

# February Newsletter

Dear Families,

Welcome to 2024.

There is always lots of movement and transitions at the start of the New Year, with returning children moving up to their new room environments and new children and families starting their journey with us at Magill Campus and Community Children's Centre.

All children have transitioned into their new environments smoothly and are starting to establish meaningful relationships with their Educators and peers creating a sense of belonging at the Centre.

*The Centre aims to provide an educational program of high quality within a warm, education and care environment. We believe childcare is an extension of the family unit with educators working in partnership to assist your child to learn through PLAY!*

*We look forward to getting to know you all and being part of your child's learning journey.*

If you would like to keep up-to-date with any special events or activities at the Centre please follow our Instagram page. Updating our page weekly will be one of our focuses this year, as another form of communication from the Centre to you all.



[Magill Campus Community CCC](#)

This year the staff team and I have decided that we would like to give each room a new name with the theme; South Australian Fauna. Thank you to families who have written on our feedback forms in the rooms for your input. We have enjoyed reading all the suggestions.

Stay tuned for the room name reveal on our Instagram page in the coming weeks !!!!!

## Staffing Updates:

We would like to introduce 3 of our newest team members that you will see across the week supporting all rooms.



### Jacqui

Jacqui started off with us last year doing a Uni placement in the Baby/Toddler room and then stayed on as a relief educator while she continues to study her Bachelor of Early Childhood. Jacqui enjoys playing football, dancing, drawing, working and cooking with her family.



### Cassandra

Cassandra started off as a student with us studying a Certificate in Children Services.

Cassandra enjoys spending time with her family, gardening and learning about her family tree.



### Finna

Finna has completed her Masters in Early Childhood and completed her Uni placement in the Kindy room.

Finna enjoys making crafts, playing piano and listening to music.

*We look forward to an amazing year  
ahead with you all.*

*Kind Regards, Amy May - Centre Director*

*Abbey - Assistant Centre Director*

*“While we try to teach our children all about life,  
our children teach us what life is all about.”*

*- Angela Schwindt*





# Calendar of Events

## Term 1 - 2024 (29/1 to 12/4)

### February

5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> Mental Health Week for children

9<sup>th</sup> World Pizza Day

10<sup>th</sup> Lunar New Year – Year of the Dragon

13<sup>th</sup> Pancake Day

14<sup>th</sup> Valentine's Day

24<sup>th</sup> Lantern Festival

### MARCH

3<sup>rd</sup> Clean up Australia Day and World Wildlife Day

11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> Cultural Diversity Week

18th St Patrick's Day celebrations – **Wear something green**

20<sup>th</sup> Harmony Day – **Wear something orange**

25<sup>th</sup> Holi Festival – Festival of **Colours**

25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> – Easter Celebrations - **HAPPY EASTER**

### APRIL

22<sup>nd</sup> Earth Day

24<sup>th</sup> Kindy/Pre-Kindy Walk to the Gums Reserve for ANZAC Day

25<sup>th</sup> ANZAC Day public holiday

# Baby Toddler Room

Wow! It's February already. A big hello to all of our families old and new! We hope you had a wonderful break and ready for a big 2024. We also welcome our newest children and families to our Baby Toddler Room.

## Room Updates

A big congratulations to our Jo (Jo Jo) who welcomed her third grandson Oliver William on the 25th of January. Jo will be back at work on the 20th of February. Jo is enjoying lots of Nana cuddles at the moment.

As you all know we said goodbye to Momoko at the end of 2023. Luckily for us Andrea took over Momoko's group of children and is now their Key Educator Monday to

Wednesday. Myself (Tracy), Jo and Karen continue in our Key Educator roles also.

Anne, Ivy, Kim, Soo, Bin Li and Marie are our Support Educators throughout the week. Our photos are up on the Educator wall if you need to familiarise yourself with staff.



## Programming and room focus

For the beginning of the year we are focused on Relationships. Building bonds, trust and ensuring our children feel safe and secure in their new environment as well as re focusing on the relationships we built through out 2023.

Please take the time to look at our Mind Map up in our room which gives a clear insight into what activities or current focuses we are working on. An extension of our Mind Map is the Floor Book. In the Floor Book you will see the activities

implemented with photos and descriptions based on the Early Years Learning

Framework. We are inclusive of all children but at times if your child is missing you can be sure that there will be lots of observations and photos in their individual portfolio.

Lots of fun events coming up so be sure to check out the Calendar of events page in the Newsletter to keep up to date.

