



Mountain View children's centre



Summer/Autumn Parent Newsletter 2015

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Dates for the diary:

Friday 27th March
Last day of term 1

Friday 3rd April
Good Friday (Closed)

Monday 6th April
Easter Monday (Closed)

Monday 13th April
Term 2 starts

Thursday 16th April
Kinesiology session with
Brendan O'Hara 9.30 - 10.30am

Monday 27th April
Staff Professional
Development Day (Closed)

News from the Rooms



Tiny Teddy's Room

- Home corner is proving to be popular with the children. They are enjoying being able to express themselves through their role play. Most of the children have been making cakes using the patty pans and the utensils provided for them.

- The children have shown an interest in cooking in home corner so Jenny, Melissa and Julie have been cooking with them making cup cakes then enjoying them for our afternoon tea. "Yummy".

- Shaving cream and monster mush have been providing the children with sensory and exploratory experiences. While some of the children were a little wary when first engaging in the activity in the end they all enjoyed the experience.

- Our fairy garden has attracted lots of interest from the children. Picking the fairies up and moving them around the garden. They have also shown an interest in the plants that are in the garden, touching them and feeling their textures.





Butterfly Room

With many new children commencing this year and children moving through from the Tiny Teddies room the Butterfly room has become very busy.

- We are continuing to add children's and educator's pictures to our friendship tree in the room, building on children's sense of belonging.
- The children have really enjoyed these sensory activities - shaving cream, sand ice blocks, water play, goop and hand printing.
- Children have begun to explore and enjoy a lot of different activities outdoors in our new shared play space. These include parachute play, climbing, bike riding, ball games, sandpit and water play.
- Our Cooking experiences have included the children making their own play dough, pancakes, cookies and scones.
- Stories and Rhyme times have been a favourite. The children have really enjoyed Old McDonald and Five cheeky monkey's story telling with the use of puppets. Singing "Bee Bee Bumble Bee" and reading stories such as Green sheep, Bear hunt, What's that noise little mouse and five little ducks.



Starlight & Rainbow Room



- We have been engaging in a lot of science experiments. Some of our experiments have included mixing colors, making exploding volcanoes, fizzy art, color changing flowers, balloon painting, dye spraying and milky patterns.
- We have been exploring cooking and nutrition. We have made pancakes, cupcakes, and popcorn and roast vegetables.
- Our Identity window is coming along. Children have decorated little people cutouts. We have explored and discussed what we would like to be when we are older. Children have shared some family photos. We would like to create a scrapbook of photos for children to look at throughout the day. Could Families please bring in a copy of a family photo.
- Sensory exploration is popular with children using their senses to feel, smell and observe goop, monster mush, foam, paint, water and natural materials.



Educational leader -Julie Sinnett

Learning through play

The early years learning framework defines play based learning as:
The context for learning through which children organize and make sense of their social worlds, as they engage actively with people , objects and representations.

Research has shown that play is a vital tool for learning in early childhood. When children engage in play episodes, 7 characteristics of play are evident.

The play is voluntary, pleasurable, symbolic, meaningful, active, process oriented and intrinsically motivated.

At Mountain View many learning environments and experiences are provided that allow children to learn through play. Play promotes children's dispositions for learning such as cooperation, persistence, problem solving, imagination, communication and sharing, just to name a few. Educators enhance this learning through, discussions, scaffolding, providing space and time for uninterrupted solitary and collaborative play and providing extensions to interests and developmental needs.

Educators provide resources that are open ended and contribute to the quality of children's play.



Friendly Reminder

Please ensure that all personal items are clearly labelled with your child's name i.e, drink bottle, clothing, bags, hats.

Please return your child's portfolio folder that was sent home at the end of 2014 if you still have it at home. Thank you

Expressions of Interest

If you would like to join our Family & Friends Fundraising group please speak to Leesa or Lea.

Blue Skies Team - What's happening in 2015

The outside play space (Blue Skies) team - Susan, Diana, Sean, Jenny, Paula, Shaneen, Julie Sinnett and Julie Newlands would like to keep all staff and families in the loop of our recent progress. 2015 will be about supporting and creating a number of "zones". We have identified them as:

ZONE 1 - The Adventure Mound (the dirt space in front of the 0-3 rooms)

ZONE 2 - The Sandpit and Grass Area (adjacent to the existing cubby house)

ZONE 3 - Homestead (picket fence area)

Whilst tackling all the above our considerations will be:

- Commitment to safe play environments
- Innovative and cohesive design
- Inclusive play space design
- Natural elements
- Environmental sustainability

We have created a "mood board" on the front window of the foyer to give you a sense of what we would like the yard to be transformed into. Please feel free to contribute ideas and feedback.

