

Little Ducks Childcare March / April 2016 Newsletter

A note from your Centre Manager

Hello and welcome to the 2nd edition of our Little Ducks Fortitude Valley Newsletter. I would firstly like to welcome all of the new families to the centre. I hope that you are all settling in well and I look forward to getting to know you over the next few months.

We are now in the process of beginning our Quality Improvement Plan. Early childhood centres need to show that they are striving to continuously improve their practices and procedures. We would really appreciate it if families could provide us with feedback on areas that we could improve on. We will then add it to the quality improvement plan and work on those areas for the next months and beyond.

We appreciate all the feedback that we can get – everyone's input is of immense value, especially those of you who have suggestions for improvement or additions. This newsletter is filled with an abundance of important information and updates especially useful for those who are new to the centre.

Please feel free to come and speak with me if you have any questions or queries and I would be more then happy to help you.

Thank you for reading our 2nd edition of our Little Ducks newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading it bimonthly. Please let us know if there's anything you would like us to include next time!

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Staff News

Welcome to Miss Shelley and Miss Suda



Miss Shelly



Miss Suder

We would like to give a warm welcome to Miss Shelly and Miss Suda to our centre.
If you have not already met Miss Shelley, she is our new Kindy Teacher. We are thrilled to have Miss Shelley on our fabulous team here at Little Ducks. Miss Shelley holds a Bachelor of Teaching and is looking forward to working with the Kindy children and their families!
Miss Suder has also joined our amazing team. She will be working alongside Miss Danielle in Nursery 2. Miss Suder has had a great deal of experience working in the child care industry and holds her Cert III in Children's Services. She is looking forward to meeting all of the Nursery families.

Upcoming Events!

MARCH ...

Clean Up Australia Day — Sunday 6th March

We will hold *Little Ducks Clean Up Day* on **Friday 4th March**— each taking part in keeping our environment clean and beautiful.



Crazy Hair Day — Friday 11th March

Help support the Leukemia Foundation and the Worlds Greatest Shave by coming along with your craziest hair-do and a gold coin donation.



St Patrick's Day —Thursday 17th March

Dress in green and come along to learn some fun facts about our Irish friends and families.

Harmony Day — Monday 21st March

This is a day for all Australians to embrace cultural diversity and to share what we have in common. Dress in orange to support this wonderful day.

Easter Bonnet Parade —Thursday 24th March

The children will be making special Easter hats throughout the week. Come along at 3.30pm to watch our fun parade.



Good Friday — Friday 25th March — Public Holiday Centre Closed

Easter Monday — Monday 28th March Public Holiday Centre Closed

APRIL ...

Henny Penny Chicken Hatching—Monday 4th —Friday 15th April

Bringing the joy of watching eggs hatching and chicks emerging from their shells, right in front of your eyes.

World Health Day—Thursday 7th April

Celebrate your healthy mind, body and spirit and learn all about how to keep ourselves heathy.



Anzac Day—Monday 25th Public Holiday Centre Closed

Leading up to this day we will pay respect to our diggers.

Reminders

We do provide nappies for all children who require them.

The office is also still following up on children's immunisation schedules and birth certificate. Please provide a copy to us at your earliest convenience.

We urgently need spare clothes packed for each and every child. Donations to stay at the Centre would be hugely appreciated.

Please ensure sign in and sign out sheets are filled in each and every day!

Policy Reviews

We value your input and feedback so please refer to the Policy Review Folder downstairs in the foyer for more information; along with our Legislation Regulations and our National Quality Framework Standards.

We welcome families input into policy documentation and will seek family feedback for review on an annual basis.

As we develop our Quality Improvement Plan document we will be seeking families input into our Service Philosophy development; our Vision and Centre goals.
We look forward to working closely with our families to offer transparency and a shared vision between the team and families.

Centre Birthdays!



A big happy birthday to the children who have recently celebrated their birthdays or will celebrate theirs in the coming months. Hope all your dreams and wishes come true!

Nursery 1—Josette, James, Hugo & Thomas

Nursery 2— Isabella, Patrick, Ziva, Max, Arth, Erin , Clayton & Maisie

Senior Nursery—Archie

Toddlers—Bastien, Lucy, Elizabeth, Scarlett







Nursery One!

Welcome to Nursery 1.

Over previous weeks we have been focusing with the theme "Under the Sea". This came from a special visit into the centre, when we met different sea creatures. Everyone enjoyed touching the sea stars and the sea urchins.

This sparked an interest with all of our friends, inspiring us to create a wall display and lots of art projects. Next time you come in, please don't let our jelly fish sting you and don't forget to say hello to harry the octopus!

This interest will continue this week as well with lots of physical activities to encourage walking and rolling!

We would like to remind everyone that we can not accept milk that is not pre-measured, please measure powder milk into a container ready for use.

We also ask families to bring in a family photo for our family tree, or email it to fv@littleducks.com.au for the attention of Danielle—Nursery 1.

Please remember any issues or anything you would like to discuss we are always open :)

Thank you,

Danielle & Sandra













Nursery Two!

