

The centre will be closed for Christmas break from Friday the 22nd of December until Monday the 8th of January. The children's last day of care will be Thursday 21st of December and will resume on Tuesday the 9th of January.

Important Dates

Immunisation evenings



Tuesday May 9th
5pm—7pm at Williamstown Town Hall.

Tuesday May 23rd
5pm—7pm at Altona Meadows Library.

Tuesday June 13th
5pm—7pm at Altona Meadows Library.



Friday 25th March — Monday 28th March Centre Closed —
Easter Friday & Monday.

Tuesday 25th April Centre Closed—ANZAC day

Kindergarten Term Dates

2nd term: Tuesday 18th April – Friday 30th June

3rd term: Monday 17th July – Friday 22nd September

4th term: Monday 9th October – Friday 22nd December



Kinder groups and times:

4 year old Green group: Tuesday and Thursday 8:30am – 4pm

4 year old Yellow group: Wednesday and Friday 8:30am – 4pm

3 year old Orange group: Monday 9:30am – 4pm

Just a reminder that our winter menu will be starting on Tuesday the 18th of April. If you would like to have a look, please feel free. The menu is displayed out the front of the kitchen and also in each of the rooms. Also, if you would like a copy just let one of the staff know and this can be arranged.



Chicken pie

(Please keep in mind this is a large quantity to provide for the whole centre so modifications will be needed)

Ingredients:

- ◆ 18 chicken fillets, diced
- ◆ 2 onions, chopped finely
- ◆ 6 potatoes, diced
- ◆ 1kg frozen peas
- ◆ 1kg frozen corn
- ◆ 1 tablespoon curry powder
- ◆ 1 tablespoon chicken stock
- ◆ About 2 cups of water
- ◆ 4kgs short crust pastry

Method:

1. Cook Chicken until soft.
2. Add onions, veggies, potatoes and water.
3. When veggies are soft, add gravy to thicken pie filling.
4. Grease tray and place pastry on the base.
5. Add filling and then another layer of pastry on top.
6. Poke a few small holes in the top of the pastry.
7. Bake in oven until golden brown. Approximately 200c for about one hour.



April May 2017 Newsletter

Dear Families,

You may notice a few changes in the coming months with some of the staff,

Carly will be leaving the Range in May.

Carly has been with us for over 9 years and has been a great asset to our service. Carly has been writing this newsletter for 2 years now and has done a wonderful job. Carly will be greatly missed and we wish her well with her future plans.

Donika will be leaving the Range in April.

Donika has been at our service for 7 years and will be greatly missed. We will miss the wonderful displays throughout the centre that Donika has been responsible for. We wish Donika well with her new job.

Ann our 2 day a week cook will soon be moving on to run a family business. We will miss Ann's food and the wonderful aroma which greets families on their arrival.



All these positions will be filled shortly and we will keep you informed of the new staff.

Carly, Donika and Ann have been loyal and valuable employees throughout their time here, sharing their love and enthusiasm with all the families, they will be greatly missed.

If you have any questions please speak to Janice or Nellie in the office.

Late Collection Policy

The centre closes at 6pm. This means that you must have LEFT the centre by 6pm.

For every 5 minutes after 6pm that a child is here a late fine will be imposed. The late fine currently stands at \$10 for the first 5 minutes (or part thereof) and \$15 for every 5 minutes thereafter. If a family is late 3 or more times within a 3 month period the third and subsequent fines will be doubled.

Parents should phone the centre if they are going to be late as it can be distressing for a child to be left waiting alone and courteous to staff whom are caring for your child. On collection of your child, parents are required to sign the late book and the imposed fine will be added to the next fee statement.



Car park safety

It was brought to our attention from a parent that a child was left in the car. Just a friendly reminder to all families to please not leave any children unattended in your cars for any period of time.

Also the car park has a speed limit of 5kms.

Please be careful when entering and exiting the car park as children sometimes detach themselves from their parents and can run off. Please keep an eye out for pedestrians on the foot path.

