



## Hi Everyone & welcome to all of our new families

We are now in the second half of the year and working towards implementing goals and a new routine.

We are encouraging children with regards to respect for;

- Resources
- Environment
- Peers and Educators
- Themselves



We are also fostering independence through teaching responsibility, children are being encouraged to be responsible for;

- Looking after their own belongings (kept under the sign in bench or in their bags).
- Packing up when finished an activity.
- Conflict Resolution - we support children to find their own solutions to conflict where appropriate.

You may have noticed that the Kindy Room is looking more sparse, this is an intentional move towards creating an uncluttered space which allows children to make choices.

We have a making table with recycled materials, masking tape and glue which is proving incredibly popular, this encourages children to use their imagination and improves their fine motor skills.

A writing/drawing table is also permanently set up in the room, this table is next to a supply trolley from which children are encouraged to gather their own paper, collage materials and glue sticks. There will be a constant review of "tools" provided such as pencils, coloured pencils, textas, white boards. Letters and numbers are laminated as a provocations to support interest in mark making and writing. Children's names will also be available to support name recognition and if they wish to, to start writing their name.

We set up a home corner based on children's interests in conjunction with the fortnightly program, this could include construction, family, doctor's surgery, insects and more.

We change our resources regularly, but keep our main areas in the same place to provide familiarity.

The empty spaces in our room allows mat space for group time, a place for doing puzzles and building with construction sets, empty tables are filled with supervised activities such as playdough, light tables, colour sorting and literacy games. Children enjoy making the choices about what we will add to the environment daily.

If you have any questions after reading the newsletter please don't hesitate to speak to any one of us. Many thanks

### Kindy Program

In September we will be introducing a more formal Kindy program from 9am-3pm, we will still be focused on child led learning through play, however we will be concentrating on intentional teaching through group time and small group interactions, this will help us concentrate on individual's interests and developmental needs. For more information on what is "intentional teaching" please read the Kindy info board on the hallway

It is important to get your children to Toybox by 9am if you wish to fully participate in the program as we will have a morning group time to talk about the day ahead. You may wish to discuss with your child the routine each morning. There will be a visual routine available in the room.

This new routine will be introduced to the children soon to start preparing them for the change, we will discuss the changes at group time and provide a visual routine to help with the transition.



### 2017 Kindy Room Staff

**Rachel Fuller**

**Rachael McDonald**

**Alexandra Roberts**

**Georgiana Penfold**

We are regularly supported by staff within the centre who are familiar with the room and children.

Rachel will be on placement for Uni from 4 Sep for 3 weeks. In this time Chantelle will be covering in the Kindy room 5 days a week.

#### Staffing Levels

The number of children in the Kindy room has been steadily increasing as children continue to graduate from the Toddler room. We will now have 3 staff most days.

3 Days a week we will have 4 staff due to IDF. IDF helps us to provide support to children with additional needs to integrate into the class. If you would like more information on IDF please see staff.

You will also notice a board identifying the staff and their rostered shift times. This is another source of information to help your child transition and for you to be fully aware of what staffing is like for the day.

## Documentation Changes

### Documentation

Our Kindy program runs fortnightly and is based on children's emerging interests and needs, we extend on children's interest through group times, small group activities and through the set up indoors and outdoors.

We will be starting to send home Individual progress reports, these will happen in a cyclic fashion and will include a brief summary on your child's year at Toybox so far, this aims to deliver feedback to families on a more regular basis. At this stage we are aiming to send these home at the end of each term. The "school holiday" allows staff some time to reorganise and plan for the next term. Even though we open all year round (closed at Christmas for 2 weeks), the school terms do affect the way we run and the attendances of children. Therefore we are using them as a source of guidance and opportunity to evaluate before the new term.

### Artwork

As a centre we are working towards sending children's artwork and creations home on a regular basis, This allows children to engage in meaningful discussions about their work while fresh in their minds



### Labelling Belongings

We have recently had a big clean out of lost property as seen in the front foyer—all of this had no name, please ensure all belongings are named in order for it to be returned to the correct person.

If belongings are not named staff will label them.



### Bag Tags

Next month we will be removing the current name tags and replacing them with the same bag tags used in the Nursery and toddler rooms, this move supports continuity and sustainability.

It is important to encourage name recognition, children do this daily by identifying their own water bottles and lunchboxes and children's names will be on display above the writing table inside the Kindy room.



### Parent Information Board

We have created a parent information board on the wall outside the Kindy Room, it is important to take note of this board as we use it to communicate our fortnightly programs and interests with you.

We like to include stories and songs we are learning, construction sets we have in our room, areas of interest, materials wanted and more.



### Summertime:

Starting on the 1st of September our sun smart policy begins. We apply sun cream and wear hats whenever outside. During the hottest time of the day if the UV rating is above 11 we will stay under shaded areas or inside at that time. If you can apply sun cream to your child in the morning at home or when you arrive that would be greatly appreciated.

Toybox will supply sun cream and re-apply during the day. If you wish to supply your own for sensitive skin or preferred brand etc. please bring in labelled and we will use that instead.

Can you please supply your own sun hats. They need to be Bucket hat— Broad brimmed or legionnaire style (Like a cap but with coverage at the back of neck and sides) also having names clearly visible.

Any cords will need to be removed for safety reasons. Hats can stay at center during the week and take home for washing at the end.

Water play is a big part of summer so please remember to have plenty of spare clothes.

