Little Ducks Childcare Annerley

September & October 2015

A note from your Centre Manager

My oh my, where does the time go? I feel like we say this every year, but can you believe that it's Spring already? We've had some wonderful events lately, including NAIDOC Week, Pyjama Day, Book Week, and our Ocean Life show! I'll leave you to read all about these throughout the newsletter! You may notice that there a few extra pages in this edition of our newsletter...so grab a cup of coffee and enjoy!

I would like to thank everyone for your support of our Entertainment Book fundraiser. It's been great to see so many of our families purchase the digital membership – I have one and know how super convenient it is! You may remember that last year we had a range of products available with your child's artwork on them. We will be doing this again this year, you'll receive more information about the product range (including some samples) in mid-September. With all of our fundraising proceeds, we will be purchasing some new books and will be talking to the children about what other items they would like to have at kindy. Stay tuned!

Over the next few months we will be busy as usual, with our 2016 re-enrolments taking place towards the end of September. Once you receive your letter, please make sure you bring it back as soon as possible if you are wanting extra days next year. We also have our photos coming up on the 22nd and 23rd of September. You will receive an email with more information about these in the coming weeks.



If you have any feedback, comments, or concerns, please pop into the office and see me. Even if you'd just like to have a chat and a tea, my door is always open!

Tabitha

Kindergarten Approved Program — Queensland Government

35 Waldheim St, Annerley 3848 7688 annerley@littleducks.com.au

September Calendar

Thursday 3rd ...Australian Flag Day

Celebrate the red white and blue flag that makes us all proud Australians.



Friday 4th...Father's Day Afternoon Tea

Come and celebrate Father's Day at Little Ducks with afternoon tea from 3pm!



Sunday 6th...Father's Day

Leading up to today we will be talking about what makes our dads special.

Monday 7th...Brazil's Independence Day

Today we will learn all about Brazil and why today is important.

Monday 21st...International Day of Peace

Today we will learn all about why it's important to work together and accept everyone's differences.





Monday 21st...International Pirate Day

Dress like a pirate for a day of pirate fun!

22nd & 23rd ... Kindy Photos!

Bring your biggest smile for kindy photos!
Cheese!



Open Day

19 SEPTEMBER

Come along and have a chat with our dedicated Educators and enjoy a fun-filled morning with the Little Ducks team!



9.30 – 11 am

10am

Kindergarten 2016 Information Session

Old Mac Donald's Baby Farm Animals!

Jumping Castle

Face Painting

Sausage Sizzle

35 Waldheim St
Annerley

3848 7688

October Calendar



Thursday 1st … China's National Day

Today we will learn about China!

Monday 5th … Labor Day (Public Holiday)

Today Little Ducks Annerley will be closed. See you on Tuesday!

Tuesday 6th… Life Education visit

Today Life Education are bringing Harold the Giraffe to talk to us about health, nutrition, and hygiene!



12th—18th … National Nutrition Week

This week we will learn all about healthy foods and why they are important for our growing bodies!

Wednesday 14th … Nude Food Day

We ask that today all food comes to kindy in re-useable containers! No glad wrap, alfoil, or disposables allowed!

NATIONAL NUDE FOOD DAY™

Friday 16th… Loud Shirt Day

Wear your loudest shirt to support children with hearing impairments.

Monday 26th … Grandparents Day

All of our grandparents are invited to come along for afternoon tea!

Friday 30th … Day for Daniel

Wear red today to show your support for the Daniel Morcombe Foundation.

Daniel Morcombe FOUNDATION Inc.



Happy Birthday!

September Zac, Orleigh, Macaela, Holly, Annabelle, James, Louis Grayson, Max P, Xavier, Ethan, Fraser Gabriela H, Katarina, Josh R, Josie Caleb, Callum, Jessica D, Phillip Rumi, Miss Nancy



October Toby G, Aiden, Mia K Meg Freya, Joshua G, Yummi, Ravnoor, Livia Tobias, Cleaver Ashwanth, Hugo S, Pixie Jack, Olive S, Zara, Miss Vicky, Miss Janelle

Fortitude Valley

Construction on our 5th centre in Fortitude Valley is now well underway! The multi-level building has been completely refurbished to cater for babies through to school age children, including an approved Kindergarten Program.

We are located in the heart of Fortitude Valley on McLachlan Street, and will open in January 2016.

Anyone who would like to join the waiting list can do so on our website or call our office on 3251 6060.

Policy Reviews

In order for our Centre policies to be a reflection of our local community, we welcome your input regarding the policies below. Please refer to our Policy Review Folder located in the foyer for more information or if you would like to make some suggestions or comments.

Some of the policies on review this month are:

- Pets on premises
- Robbery

Nursery Natter!



