exploring the numeracy indicator 'I explore and understand my place and space in the world' and looking at the learning process of patterning. The children have been busy creating patterns with a variety of objects, including themselves!

In Literacy, we will continue our work on emergent literacy, the skills children possess in regards to literacy before they can read and write. A main focus of this literacy learning for us has been 'The Gruffalo.' Our next text we have begun working with is 'Monkey Puzzle,' also written by Julia Donaldson. I have attached some information to this newsletter about how you can support your child's oral language skills, which is a focus of our Quality Improvement Plan (QIP)

A few changes to be aware of or reminders for this term include:

- ☺ Hats are no longer required this term, if the UV index is below 3. Please continue to supply a hat in your child's bag for those occasional very sunny days.
- ☺ A reminder that nuts and nut products should not be supplied in lunch boxes, as stated in our allergy and anaphylaxis management policy.
- ☺ Please discourage children from bringing home toys in to kindy. These often get lost and broken, causing great distress to children, For this reason, we ask no toys be brought from home.
- ☺ To further support literacy learning at home, we have introduced take home literacy packs. They are located in the cupboard near the fridge. Packs can be taken home for a two week period. Please record details in the folder provided.
- ☺ Afternoon tea is no longer a set time to sit and eat as a group. This allows more time for unstructured play during the day. We check that all children have an opportunity to eat if they would like to. If you notice your child is hungry when they get home and you'd like us to ensure your child eats their afternoon snack, please let us know.
- ☺ Don't forget the latest parent committee fundraiser, 'picture plates.' See the advertisement on the next page for more information.

If you ever have any questions, queries or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me either in person or via email - sarah.wohling887@schools.sa.edu.au

Kind regards,

Sarah

Cummins Kindy Memorabilia Picture Plates & Mugs FUNDRAISER



Picture plates \$28

Plastic/ceramic Mugs \$20

Templates available from Cummins Area Preschool & Rural Care or CAS front office

CASH or EFT payments: Cummins Area School, BSB: 633 000, Acc No 112 105 770- use Reference "plate and surname"
Please return completed templates and full payments to preschool & rural care, or front office, by wk1 term 3 Thursday 25th July

Any queries please contact Hayley 0438466099 Or Nichole 0421747757

parent
direct
TOY FUNDRAISER

after 26 years, parent direct is sadly closing its doors on June 30. if you're taking advantage of their great sale, don't forget to select cummins preschool at the checkout.

this has been a great fundraiser for the preschool parent committee over the years, with a % of money from your orders being able to buy us quality teaching resources.

www.parentdirect.com.au

Quality Improvement Plan

Every year as part of the National Quality Standards, the preschool and rural care staff are required to complete a Quality Improvement Plan (QIP). This is a working document which highlights areas we would like to improve in our site. The standards we have chosen to address this year are:

- 1.3.2 Critical reflection - Critical reflection on children's learning and development, both as individuals and in groups, drives program planning and implementation
- 3.1.1 Fit for purpose - Outdoor and indoor spaces, buildings, fixtures and fittings are suitable for their purpose, including supporting the access of every child.
- 4.2.1 Professional collaboration - Management, educators and staff work with mutual respect and collaboratively, and challenge and learn from each other, recognising each other's strengths and skills.
- 4.2.2 Professional standards - Professional standards guide practice, interactions and relationships.
- 7.1.2 Management systems - Systems are in place to manage risk and enable the effective management and operation of a quality service.
- 7.2.2 Educational leadership - The educational leader is supported and leads the development and implementation of the educational program and assessment and planning cycle.

If you have any questions about our QIP or have any ideas you would like to add, please feel free to discuss this with Sarah. The QIP belongs to all members of the preschool/rural care community, and we encourage your input in our progress in these areas.

RURAL CARE:

After having several weeks exploring different occupations at Rural Care we have now been looking at Winter activities. This will be our focus theme for the next few weeks. We will be singing lots of rainy day songs, I hear Thunder, Rain is Falling Down, Incy Wincy Spider & still having fun with The Skeleton Dance. We are also learning Miss Mary Mack which is a rhyming hand game that we are getting very clever at.

We have been lucky enough to have Kathy Montgomerie from Dutton Bay be on our relief staff during this time of coughs and colds, so staff are able to stay home to recover.

We had great fun making our Mother's Day biscuits and icing them, hopefully some of you got to taste them.

We continue to have Gemma Darling with us on Wednesday's while she completes her Certificate 3 through her schooling.

We have also set ourselves bit of a challenge to read at least three books per session to encourage both staff and students to interact and enjoy more 'book' time. This has been very successful with staff trying to maintain their book reading pace while showing a competitive streak amongst us.

Hopefully term 2 is action packed for all of us, as we continue to educate and enjoy your children.

Caro and the Rural Care Team

QIP continued

As well as our Quality Improvement plan, we also have Literacy goals that are included as an addendum to our QIP. Our Literacy goals this year are

- To increase children's oral language skills, in particular, oral comprehension.
- To consolidate children's phonological awareness skills in the Preschool domains as well as increase skills in the early reception domains

We have engaged in a number of Professional Development sessions to further our knowledge in these areas. We are also working closely with our Speech Pathologist to assist us to deliver a high quality Literacy program.

Play group

Play group runs every Friday from 10am-12pm at the Cummins Preschool. Let your children socialise and play while you connect with other parents. All are welcome.



HOW TO CONTACT US...



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Rural Care is open 8am-6pm Monday-Friday.

Preschool is every Tuesday, Thursday and Wednesday (Weeks 3, 6 & 9)



Facebook Pages

Cummins Preschool and Rural Care

Cummins Rural Care (closed group)