The Blue Skies team have been busy fundraising with the help of the local community to support this project.

Any questions - feel free to discuss with anyone from this team.
Thank you!

Seedlings - Education for Sustainability

Another year has started and we are continuing to add an element of 'green' to everything we do.

We are:

- looking after a variety of different creatures, including insects, fish and worms,
- offering natural play in many of our activities,
- saving resources through reducing, reusing and recycling,
- exploring and learning about animals and insects

The Seedlings programme also places importance on involving the community in Education for Sustainability so Alpine Children's Services are organising a screening of the film Project Wild Thing in Myrtleford (as well as Bright and Mount Beauty). We are still finalising arrangements but it will probably be in April sometime with no cost involved to attend.

Final details will be sent out soon but in the meantime just google Project Wild Thing to see what the film and project are all about.



Recipe

Moroccan Chicken (serves 4)

Ingredients

1 brown onion	30g dried apricots chopped
500g diced chicken	400g tinned tomatoes
1 large zucchini cut into 3cm lengths	1 tbsp garlic
1 carrot cut into 3cm lengths	1 tsp orange rind and juice
1 x tin chickpeas	½ tsp honey
2 tsp ground cumin	1 tsp ground cinnamon
Pinch ground cloves	½ tsp paprika
1 tsp ground coriander	½ tsp fennel seeds
½ tsp tumeric	400g tomato soup

Method

Fry onions in oil until soft. Add garlic and spices.
Add carrot, tomato, tomato soup, orange rind, juice and honey.
Cook chicken in separate pot. Add chicken stock.
Add cooked chicken pieces to vegetable mix. Simmer 1 hour.
Add zucchini and apricots and drained and washed chickpeas. Cook for a further 10 minutes.
Serve with cous cous or rice.



Valuable Training for our Educators

45 educators from Alpine Children's Services (ACS) attended a valuable day of training in Bright on Saturday 14 March. The day was presented by Catharine Hyden who covered the importance of professionalism in early childhood education. Catharine is well known in Australia as a strong advocate for professionalism, ethical practice and as a facilitator of pedagogical leadership.

ACS General Manager Jenny Griffiths said it was a fantastic day for all of the educators to come together for professional development. The educators came from all of ACS services including Alpine Family Day Care, Alpine View Children's Centre, Lake View Children's Centre and Mountain View Children's Centre.

"ACS really appreciates everyone giving up their Saturday to attend this training," she said.

"This reflects our commitment to high quality early childhood education and the dedication shown by our teachers and educators.

Georgina Fonay, an educator from Lake View Children's Centre, said, "I will now be more mindful and deliberate with identifying children's potential learning and development".

- Working in collaboration with educators from across ACS who have a diverse range of skills and experiences,
- Learning how to support children's learning so children progress from "I need help to do this" to "I can do this on my own", and
- Improving the educator's skills and knowledge of the early years learning framework to enhance the development of each child.



ACS is having a second day with Catharine Hyden on Monday 27 April with all services managed by ACS closing for the professional development day