A big hello to all of our new and existing families! We will have some new little friends joining us in the next few weeks, which we are very excited about!

Well, what a busy few months we have had. At the beginning of July we had a week's celebration of NAIDOC week. This saw us incorporate Indigenous culture into our everyday program. Throughout the week, we engaged in experiences using lots of natural resources. Bark painting and stick painting seemed to be the most popular, with the children really engaging and enjoying the experience. We also read a few different dream time stories throughout the week. The most popular being "How the Echidna got His Spikes." We then extended on with this, and we made our own echidnas out of play dough and match sticks. This was also a good way for the children to engage their senses and fine motor skills.



At the beginning of August we were lucky enough to have a Sea Life show come and visit us. We were able to pat a baby bamboo shark, turtles, sea stars and some sea urchins. The children loved the show, and we were able to bring the knowledge we learnt from the show, back into our room. We set up a trough in the room, with some sand, rocks and sea creatures. This was a bit hit, with the children enjoying sitting in the trough, and exploring the sea creatures. They especially loved making a mess with the sand.



We have also celebrated Book Week! Each day we focused on a new book, and extended with the children's interests. We read "Where is the Green Sheep?" and decided to make our own sheep using paper plates, green pom poms, and some green paint. Next was a classic, "The Very Hungry Caterpillar". This book was a favourite, but the children's favourite part seemed to be looking at all of the different foods that the caterpillar pampered himself with. After reading the book, the children created their own interpretation of a caterpillar. We then moved onto "The Three Bears". This was a very yummy experience as we made our own porridge, and got to eat it, just like the three bears did!

We have many more experiences coming up over the next few months, but please let us know if you have any goals for your child so that we can program with these in mind!

Love Miss Erin and Miss Alana

The scoop on Toddler One!

First of all, thank you for my warm welcome into the room over the past month. It has been an excellent month, and I have really enjoyed getting to know your little ones!



We have been very busy in Toddler One over the past two months, celebrating NAIDOC week, Canada Day, American Independence Day, Teddy Bear Picnic, Bastille Day, Pyjama Day, Swiss National Day and Ocean Life Sea Creatures Show.



We also have been very busy with our gardening. It's exciting but also challenging to grow plants from seeds. As you all know, the children have been taking care of the bean plants and cress herbs. It's become our daily routine to water the plants which are now in the nursery yard vertical garden.

Flash cards and felt pieces stories and songs are very popular in our room. We have also been using magnetic boards for some of our songs and stories. The children have been showing a lot of interest in singing and listening to songs. We will be continuing to focus on action and movement songs over the next few months.



We have noticed lately that the children have begun to play in both small and large groups. Although a lot of this is "side-along-play", it's been wonderful to see the children begin to learn how to navigate these social settings. This is also wonderful for their social and emotional skills.



Over the next few months, we are going to develop a sensory wall for the children to identify different materials and texture. If you are able to bring in some recycled items for this it would be greatly appreciated.

We would like to extend a very big welcome to our new families who are starting with us over the coming weeks! We are looking forward to getting to know your children, and cannot wait to share our days with you!

Love Miss Yamuna and Miss Brooke

Sustainability Corner

10 Ways to Reduce your Family Footprint

1. Mend rather than replace
2. Turn your heating/cooling down 1 degree
3. Bake rather than buy
4. Use energy saving light bulbs
5. Walk, ride or use public transport when you can
6. Turn appliances off at the switch
7. Compost your kitchen scraps
8. Use reusable bags
9. Use both sides of every piece of paper
10. Use screens less



Tales from Toddler Two!



We have been really busy over the past few months, the children have enjoyed some really fantastic experiences. Their favourite at the moment is the sensory box, filled with all different textures! They especially like the insects (well, some of them) and enjoy moving their hands through the lentils, picking them up and letting them fall back into the box.



Many of our children enjoyed the Ocean Life show, being able to touch some of the creatures was a great experience. Everyone really loved the turtle!



We took the opportunity to create our own Under the Sea feature wall, with all the children contributing to the display. Dress ups are a firm favourite at the moment, and provide a wonderful opportunity for the children to explore their creativity and imagination. If you have any old dress-ups or clothes that you don't need we would love to add them to our collection.



We celebrated Book Week with lots of the children's favourite books, including The Very Cranky Bear, The Pout Pout Fish, Peppa Pig, and The Very Hungry Caterpillar. We chose one book to devote the entire week around, "The Gingerbread Man". We did many experiences with this story, painting our interpretations of the gingerbread man and cooking and decorating our very own gingerbread men!



Over the next few months we will be focusing on gross motor development, building on those large muscles, and engaging in lots of activities to promote these skills.

