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TRAFFIC SAFETY EDUCATION

Key Road Safety Messages for children

Adults are responsible for the safety of the young children in their lives but by using these Key Road Safety Messages, they can engage children in learning about how to be safe in the traffic environment without making them responsible for their own safety.

Pedestrian messages

- Always hold a grown-up's hand.
- When a grown-up's hand is not available, hold a pram, bag or clothes.
- Always cross the road with a grown-up

Passenger messages

- Always buckle up safely.
- Always stay buckled up - awake or asleep.
- Always get in and out of the 'Safety Door'.

Safe play messages

- Always ask a grown-up where it is safe for you to play.
 - Always wear your helmet when riding your bike or wheeled toy
- <http://www.kidsandtraffic.mq.edu.au>

POLICY REVIEW

In the last 2 months the policies that have been reviewed are Consent, Delivery and Collection and Toileting with a lot of good feedback from parents and staff. The services would like to thank all the staff, parents and guardians who have thoughtfully filled in and returned these policies. Please remember that our centre's policies are available in the foyer if you wish to read of them. Alternatively, we can provide you with a photocopy if you would like to take any policies home or take a look on the ACS website www.alpinechildrensservices.asn.au for some of the most commonly referred to policies.

News from the Rooms at Mountain View

IMPORTANT!

Mountain View Children's Centre Family Christmas party is to be held on Wednesday the 5th December from 6 till 8pm. BBQ tea, Santa, Pony rides, face painting and balloon critters. Please bring along a salad to share and don't forget your chairs or picnic rug. Please RSVP on the notice on the back of the entrance door by Monday 31st November.

CLOSING DATES for 2012 Friday 21st December.



0-18months Tiny Teddies Room Mountain View Spring 2012

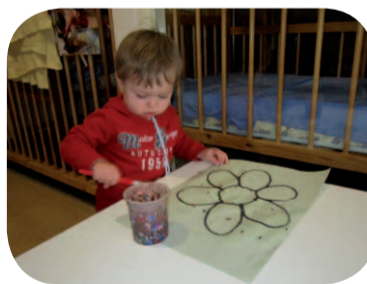


Yay to that from everybody in the Tiny Teddies Room!

The children were involved with some simple spring craft to kick start the season. Open-ended pasting



activity; where small pieces of paper were glued onto a flower shape using glue, with lots of coloured glitter in it to make it sparkle. Then a photo of each child placed in the middle of the flower, and then they were hung up in the room. Flowers were drawn on the windows too.



Lots of milestones have been met over winter and the lead up to spring, and this means more wonderful opportunities for the children to be allowed to explore and investigate, and just "BE". The beautiful days, means more opportunity to be outside. When we are outside, we feel more open and connected to our world, and our babies and toddlers feel the same.

Sometimes children just need to run, jump, climb and play to enhance skills development, discovery, physical fitness, confidence and social interactions.

We are all enjoying the idea of more outdoor play, and this now means sun hats and sun screen.... Please remember to bring along a named broad brimmed hat and a named drink bottle each day please. Also, remember to take a look at your child's learning journal, it has lots of wonderful information about your child and the experiences they have been involved in over winter.

18month - 3 Butterfly Room Mountain View Spring 2012

Happy Spring to all! It's lovely to see the days getting warmer, the afternoons getting lighter and the flowers blooming around the area.

It's true your child is playing. They are choosing what to do and enjoying it, but there is much more to just playing. They are observing, interacting, absorbing, exploring and most importantly they are learning how children are supposed to learn, by playing according to their own individual developmental stage.



In the butterfly room we have been "playing to learn". The educators have been spending quality time with all the children offering activities based upon each child's individual developmental stage to support what interests each has. The environment in the 18 months - 3 years room (Butterfly) offers choice and variety whereby needs, strengths and interests are all met.

Some of the activities that we are enjoying in the room are: visual story times; stories with puppets "old MacDonald", 5 cheeky monkeys and the most popular "the wheels on the bus" where children love using their arms as the wheels.

One most favourite activities for the children has been the pasting and painting of our spring flowers and butterflies which are displayed around our room.

Playdough - Children are learning how to roll the playdough and how to make different shapes with the playdough cutters.

Home corner - has provided to be a favourite with the baby dolls, beds, prams, highchairs with lots of social interactions happening between children.



Outside play - the sandpit has been an attraction with children exploring, experimenting, and using their little imaginations which are producing some wonderful cakes and drinks.

We have seen lots of emerging self help skills developing in our children and have been supporting these skills especially at meal times and when putting their hats on ready to go outside and play.

That's all for now until we talk next time,

Jenny, Nicole and Leesa.

3-4 Starlight Room Mountain View Spring 2012

The starlight room has welcomed spring with a variety of activities. Children are using their creativity to make our room bright and colourful. Children have engaged in painting, pasting, collages, drawing, construction, colouring and paper Mache. The last couple of months has seen many children have their birthdays and move into the 4-5 room. The starlight room is also welcoming some children from the butterfly room that have recently had their birthdays. Everyone is settling into their new environments very well.

To continue the children's in interest in flags we have hung flags in our room that depict children's and staffs cultural backgrounds. If you have a flag that you would like see please let us know and we will source one and add it to our growing collection. We are proving to have a diverse range of cultural backgrounds here at centre. A cultural learning centre has been added to the room with materials, books, photos, dolls and artefacts that help to increase children's respect for diversity. Children and educators have been sampling foods from around our world and are continuing to add to the list of foods we have tried.