Maternal Child Health



What's On In Alpine? (For Toddlers and Pre Schoolers)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Myrtleford Maternal and Child Health Centre Appointments 9am-4pm Ph. 5751 1959</p> <p>Playgroup - Mt Beauty Community Centre 9.30-11.30am Ph. 0438 111 554 Nicole</p> <p>Playgroup - Bright Multipurpose Room Alpine View Children's Centre 10-11.30am Ph. Sarah 5755 1332 0411 027 083</p>	<p>Bright Maternal and Child Health Centre Appointments 9am-4pm Ph. 5755 5101</p> <p>Immunisations- Mt Beauty (Bi-Monthly) 9.30-10.30am (free) Mt Beauty Community Centre 14th April, 5th June, 11th Aug, 13th Oct, 8th Dec 2015</p> <p>Immunisations-Myrtleford (Bi-Monthly) 10-11am (free) Senior Citizens Centre 7th April, 2nd June, 4th Aug, 6th Oct, 1st Dec 2015</p>	<p>Myrtleford Maternal and Child Health Centre Appointments 9am-4pm Ph. 5751 1959</p> <p>Immunisations-Bright (Bi-Monthly) 9.30-10.30am (free) Bright Senior Citizens Centre 6th May, 1st July, 2nd Sept, 4th Nov 2015</p> <p>Learn To Swim Bright Sports Centre Gavan Street Classes 9-11.30am (6m+) Ph. Barbara 5755 1049</p> <p>Mount Beauty Country Women's Association 3rd Wednesday of the month 7pm Uniting Church Hall Ph: Karen 0404 153 168 Email: mountbeautywa@gmail.com</p> <p>Rhyme Time-Myrtleford Myrtleford Library O'Donnell Avenue 10am (free) Ph. 5753 2038 (Birth-2 year olds and parents)</p> <p>Playgroup-Porepункah Porepункah Primary School 9.30-11am Ph. 5756 2253</p>	<p>Mt Beauty Maternal and Child Health Centre Appointments 9am-2pm Ph. 5754 4734</p> <p>Mt Beauty Toy Library Lakeview Children's Centre 9.15-10.15am Ph. Claire 0414 543 920</p> <p>Learn To Swim Bright Sports Centre Gavan Street Classes 9-11.30am (6m+) Ph. Barbara 5755 1049</p> <p>Story time - Bright Bright Library 10am (free) Ph. 5755 1540</p> <p>Mt Beauty Pram Walk (Starts at Mount Beauty Library) Meet at 11am (Cuppa & chat in wet weather) Ph. Bronnie 0418 822 109</p> <p>Mount Beauty Community Parenting Group Mt Beauty Library (free) 11am (Last Thursday of Month) replaces Pram Walking on this week Ph: Bronnie 0418 822 109</p> <p>Story time- Mt Beauty Mt Beauty Library 10.30am (free) Ph. 5754 4542</p>	<p>Storytime-Tawonga Tawonga Primary School 9.30am (free) Ph. 5754 4468</p> <p>Rhyme Time - Bright Bright Library 10.30am (free) Ph. 5755 1540 (Birth-2 year olds and parents)</p> <p>Learn To Swim Bright Sports Centre Gavan Street Classes 9-11.30am (6m+) Ph. Barbara 5755 1049</p> <p>Playgroup - Harrietville Harrietville Hall 10-11am Ph. Anna 0417 056 432</p>	<p>Toy Library- Bright Multipurpose Room Alpine View Children's Centre 9.30-11am Ph. Tracy 5755 1688</p> <p>Toy Library-Myrtleford Senior Citizens Centre Smith Street 10-11.30am (2nd and 4th Sat of Month) Ph. Sukey 0421 286 334</p>
<p>Myrtleford Toy Library Senior Citizens Centre Smith Street 9.30am-12 Noon Ph. Loretta 0407 656 550</p> <p>Wiggly Woo Children's Hour - Alpine Radio Kiewa 96.5FM, Owens 92.9FM 12 noon - 1pm (free)</p>	<p>Romp N Stomp Bright Community Centre 10-11am (Crawlers up) Ph. Michelle 0417 256 728</p> <p>"On The Move" Playgroup-Tawonga Tawonga Hall 10-11am Ph. Nicole 0438 111 554</p>	<p>Myrtleford Toy Library (Starts at Mount Beauty Library) Meet at 11am (Cuppa & chat in wet weather) Ph. Bronnie 0418 822 109</p> <p>Mount Beauty Community Parenting Group Mt Beauty Library (free) 11am (Last Thursday of Month) replaces Pram Walking on this week Ph: Bronnie 0418 822 109</p>	<p>Bright Pram Walkers (Autumn and Spring Only) Details TBC</p>		



School newsletter insert

State Emergency Service

Benalla Office, 64 Sydney Road, BENALLA, 3672.

Flood experts and enthusiasts wanted! SES needs your help to develop the Myrtleford Flood Guide!

SES is seeking interested members of the Myrtleford community or local organisations to help develop and check a new flood guide being developed for the town. A draft Myrtleford Flood Guide is now ready for community review and input. Anyone with an interest or experience of floods in the Myrtleford area is encouraged to get involved. It is very important that the guide captures local knowledge and that the information we have already gathered is checked before going to print.

The draft guide is available for community comment and/or input until Friday 27th March 2015. Electronic and printed copies are available from the SES NE Regional Office by contacting: northeast@ses.vic.gov.au or 9256 9650. Printed copies of the draft guide are also available from the Myrtleford Library (Cnr Standish Street and O'Donnell Avenue Myrtleford) and Alpine Shire offices in Bright and electronic copies from the Alpine Shire website: www.alpineshire.vic.gov.au.

This flood guide is one of over 50 flood guides being developed for flood-prone towns in Victoria and is funded by the Federal Government's Natural Disaster Resilience Scheme. The finalised guide will include a flood map, local flood history and advice on how to prepare, respond and stay safe when floods happen.

During April, a flood information night will be advertised and give residents the opportunity to ask questions about the flood guide and the information it contains. Representatives from SES and Alpine Shire will be available on the night to copy your photos, gather more "local knowledge" and answer any questions.



For more information, contact:

Name: Sue Sheldrick

Position: Community Resilience Coordinator

Phone: 03 9256 9650 / 0400 877 731

Email: northeast@ses.vic.gov.au