Sadly we say goodbye to Walther, Isobel, Felix, Quincy and Queenie, as they are going to join Junior Kindy with Ms Nancy and her team. On a happy note we will be welcoming, Sophie, Cleo, Freya, Mikey, Matthew and Orleigh. Have a lovely month!

Love Miss Diane and Miss Carolin

Junior Kindy Capers!

What a fun busy time we have been having with our Jr. Kindy children. The past few months have been very rewarding as we have noticed quite a change in all the children's developmental areas. Their language skills have improved exponentially as they communicate well in their play with their peers and teachers.



At present the children have been engaged in learning about their world. We have been using a world scratch map where the children point to a country on the map and we look at that part of the world for a week. We extend on their knowledge of these countries through cooking activities, art, music, and finding general information exposing them to media interest using our lap tops at times. This way we can explore a little deeper into different cultures.



Our dramatic play areas have really been busy with the children demonstrating excellent imaginary play ideas. They socialise very well and are learning to take turns with equipment as well as extend on their language skills. We have observed several children developing a great interest in our insect world outside. As our warmer weather is approaching they will be finding lots more. At present the spiders have been a real interest point. We are furthering their interest by offering magnifying containers and bug catchers, as well as books, posters and media information.





Please ensure that everything is named that belongs to your child. This includes hats, shoes, containers, drink bottles, and sheets! As we have 18 children daily who love to get into their lockers on occasions things do get mixed up.

Also don't forget to browse through your children's portfolios which are on top of the lockers to be viewed at any time. It's great for you to catch up with all your children's busy daily activities whilst here at Little Ducks. You are more than welcome to take these home to view at any time!

We'd also like to give a big welcome to all of our new friends who are starting in our room in the next few weeks!

Love Ms Nancy , Miss Erica and Miss Tiffany

Reading Matters!

Why Should I Read to my Children?

Reading is great for children of all ages, with research showing it is beneficial for those babies who are yet to be born! Below are 10 reasons why you should be reading to all of your children!

1. Strengthens your relationship
2. Gives them a sense of security
3. Basics of how to read a book
4. Better communication skills
5. It's a conversation starter
6. It feeds a hungry brain
7. It makes learning to read that little bit easier
8. Increases imagination
9. It's a great way to talk about emotional health
10. Builds a lifelong love of literature

Annerley Library Events

Monday 10am ... Best Start Toddler Time. Ideal for 1-3 year olds, come and do some singing and dancing!

Monday 11.30 ... Babies, books and rhymes. Meet other parents and babies in this singing and clapping session!

Tuesday 10am ... Children's Story Time. Stories, songs, and craft for 2-5 year olds.

Friday 9.30am ... Cheeky Monkey's secret treehouse book club. Cheeky Monkey wants to share his stories and songs with under 5's!

Senior Kindy Broadcast!



Well we have had a busy two months and are glad to be on the warmer side of winter!

We have really being enjoying the cool, clear days and have been able to spend loads of time outdoors. Outdoor play supports the children's gross motor development as they stretch, climb and balance on the various items in the natural environment. The children are unrestricted and this in turn encourages exploration, imaginative play and language development. Some activities we have got up to out side include Olympic Games, Bear Hunt, King of the Castle and Hide and Seek.



We have had a few shows on recently. One of the most popular being the "Ocean Life Show". The children got to explore various different sea creatures including a sea star, sea cucumber, urchin and even a baby shark. They got to couch and hold the various creatures and showed a lot of interest in how each one felt.



Back in July, we had a visit a multicultural show visit us on Naidoc week. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures have been a big focus and the children were very well prepared for NAIDOC week. We make a Yarning Circle a few times a week and use a 'talking stick' to catch up. The children are being very respectful of each other and everyone is getting the opportunity to talk. This has given some of our quieter children a voice in our large groups. We also do a small informal acknowledgment each day.



More recently we've had a visit from the dentist. Dr. Nicole showed the children how to look after their teeth. They also learned about how their milk teeth would soon fall out and be replaced with big adult teeth. We also celebrated Canada Day by making some delicious pancakes.

The children loved celebrating Book Week! We had a fancy dress parade and the children contributed by bringing in some of their favourite books. They were also treated to some time reading the special 'teacher books' and took really good care of them. The children have been writing their own books too. This has led to some interesting stories. Language and literacy skills are improving and we are delighted to be able to pass the gift of reading onto the children.

Love Miss Emma and Miss Savita

Kindergarten Chronicles!

Welcome to another edition of Kindergarten Chronicles! We have welcomed some new faces to kindergarten recently. Ned and Dakota have just joined us and we have enjoyed getting to know them both over the past month and watching new friendships develop.