Staffing changes

As of the week beginning Monday the 17th of April, Mini will be moving to yellow group kinder on a Wednesday and Friday. We will miss Mini in childcare but luckily she won't be too far away in the kinder room. Please watch this space for more information on the new Koala room staff member.

Children's Pockets

Children's pockets are located on the walls just outside of their room with their name on the front.

If your child attends both long day care and kinder their pocket will be located just outside the kinder room on their allocated kinder group colour. If you have more than one child attending the centre they will then share a pocket.

If you are having trouble locating your pocket then please come and talk to a staff member.

Fee Statements

Your fee statements will be emailed to you every 2 weeks.

Buying and Selling Days

If you are wanting to buy or sell a day please notify management via email as soon as possible so that they can offer the day to someone who may have requested it.

Sustainability

Koala room has purchased a see through compost container which also has magnified parts to look through. They are going to add their fruit and vegetable scraps and watch what happens to each of the items they place inside.

Possum room has been planting potatoes with the children and recently pulled out their first lot that were planted. The children have also been helping the staff water the garden every morning.

Purple room have started a new veggie garden in the kinder yard. Every week or so they have been adding a new vegetable. They are very much looking forward to harvesting the veggies when they are ready.

Some of our staff went and visited reverse garbage 'resource rescue' in Bayswater to collect an array of objects to reuse mostly for art and craft purposes.

Here is a photo of some of the things collected



Beanies/jackets — changing seasons

As you are aware, we have now come into Autumn. Although we are still experiencing some warm days, the weather will start to change. Please be mindful that we will start use beanies for your children's comfort outside in the colder weather. If you would like, please pack a clearly labelled beanie to leave at the centre if possible or bring one each time you bring your child in.

Even if the weather is cold we still like to get outside with the children so please also pack a labelled coat/jacket each time your child comes in.

Thank you.

Long Day Care Fees

For those who are unaware our long day care fees are \$101 per day per child.

Kinder Fees

3 year old kinder — \$465

4 Year old kinder — \$390



From the educational leader

The whole centre has embraced teaching STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Each room has set a six month STEM goal and are teaching this through various methods.

After a recent training night with our consultant "Catherine Hydon" we are continuing with our goals and will create a measuring tool to assess each child's knowledge and progress.

If you have any questions about STEM there is an abundance of information available on the internet or you can speak to any staff member.

Each rooms STEM goals:

Joey Room: General spatial awareness.

Possum Room: Spatial awareness including on top of/underneath, in front of/behind and over/around.

Koala Room: Spatial awareness up/down, in/out, under/over and on top of/underneath.

Kookaburra room: Geometric shapes including 3D shapes in the environment and different angles and sides.

Purple Kinder Room: Data collection.

Yellow Kinder Room: Time and Clocks

Green Kinder Room: Tinker table, Tech-Past /Present, Old/New, Time routine

Mobile bright future grant application 2017

We have once again applied for the mobile grant this year. In relation to STEM, we would like to buy an outdoor science lab if we are approved of the grant. Please watch this space for further information.

Toy donations

Over the past month, we have had large amounts of great quality toys being donated from a few different families.

They have all been put to great use and we would all like to say a very big thank you.

Gardener

We are looking for someone to help us with maintaining our garden. If you or somebody you may know can help us and volunteer any amount of time whether it be on a regular basis or just a once off we would very much appreciate some help.

Committee position applications

A short thank you to everyone who applied for the position which was available for a new committee member.

Birthday Cakes



When it is your child's birthday, we are happy for you to bring a cake or individual cupcakes for your child to share with their friends at afternoon tea time. It would be greatly appreciated when purchasing a cake that it is from a supermarket where packaging is clearly labelled with a list of all ingredients. We recommend Coles or Woolworths. The centre will NOT be able to accept home made cakes.

Mud cakes, ice cream cakes or mini individual cupcakes are ideal. Cakes with elaborate filling (e.g. jam & cream) are not appropriate.

If you have purchased a cake please hand the receipt and the cake to the kitchen so they can store it in the fridge and keep the receipt for proof of freshness.