# Baby Toddler Room

## Family Photo Wall

As you walk into our room you will notice lots of family photos up. A lot of you are missing! Please email us at [admin@magill.org.au](mailto:admin@magill.org.au) a photo and we will do the rest. The children look at these photos all the time pointing out their families. It would be nice if everyone was up there.

## Parent Reminders

- Please ensure that you provide changes of clothes in your child's bag, as well as a sustainable bag for us to put messy or wet clothes into. We need all clothes or any items to be labelled to try and avoid clothes mixed up or lost.

It is a **24 hour** exclusion policy for a fever **38 degrees** and over and **48 hour** exclusion policy for **gastro like symptoms**. We do this for the health and safety of all the children and staff, as you know how fast infections and viruses spread.

Always check the door for our updated illnesses in the room.

- If your child is on antibiotics you **MUST** bring a labelled box and bottle with clear instructions as well as a Medication Authority Form. Or, we encourage you to ask your medical practitioner if it is possible to avoid the middle of the day dosage.

Your child needs to be fit for care at all times. If we observe that they are struggling to cope with the everyday running of the room and presenting with symptoms (fever or not), you will be contacted and your child will need to be collected from care.

- When contacting the room regarding your child, we would prefer a phone call rather than on Xplor. We don't always see the messages and would prefer direct contact.

When putting an estimate pick up time on our chart, please try to be as accurate as possible. If you are going to be late, we would appreciate a phone call. This is particularly important with our younger babies as it determines meals and sleep time routines.

*Thank you all,*

*Tracy, Jo, Andrea, Karen, Ivy, Anne, Kim, Soo, Bin Li and Marie*



## Pre-Kindy room Newsletter

Dear families,

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and managed to get some well deserved family time. We cant believe that it is already February, where did January go? The year is well and truly under way and the children have settled into childcare life so well. We have some new faces in the pre-kindy room this year and we would like to welcome Catherine to the educator team. Catherine has been a regular face to the children for a long time as she was in the kindy room last year so the children are already big fans of hers. We would also like to welcome Eleanor, Kingsley, Leo.C., Hunter, Vivi.J, Eloise, Zander, Bailey, Jax, Arzoey, George, Karina and Raven. We look forward to making many memories with you all.

Please feel free to chat to staff with any concerns or feedback. We will always try to make ourselves available to discuss your tiny humans.

**Kelly:** Mon - Fri

**Jo:** Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri

**Ayomi:** Mon, Tue, Thurs, Fri

**Catherine:** Tue, Wed, Thurs, Fri

**Angie:** Mon, Tue, Wed, Thurs and alternate Fri.

One of our focuses this year is to promote family input. We care for your little treasures and who else knows them better than you. Any information, photos, discussions about life outside of childcare will help us link our program at childcare to home life which will help to embed the learning. We currently have a question near the sign in iPad which we would love you to answer. We are seeking to change the name of the room. As a centre we have decided to base the new name on SA native plants. Please feel free to pop any suggestions down so that we can make a decision. We will change the question regularly so please keep an eye out.





Our room goal is to promote the children's independence and self help skills. They have been doing such a great job with this. They are starting to put their own sun cream on (after we have put it on thoroughly), serve their own meals, get themselves dressed, find their own hats and recognise their own names. We are so proud of them :)

### **REMINDERS:**

- If your child is going to be away, please call and let us know.
- Please advise us of any illnesses so that we can keep other children safe
- If you are planning on going away, please let Abbey know.
- Please label all belongings
- Please ensure you pack extra clothes - we LOVE to make a mess!
- Please do not bring food from home
- Please try to leave all toys at home (except for comforters) to avoid losing them or causing altercations with other children.
- Please return your child's portfolio so we can continue to add evidence of their learning

We look forward to working together with you all to ensure that we provide the best care and education to your amazing children.

Here's to an amazing 2024

**Kelly, Jo, Ayomi, Catherine and Angie.**

# Kindy Room

Dear Families,

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all new and returning Kindy families for 2024. We have had a wonderful start to the year and have enjoyed welcoming our 11 new children and their families. We hope all parents have had a chance to discuss any questions regarding the children's education and care with the educators in the Kindy Room. If you haven't, please feel free to speak with one of our friendly educators.