We have been very busy in Kindergarten lately, exploring a range of exciting topics! Topics that we have been looking at include sea animals, camping, friendships, emotions, and everyone's favourite - dinosaurs! We created dinosaur artwork and made our own fossils. During group time we have learnt the names of different dinosaurs, information about their size, diet and other interesting dinosaur facts as well as lots of dinosaur songs and stories!



The children have also shown a strong interest in building and constructing and we have noticed the class working together to create some amazing constructions! To extend on this we set up a construction table with tools for the children to investigate. The class loved this hands on experience and enjoyed having the opportunity to experiment using real tools! During outdoor play we have been participating in lots of group games where the children have been taking turns, cooperating and further developing their teamwork skills.



Our literacy sessions continue to be a success as we focus on a different letter each week. Once we finish the letters of the alphabet, we will be learning about different sounds . The class love bringing in items each day for show and tell, brainstorming different words and listening to alphabet songs. We have also been reading and listening to lots of books, role playing, writing class stories and sharing our favourite stories for Book Week.

For NAIDOC Week the class explored the history and culture of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders by reading dreamtime stories, listening to indigenous songs and music, creating artwork and learning about Indigenous symbols. The class also enjoyed watching and participating in the multicultural dance show.



Over the next few months we are hoping to go on an outer space adventure – exploring the planets, learn about
different occupations, the human body and bugs and insects.

Love, Miss Jess and Miss Janelle

What's on at the Planetarium?

Sunday 1130am ... Tycho to the Moon!

Saturday 1130am ... Secret of the Cardboard Rocket!

The Planetarium offers a number of educational shows for all age groups (including adults!). These two are aimed at 3 to 6 year olds, however check their website for more details.

http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/facilities-recreation/arts-culture/sir-thomas-brisbane-planetarium

Signing in and out

Did you know that it is a legal requirement for all children to be signed in and out of the centre by a responsible adult? A responsible adult is someone over the age of 18 years who is a parent/guardian/relative of the child. Signing in and out is very important as these documents are used as attendance records for not only our records, but also in the event that we have to evacuate the building due to emergency.

Extra Curricular Activities

Tuesday—Physi Kids

Wednesday—Happy Feet Fitness

Thursday—French with Play Frog

Friday—Soccer with Ginger Sport

In the coming weeks, we will also be offering German lessons. Please let Tabitha know if you are interested in further information.

Meet our Staff!

Miss Tiffany



Junior Kindy Educator

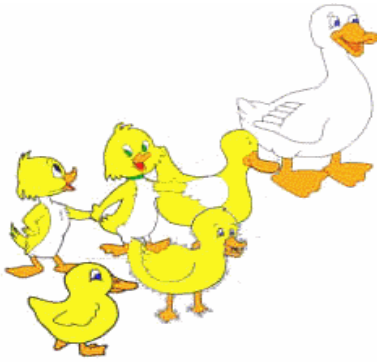
Miss Tiffany has been with us for just over a year and is a bright and bubbly member of our team! Tiff's favourite movie is Into The Wild, and she loves eating spaghetti! On the weekend you will find Miss Tiff either surfing or sailing, she loves being outdoors!

Miss Savita



Senior Kindy Educator

Miss Savita has been with us for 2 years now! Miss Savita loves Frozen, but on the weekend she loves to spend time with her husband and son at the beach!



Office Space?

Our Bardon centre also incorporates great office spaces that house child related services (i.e. speech pathologist) for Little Ducks parents and the local community. We currently have some availability for more tenants. If you, or someone you know, has a business that may fit in well with us please don't hesitate to contact our office for more information on 3251 6060.











NAIDOC Week





Coconut & Blueberry Muffins

Ingredients



3 eggs.
1/4 cup coconut oil, melted.
2 teaspoons rice malt syrup.
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract.
3/4 cups coconut milk.
1/2 cup coconut flour, sifted.
1/2 teaspoon baking powder.
1/2 cup fresh blueberries.

Method

1. Preheat oven to 180 degrees and grease a six-hole muffin tray with coconut oil, or line with baking paper.

2. Whisk together the eggs, coconut oil, rice malt syrup, vanilla and coconut milk together in a mixing bowl. Stir through the remaining ingredients.

3. Scoop the mixture evenly between the muffin holes and push a few more blueberries on top. Place in the oven to cook for 25-30 minutes or until slightly browned on top.

Dental Health

This month we had Mel and Dr Nicole visit from Yeronga Park Dental. They did a short presentation for our over 3's, and talked about dental health as well as what happens when we visit the dentist.



YERONGA PARK
DENTAL

If you are looking for a dentist for your child, please give Yeronga Park Dental a call on 3848 2478.









Ocean Life

Book Week