Hi Everyone!
Well another month has passed so quickly in Nursery Two and our beautiful babies have begun to settle in and form warm and trusting bonds with their educators. It is lovely to see our little one's be able to separate from mum and dad in the morning with a smile on their face and settle into the routine of the day.

As we have become familiar with our children we have started to program to the children's interests and have explored many sensory activities such as finger painting, sensory bags and water play. We are also venturing outside into the playground and exploring the sandpit, obstacle course and the many activities set up to appeal to all of the different children's needs.



We have begun taking mini excursions down to the outdoor area outside of the Kindergarten area and the children have enjoyed the feeling of the sand between their toes and sun on their skin.

This month we had a very exciting visit from Sea Life and our children each had the opportunity to touch many of the beautiful sea creatures on display. Most of the children loved the feel of the sea creatures and expressed their delight with smiles and giggles.

In the month of March, we are going to be setting up a Zoo in Nursery Two and looking forward to exploring the different types of animals in our Zoo, identifying the sounds they make and continuing to explore our indoor and outdoor environments. We would love our parents to contribute to our program and welcome any parent input whatsoever. If you have any creative ideas for our zoo we would love to hear from you too!



We have welcomed our lovely Miss Suder to our room. Suder comes to us with a wealth of experience in the nursery and has already began to form bonds with our beautiful bubba's. We are very excited to have Suder on board.



Until next time! Take Care. Danielle, Suder and Caitlin.





Senior Nursery!

Hello to all our beautiful families,

My name is Miss Kate and I am a new addition to the Fortitude Valley Little Ducks team. I will be joining Miss Amy and Miss Jyoti as another Lead Educator in the Senior Nursery Room. I am delighted to be able to get the privilege of caring for your little gems.

We have had another busy month full of activities and fun. We welcome some new friends to our Senior Nursery room; Remy, Arkie, Archie as well as Indiana and Mavie from Nursery 2.

We have been focusing mainly on building positive relationships between the children and their educators and encouraging them to feel comfortable in their environment. We have been implementing lots of group time involving singing, puppet play and dancing.

We celebrated Chinese New Year at the beginning of the month; the year of the monkey. The children made a monkey and a Chinese fan to represent their support of this event.



On the 8th of February, we were visited by the Ocean Life Education who came to the centre to discuss sea creatures that had been brought in to be put on show for the children to look at and touch; sea stars, sea urchins, a baby shark (look at only) and a tortoise. It was great to see that the children could participate in a hands-on approach.

We have implemented some self-help skills into the children's daily routine; washing hands after nappy change/before meals, handing out drink bottles to others and feeding themselves at mealtimes. This is also assisting them with becoming more familiar with one another and creating a positive interaction.

Another daily experience we have introduced is ‘music time’. The children have loved being involved in this activity and understanding that different noises come from different instruments/objects.



The independence is growing continuously and it’s great to see that the children are feeling confident enough to go and engage in their own activities, without the educator involvement, and be happy playing either by themselves or in a group.

Senior Nursery!

We have big things planned for next month!! We're going to be having a teddy bear's picnic, venture more into learning about our colours and start involving our families a bit more in our Senior Nursery activities; make a family tree, discuss manners, greetings and traditions of all the different cultures that make up our beautiful Senior Nursery.
Thanks Kate, Amy and Jyoti.

















Toddler!

Welcome to Toddlers 1!
What a fast and fantastic two months that have past in the Toddler 1 room. Miss Izzy and Miss Alichia have been so lucky in getting to build strong bonds with all the children and families in this time.

We have celebrated big cultural events such as; Australia Day when we created our very own aboriginal dot paintings and Chinese New Year when we made lanterns and played pin the tail on the monkey.

We have also had a visit from Sea Life Education, the children learned about sea creatures such as sea stars and sea urchins, they even got to have a gentle feel of them! But what the toddlers were really excited about was 'Bob' the turtle who made a guest appearance at the end.

The children have developed a deep interest of Pirates due to our very own pirate ship on the third floor.

We have started expanding upon these play experiences for the children by extending their imaginary play, such as, making eye patches and learning pirate songs.

We are going to continue this topic for as long as the children are interested in it and plan exciting experiences for the little pirates to take part in. Miss Izzy & Miss Alichia











Kindergarten Program!

KINDY NEWS

This week in Kindy, Ximi, Freddie, Didyme and Erin had a wonderful time exploring our new room. There is so much to do and so many toys to play with! They all had so much fun. They designed train tracks, experimented with musical instruments and spent lots of time outside.

We also did a little bit of reading together, and lots of drawing and experimenting with all of the exciting materials available to us.

In the play kitchen, we had so much fun making lots of yummy meals and cups of tea.

Outside, Ximi tested how long the sandpit was compared to a skipping rope, and Erin played in the sand for a little while before both girls tried some hopscotch. Didyme rode around the playground on a bike and then played with some trucks.

We can't wait to show our other Kindy friends our new room!

Miss Shelley