We have had some small changes to staffing for Term 1:

Sarah (Room Coordinator/Lead Teacher) Tues, Wed, Thurs (will start Mon in April)

Azima (Room Coordinator) Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri

Jo (Early Childhood Teacher) Tues—Fri

Oscar (Early Childhood Teacher) Full Time

Qia ( Children Services Assistant) Mon, Wed, Fri



**Preschool Program:** This year we have a number of children remaining at the centre to undertake their preschool education. In the Kindy Room we have 3 qualified Early Childhood Teachers who provide amazing education opportunities for the children who decide to be a part of preschool at the centre.

The Preschool program is available to children in their final year before school and follows the same curriculum as department or private preschools. Many past families have found having their child do their preschool education at the centre, has been beneficial for both the child and the parents, as it provides continuity of care, longer hours and it is held every day meaning your child does not need to come on specific days to enrol. Please note: children access 15 hrs of preschool each week and a child cannot attend another preschool to access this.



**Inquiry:** This term we are exploring our inquiry “All About Me’. Through this inquiry the children are exploring their own identities and exploring what makes them unique. It is also a fantastic opportunity for the children to get to know one another as they share personal interests and engage with one another in new ways. One experience the children have enjoyed being apart of is our ‘About Me’ page. All of the children engaged in the experience with Jo, filling out their interests, family information, likes, dislikes and drawing pictures. We have displayed all of the pages in a flipbook in the room. This book is accessible for the children to look at and share at any time. We have been using this book at group times to play a game ‘who am i?’ The teacher reads out the information contained in the about me page and the children guess which one of their friends it might be.

**Sustainability:** Everyone was excited to see our fruit trees and vegetable garden had produced over the holidays. From last years spring gardening, we are now harvesting tomatoes, lemons, parsley, pears, nectarines and apricots. After the harvest is complete, the children will be involved in replanting the veggie garden.

We will continue to compost our food scraps and feed the veggie farm each day. To ensure all children will have a chance to be involved in this we have decided to ask our “Star of the Day” children to help us. Along with their other jobs they will also be responsible for collecting the scraps and going with an educator to the nature yard to dispose of them.



## **Reminders**

- *Label all clothing including jackets and shoes*
- *Change of clothing: Children engage in messy play whilst at Kindy, and they may also have accidents, as this is a part of learning. Please ensure that your child at least has 2 sets of change of clothes in their bags at all times, including a wet bag to place soiled or dirty clothing in. This includes pants/shorts, t-shirts and knickers/jocks*
- *Please remember to pack a labelled water bottle for your child.*
- *Do not bring food into the centre. We have many children with allergies.*
- ***Please leave your child's toys home***, unless if it is a comforter. The centre is not responsible for the lost/ damaged toys.
- *For safety purposes don't store any food/ medicines in your child's bag as the bags in the lockers are accessible to other children as well.*

**“Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember.  
Involve me and I learn.” - by Benjamin Franklin**

We Look forward to an exciting year ahead,

Kind Regards,

Sarah, Azima, Jo, Oscar and Qia



# Friendly Reminders

## Medication

All medication **MUST** be prescribed for your child and/or include a **medication plan** filled in by your Doctor.

This includes over-the-counter type medications/prescriptions, which must include a pharmacist label on the original bottle with accurate written instructions for administration that details: Child's name, appropriate dosage, times to be given and Expiry date

## Allergies & Intolerances

All children with allergies and intolerances, whether mild or severe, must have the correct Medical Plans filled out and signed by a Doctor (reviewed every 12 months). If your Doctor does not supply you with a Medical/Action Plan, you can request one either from a member of staff in your room, Abbey or Amy (to be completed by your Doctor). This also includes any medication your child is given for an allergic reaction or dietary requirements. **This is your responsibility!**

## Exclusion

If a child has been sent home because they are ill, including a temperature or vomiting etc. They may not return to the Centre for at least 24 hours after the cessation of symptoms. 48 hours for gastro symptoms.



## Signing your child in and out each day;

Please remember that your child **MUST** be signed in and out each day by you or an authorised person, to ensure accurate CCS inline with your Government enrolment at the Centre.

- The parent or authorised person **must** sign the child in on arrival electronically via our app that links to our Government enrolments booking system.
- Communicate any changes of routine with educators
- **Each child brought into the Centre must be accepted or acknowledged by an educator to ensure their attendance is noted.**

## Birthday Cakes

It is always a special moment celebrating your child's birthday with a cake. Please remember you must order the cake through Abbey, Tracy or Amy verbally or via email, at least 1 week before the date.