



# Toybox News

May 2022



Welcome to all Toybox Families,

We are nearly half way through the year if you can believe that!

Some housekeeping for all families attending the centre.

Could families be mindful of shutting doors behind them carefully, we have some children that like to roam if doors are open. If you have other siblings that come into the building at drop off and pick up times, please be mindful that they are under your supervision whilst in the centre at all times, they should not be opening doors or gates around smaller children.

A reminder about Maternity Leave, if you are on Maternity Leave you will be required to drop back to one day a week, unless we have a particular need for a certain day, it will be your choice which day you keep. On return from Maternity Leave your child's original booked days will be reinstated. You may book casual days whilst on Maternity Leave providing we have openings. Be mindful of your Subsidy allowances as this may change whilst you are on Mat Leave, individual circumstances will be different, you may need to contact Centrelink for clarification.

And just a quick note on vacancies.

We have an extensive wait list for not only currently attending children wanting extra days or to swap days, or siblings waiting to get in, but new families trying to access care for the first time. Our wait time is approximately 2 years, we do our best to accommodate families, but this is not always possible. It is strongly recommended to have a back up plan for care, as unavailability of bookings may cause distress to families.

Also BIG thanks for families that helped out again with Covid staff absences., Mel Retsas

## Admin Updates:

Some EOFY reminders, Most families confirmed their **2019–20** income before the first deadline on 30 June 2021. Families who haven't confirmed their 2019–20 income must do so by 30 June 2022. If they don't, they may need to pay back all the CCS they got for 2019–20. They will also lose their CCS and Additional Child Care Subsidy (ACCS) eligibility from the first CCS fortnight of the 2022–23 financial year. **2020–21 financial year**, All families must confirm their 2020–21 income before the first deadline on 30 June 2022. If they don't, **their CCS WILL STOP**. This means they'll need to pay full fees when they use child care. Please go to your myGov account to do this.

**July School Holidays** are fast approaching please organise your holding fees or extra care required by 24th June.

Any children starting Kindy at Navigators or St Joes for the Term 3 takeup, can you please let me know if you need to cancel care or drop days, 2 weeks notice is required for cancellation of care.

## Correspondence App

Due to many requests by families about using an app for updates of their children throughout the day, we will be starting to use the Spike system, this is the same system we use for billing. Please follow this guide if you would like to participate:

Access to our childcare app is available at <https://toybox.spike.economicoutlook.net/clients/> You can sign in using your email address and pin code, if you don't know your pin code the password can be changed at the sign in prompt. (Email address must be the same as you provided on your Enrolment)

We were hoping to roll this out in July, but as we have had some staffing shortages this may be pushed back a little as we haven't had time to train staff, but if everyone could download the app it will be a start.

Thanks, Laura Langley

## CENTRE EVENTS:

**6-10th June**

Cake week

**Tuesday 21st June**

Meditation Day

**3rd—10th July**

NAIDOC Week

**Thursday 21st**

**July**

"CRAZY" hair day

**20th—26th August**

Book Week—  
"Dreaming with eyes open"



## Christmas Closure Dates for 2022:

Last Day: Friday 23rd December 2022

Reopen: Monday 9th January 2023



# Nursery Room



In the nursery room we have welcomed Maddi and Ashlee. They have enjoyed getting to know the children and their routines.

The shared yard outside with the toddlers has been working well. The nursery children seem to really enjoy the shared space, especially those children with older siblings in the toddler room.

There has been a lot of new babies welcomed into the nursery room. The nursery educators have enjoyed building relationships and helping these children settle in with the room and routine.

The nursery children have been showing a big interest in building different types of blocks, and of course knocking them back down! They have been enjoying the obstacle course and ballpit. We will continue to focus on building our gross motor skills in the nursery room.



Please label belongings so that we know who they belong to.



# Toddler



We welcome Greice De Castro as our new Team Leader in the Toddler room, Greice has a lot of experience and was previously biology teacher in Brazil. Greice is very interested in the natural world—she is planning many science experiments and is looking forward to encouraging the children’s interests in bugs. We were lucky enough to have a tank full of amazing stick insects donated to Toybox and children from all rooms have been fascinated with watching the stick insects moving around in the tank—some children have even been brave enough to let the insects walk on them.



The Toddler room learning focus is on self regulation and self help skills—our children are showing us how truly capable they are as they explore their independence. They have been practicing scraping their own plates after meals, and are being responsible with their belongings.

Please pack spare warm clothes



## Educational Leader – Leah Stuart - Douglas

f  
v



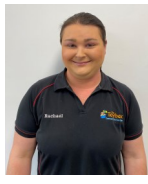
What an exciting few months we have had at the centre! We wound up our multicultural events from the earlier part of the year with a celebration “awesomeness day” where we celebrated everyone’s individual awesomeness.

