Centre Update from Catriona

Governing Council

Family Excursion to Cleland Wild Life Park

We all met at Cleland at 9.30 am as the wildlife park opened and we were placed into two teams. The first stop was the Tasmanian devils, and he came out to greet us which was great. We then went onto see the emus and kangaroos, the children were able to feed some of the Kangaroos and pat them, they were very soft and fairly friendly. We walked around the water bird area and were able to observe the Moor hens, ducks, swans and Pelicans. At 11am we were able to stop for a pat of the koalas, the children really loved this as they were so cuddly and soft.

The education session was great and very interesting for the children. They were able to pat and feel a possum, a snake, a bearded dragon lizard and observe a black cockatoo up close. The children all tried to slither around on the ground like a snake and found it very hard to do without using their arms and legs!

We had lunch under shelter as it was raining and then we were off again to see the dingo’s, echidna’s and wombats. Overall it was a great excursion providing lots of fun experiences for the children and another opportunity for parents to spend time with other parents from kindy. I would definitely recommend repeating the excursion next year.

Tori Page Governing Council Chairperson.

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

Thank you to all those parents and staff who were able to brave the weather on Anzac day and support the Sausage Sizzle Stall at Bunnings Kent Town. We have made a profit of $735.00.

PUPIL FREE DAY NOTIFICATION

Each year the kindergarten is able to have two PUPIL FREE DAYS to enable staff to work on DECD initiatives or attend other professional training sessions. The Kindergarten will be closed on Thursday May 21 as the staff work on at DECD initiative of Literacy and Numeracy indicators.

Term 2 Curriculum

This term we are having a major focus on the ARTS. Our excursions to the SA Art Gallery will introduce the children to many wonderful and exciting forms of art. We will then be following through by giving the children opportunities to explore similar mediums at kindy. Our explorations of the arts and our learning will be celebrated with an ART SHOW which will be held on Friday 12th June from 5.30pm to 7.30pm. Your child will have a canvas on show and there will be many other art forms to admire. There will be a sausage sizzle, jazz music, wine and cheese, great company and MAGNIFICENT ART. Parents, siblings, grandparents and other family friends are welcome to attend on the evening. During the coming weeks we will also be working on group canvas’s with the children which will be auctioned on the evening at 6.30pm. This night is a highlight in your child’s time at kindy as well as giving you the opportunity to meet other parents in a relaxed and informal way. This is the major fundraiser for the year so if you
Please let me know as soon as possible. In your child’s notice pocket is a consent form for you to return to allow your child to participate in the Art Show. Please return this as soon as possible so your child can begin work on their individual piece next week.

**Curriculum Update from Angela End of Term 1**

**National Curriculum Framework**  **Belonging, Being and Becoming**

The children have continued to explore and indulge in a variety of sensory activities including paper mache, rice, kinetic sand, fine pouring sand, small coloured balls, finger paint and foot printing. Engaging in the hands on tactile and often messy activities plays a crucial role in promoting brain development through building nerve connections, supporting oral language development, supporting cognitive growth, leading to more complex learning tasks, promoting problem solving, developing and enhancing memory, is important for physical growth and development, and supporting fine motor and gross motor skills.

A special highlight last week was our visit to the Stirling Library on Tuesday. Catching the bus there was an exciting event with the children keen to point out the various directions where they lived and important Stirling landmarks. At the library we were greeted by librarian Caroline who introduced herself with a special hello song. After joining in with the song Caroline read three wonderful stories. One about finding a funny monster, another one about using your imagination and a humorous story about a dog who wouldn’t bark. These picture books were very entertaining and the children were very focused and engaged by Caroline’s animated story-telling skills. After a special goodbye song we said a big thankyou to Caroline and headed out for our long walk back to kindergarten. Luckily the rain held off as we walked through beautiful Stirling. It was a long and sometimes tricky journey back but the children did a wonderful job walking and remembering to keep safe on their first adventure outside kindergarten. Also a special thankyou to the parents who walked with us and helped to guide the children safely back to the centre. Many of the children were familiar with their local library and it provided us with the opportunity to build positive connections within our local community.

The children have enjoyed performing using the costumes, puppets and props. We have been acting out the lifecycle of the butterfly through the songs Catie Caterpillar Is Going To the Ball and 5 Little Butterflies. Through performing children develop a variety of skills such as gaining confidence in being in front of the group, working with others, following directions, telling a story and expressing themselves creatively to name a few.

With our excursion to Cleland, we have been discussing the various animals we might see there. As always the children came up with some very interesting thoughts and ideas. We have been learning about Australian animals and singing related songs. The children are amazing at doing the Wombat Wobble!

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**Term 2 Fees** are now due.
Payments are due 22nd May.
Thank you to those who have already paid.

Any kindy monies due can be paid directly into the kindy account. Please use your child's name as the reference.

STIRLING EAST KINDERGARTEN
BSB 105079
ACCOUNT NUMBER 305235040
Occasional Care

Some children are now accessing occasional care during the kindy week. What is Occasional Care? It means your child can stay for a full day instead of a half day of kindy. Do you need some extra time? Is your child wanting to stay at kindy longer? The cost is $30.00 per half day which is cheaper than most child care. We need a minimum of four children to make this a viable program each day as we need the funds to pay for additional staff. We are making available 7 positions on Monday afternoons, 6 positions on Tuesday afternoons and 12 positions on Thursday afternoons. You can make a booking for the entire term. Please email me your requests and I will send you a confirmation as soon as I can.

Learning Journals

We hope you enjoyed sharing in your child’s Learning Journal during the term break. Please return your child’s Journal this week. We are missing 18 still.