Children have shown a real interest in Fish and were eager to learn more about them. Children have been exploring Fish by looking at books, setting up a pretend aquarium, engaging in Craft activities, and building on prior knowledge during group discussion. Children's discoveries were recorded on a learning web that is continually added to. To further develop the children interest we went on an excursion to pet shop in myrtle ford. Children and educators walked to the pet shop. At the pet shop children explored the many fish in the tanks. They even had a close

Support Services

Staff are willing to work with families to support children who are:- Experiencing emotionally challenging events, e.g. separation, divorce or death of friend or family member. Please speak with your services team leader or ACS manager Jenny Kromar if you are experiencing any difficulties and would like some support. There is a great service called Child First that offer a wide range of help and support to families. If you are struggling from financial hardship Alpine children's services may also be able to offer special child care benefits to help you over a difficult time.

COMMUNICATING WITH CHILDREN

Listening, talking and responding to children

The ability and desire to exchange ideas and feelings with others is one of the foundations for learning and growing. Listening, talking and responding to children from birth with gestures and words builds positive parents/caregiver relationships with young children.

When you are reading with your child, ask them the following questions about the book:

- Who were the characters? What were they like? Where / when did the story take place?
- What happened in the story? What was the problem?
- What is the character's plan in response to the problem?
- How does the story end? How was the problem solved?
- How do the characters feel at the end of the story? What feelings have changed?

up look at the giant gold fish, and watched the fish get fed. Children and staff then enjoyed lunch at Heiner's bakery before heading back to centre.



Children had a chance to come to centre wearing their favourite football colours. Staff and children showed enthusiasm for physical play, engaging in games with the football. They then shared lunch of footy food. Hotdogs and party pies followed with a yummy ice-cream. Children and staff interacted verbally sharing humour and happiness.

Children have explored identity through many of the activities and play areas on offer. Children have looked after each other in the doctor's corner, sold cakes at the bakery, feed the fish at the pet shop, cooked and made cups of tea in home corner and put on dance shows on the mat. Children

have been engaging in group games with "what's the time Mr. Wolf, doggie, doggie who has the bone and duck duck goose being popular with the children when playing group games children are continuing to learn to interact in relation to each other with care empathy and respect.



With lots of beautiful spring days ahead there is lots of opportunity to play outside. Please remember to pack your child's sunhat and drink bottle. Please be reminded that your Child's hat must be a broad brimmed hat or a legionary's style hat. Caps cannot be worn at centre as they don't provide adequate sun protection. Lastly we would like to say thank you

to all the children and families for a wonderful 2012 had by all and look forward to seeing you all again in 2013.

4-5 Rainbow Room Mountain View Spring 2012

Hi Everyone

It's good to be back and renewing acquaintances with the children after my extended holiday/trial retirement.

With the fantastic spring weather we have been spending a lot of time outdoors.

We have been very busy making the beautiful blossom trees you will see around the room and also the very colourful painted spring themes. Some of the children have decorated plastic bottles to make vases and even made pretty flowers to go in them.

In the next few weeks the children and I will be getting the garden beds up and running, digging and planting some tasty summer goodies. We will be using the worm juice and castings in the veggie patch to give the soil a kick start.

The children were very interested watching our new tree out the front being planted and have painted some rocks to go around the base which will be put in position once they have been lacquered.

A lot of interest was shown in our dinosaur garden which we have set up in the yard. The children have been making good use of the piece of drain pipe erected in the sand pit for them to pour sand down.

Before long we will be thinking about Christmas and starting our special Christmas activities. This is a very exciting time for staff and children with many of our children heading off to school or kinder next year.



Alpine Early Years Conference | Reading for Life 18-19 October 2012

The inaugural Alpine Early Years Conference was a huge success, with over 120 delegates participating, including all ACS staff and educators across the Hume region. This was the first time all ACS staff have come together for a professional development day under the theme of literacy. Educators were inspired by the words of wisdom from key notes speakers author Lee Fox and teacher and education consultant Jo Lange. Break-out sessions included; The power of music; Collaborating with families to support children's learning; Strategies and games to support children at risk and Oral language supporting early literacy. We are sure our Educators will share their knowledge, new dance moves and songs with your children.



Plus.....over 70 parents attended the PARENTING EVENT on Thursday 18th October at the Myrtleford Performing Arts Centre. Here is a comment from one of our parents:

"I just wanted to say how fabulous the talks were last week. I really enjoyed both speakers, and got lots out of it. So thanks and well done for bringing these two inspiring women to the North East. I am going to see if I can find a book of Jo Lange's at the library. If not, I might just have to buy a copy (assuming she has one!)"



NEW ACCOUNTING / ADMIN SYSTEM - HUBWORKS!

In our recent parent surveys some families expressed concern with our statements, account information and administration. We have taken this on board and changed our administration and accounting system to HUBWORKS. What this means to you:

ONLINE ENROLMENTS

NO MORE time consuming filling out of enrolment forms by hand.

Online enrolments, enabling you the Parents to update your child's enrolment at any time ensuring we have all the relevant important Information we need for your child's care.

HUBWORKS allows you to:

- Access and view your account online
- New easy to read and understand statements
- On line waitlist for new or extra bookings
- BPAY coming soon
- Your own personal secure login username and password
- Update enrolment details

Over the next two weeks we will be emailing you your personal login user name and password information. We will keep you posted to when BPAY will be available, for now continue to pay by your usual method. Statements will continue to be emailed or put in pockets for the next couple of weeks; once you have your log in details you can then view them via your personal portal. Parents can only access their own information-nobody else's so your information is kept strictly confidential.