In May we had our “Starry Starry Night” event – it was a fantastic event –thankyou to our wonderful staff for contributing their time and effort to make this evening such a success. I appreciate our caring and generous Toybox families and local businesses who donated much needed funds for a worthy cause.

We have also had a visit from the AFLW CROWS team members-,it was exciting to show Sarah Allan and Anne Hatchard our little footy oval out the back and to have a few kicks with professionals. This was the Crow’s first venture into a child care centre and the Crow’s girls loved our centre and our footy oval – they have assured us they will be back – we look forward to this – GO CROW’S!!!

Room staff are changing, and we will work through the transition time as the new team members make connections with families.





# Over 3's



**PRE-KINDY** Wow! It's the first half of the year already. Time flies when you're having fun. Welcome Chris, Brie and Rach to the Pre-Kindy room. We are doing lots of fun activities and experiences that we are excited to share with you in the Pre-Kindy room.

In our Science area, we had been growing different vegetable seeds for our garden and created a snail habitat and animal bones display. We had lots of curious minds so we always love science experiments like mixing colours, making potions or perfumes and exploring our senses.

Everyone in the room loves dressing up, building and playing with dolls. A few of the children have been interested in animals, shopkeepers and camping so we created an Ice cream shop, campground and a Vet clinic, it was a popular pretend play.

We also participated in real-life experiences like making scones and biscuits. Our Pre-K's are always full of energy so we spent a lot of time outdoors engaged in physical

play. Nature play, gardening, looking for bugs or making a volcano in the sandpit. Our focus these coming months: **Winter activities-** Fire safety for campfire-, Animals in the Artic, Letter of the week, More Science Experiments & Gardening



**Outdoor Gear Reminder:**  
The weather has been unpredictable. Now that winter is fast approaching please make sure your child is prepared for all weather types as we will strive to get outside each day. Belongings to be labelled please.



**KINDY ROOM** -I would like to welcome Mya, as new member of the team in the Kindy Room, joining Barbie (ECT), Chris and Cheyanne.

The theme in the Kindy Room is Space and the children have been learning about the names of the planets, facts about space, sharing their knowledge about space, and using their fine motor skills to make artwork and displays in the room. Our favourite space books are called "The Dinosaur that Pooped a Planet", and "Life on Mars".

The children are keen to learn about space and we will continue to learn and build our knowledge about the planets in our solar system, the moon landing, patterns in our night sky – the stars, life on our planet, the cultural significance of stars to the Indigenous Australians – the Aboriginal and Torres Strait people, space themed Yoga, and conducting science experiments that are space themed, such as launching a rocket.

We have introduced sign language to our morning roll call routine, by using our hands to sign Good Morning, to be inclusive to all children in the Kindy Room. Our morning routine also involves the children singing and clicking along to the "Days of the Week" song to the tune of the Addams Family and changing our daily calendar and weather chart. We have been promoting working together in small groups, being a good listener, being a good friend, making good play choices, using good manners, using good hygiene practices, being respectful of our classroom environment, and we have been revisiting our classroom rules and expectations.

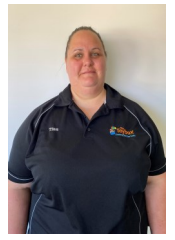


Welcome back Stacey and welcome to Brie our new relief worker



## FOOD NEWS-TINA EDMONDS-CHEF

Our weekly menu is displayed on the Toy-box sign. Tina has enjoyed working with various staff on our Starry Night menu and always welcomes any feedback or menu suggestions from parents.



### Toybox Contact Details

Admin: [admin@toyboxccc.com.au](mailto:admin@toyboxccc.com.au)

Director: [director@toyboxccc.com.au](mailto:director@toyboxccc.com.au)

### Toybox Mobile Number **0455 117 947**

For emergencies only, we will not monitor unless our phone lines are down.



# Centre Events and Community Days

February 1st—28th —Multicultural Focus \* March 3rd—World Wildlife Day \* March 10th Awesomness Day \* March 14th—18th Art Week \* March 21st—Happiness Day \* April 4th—8th April 18th—25th Anzac Commemoration \* May 6th Starry Starry Night \* May 12th AWFL Crows visit.



Our Starry Starry Night— fundraiser raised \$4808.05 for homeless youth who live on the Eyre Peninsula.  
Children painted art works for sale and families contributed goods for the auction.  
Thankyou to all staff and families for your contributions.



Over 3's met AWFL Crow's premiership players Sarah Allen and Annie Hatchard

